Dr. Leana Wen, President of Planned Parenthood, will deliver the keynote address at the School of Public Health's Commencement Ceremony on May 22. Dr. Wen will emphasize the importance of reproductive health care as a human right and will discuss the role of public health leaders in advocating for health equity and access.

Full Commencement details can be found [here](#).

### RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

**Power to the People!**

Environmental Justice Symposium Draws Hundreds from 10 States

Associate Professor Sacoby Wilson organized the fifth Symposium on Environmental Justice and Health Disparities on May 11, bringing together policy makers, legal advocates, community organizers and researchers to promote environmental health, elevate community voices and enact change. Learn more.

**How the Great Flu Pandemic Advanced Civil Rights**

One hundred years ago, the flu pandemic had an unexpected side effect: a civil rights breakthrough for black nurses. A new article and book by public health historian Marian Moser Jones tell their stories. Read the Terp magazine story.

**Study Finds Higher Death Count in Puerto Rico From Heart Disease, Other Causes Following Hurricane Maria**

New research led by Dr. Raul Cruz-Cano estimates that Hurricane Maria led to 1,205 "excess deaths" in Puerto Rico in September and October 2017, with the top causes being heart disease, diabetes and Alzheimer's disease. Learn more.

**SPH Hosts National Summit Focused on Research and Advocacy to Prevent Gun Violence**

From April 24-26, the SPH hosted a teach-in and national research summit focused on strategies to eliminate gun violence as a leading cause of injury and death. Learn more.

### PHOTOS GALLERIES & STORIES

**SPH Inducts New Delta Omega Honorary Society Members**

Four "Distinguished Terrapins" Recognized as SPH Champions

2019 Convocation Celebrates Outstanding Students

SPH Photos from Maryland Day 2019

### STUDENT & ALUMNI NEWS

Paula Escott '19 (B.S., Public Health Science) Receives Fulbright Grant

SPH Students Earn Prize Money in Do Good Challenge Finals

Bridget Higginbotham MPH '18 Helping Combat Malaria with USAID

Sara Olsen, MPH '17, Inducted into Women Divers Hall of Fame

Food, Energy, and Water Scholars Study with Global Leaders in Israel and the West Bank

### FACULTY ACCOLADES

Mental Health Trailblazer and Professor Norman Epstein Retires

LGBTQ Rights Activist, Lecturer and Therapist Robin Zeiger Retires

Four SPH Faculty and 11 Students Receive Graduate School Fellowships and Awards

Dr. Kerry Green Receives 2019 Winston Family Honors Award for Faculty

SPH Recognizes Faculty and Staff with 2019 Awards

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**MAY 22**

SPH Spring 2019 Commencement

11:00 am - 1:00 pm | XFINITY Center

Film Screening: Sustainable Nation

6:00 pm - 8:30 pm | AFI Silver Theatre, Silver Spring, MD

**JUN 5**

Terps in Law Enforcement: Combating the Opioid Crisis

6:30 am - 8:30 pm | National Law Enforcement Museum

**SEP 13-14**

2019 Mid-Maryland Mission of Mercy & Health Equity Festival: Free Adult Dental Clinic

7:00 am - 5:00 pm | UMD XFINITY Center

**SEP 16-18**

Advocacy Training: The Karabelle Pizzigati Initiative in Advocacy for Children, Youth and Families

3:00 pm - 2:00 pm | To be Announced

### SPH IN THE NEWS

**THE NEW YORK TIMES**

How Exercise Affects Our Memory

Features research from J. Carson Smith, an associate professor of kinesiology, that demonstrated that a single workout can increase activity in areas of the brain associated with memory.

**THE BALTIMORE SUN**

Maryland Lawmakers Raise Age for Vaping to 21. Will it Change Anything?

Julia Cen Chen-Sankey (PHD '18 Behavioral and Community Health) is interviewed about a Maryland law that will raise the age to purchase tobacco, including popular vaping products, to 21 starting Oct. 1.