



# **PUBLIC HEALTH HAPPENINGS March 2018**

## **UCONN Graduate Programs in Public Health**

- *Fall 2018 Courses Announced*
- *2018 Annual Public Health Student Poster Session*
- *2018 Poster Instructional Session*
- *UCONN MPH FastTrack (4+1 BA/BS -MPH)*
- *New Student Convocation*
- *Graduating Students - Dates to Remember*
- *Commencement Day Directions for Graduates*
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- *Public Health Student Organization News*
- *Alumni Featured Article written by Zygmunt Dembek, PhD, MS, MPH*
- *Connecticut Public Health Association (CPHA) News*
- *CPHA Awards and Networking Breakfast*
- *Looking For a Job?*
- *Roman Shrestha, PhD, MPH - 2018 Outstanding Dissertation Award*
- *Kresge Foundation – Emerging Leaders in Public Health*
- *Qualidigm's Annual Summer Internship Information Event*
- *Public Health Graduation Dinner/Alumni Reunion Event*
- *UCONN MPH Program included in Civic Action Plan for University*
- *CT Association of Healthcare Executives Student Career Panel*
- *9 Credit Online Graduate Program in Exercise Prescription*
- *Public Health Game Night by Luis Pantoja*
- *Alumni, Faculty, and Student News*

## CDC FLU FACT

It takes about 2 weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body to protect against flu.



#FIGHT FLU

[www.cdc.gov/FightFlu](http://www.cdc.gov/FightFlu)



### 2018 FALL COURSES

**ANNOUNCED** Registration begins Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> for the fall 2018 semester.

#### Mondays

**Public Health Research Methods** with Bonnie McRee from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The Teaching Assistants are TBD.

**Introduction to Interprofessional Public Health Practice** with Angela Bermudez-Millan from 6 pm to 9 pm. Brianna Munoz, DMD will serve as the Teaching Assistant for this course.

**Health Education** from 6 pm to 9 pm with Joleen Nevers.

#### Tuesdays

**Health Administration** from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm on both the Storrs and Farmington

Campuses. Cassie Therriault will serve as the Farmington Teaching Assistant. Caleb Cowles will serve as the Storrs Teaching Assistant

**Health and Human Rights** with Audrey Chapman on Tuesdays from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

**Infectious Disease Epidemiology** from 2 pm to 5 pm.

#### Wednesdays

**Law and Public Health** with Zita Lazzarini on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 8:30 pm on both the Storrs and Farmington Campuses. Marco Palmeri will serve as the Storrs Teaching Assistant and Jennifer Succi will serve as the Farmington Teaching Assistant.

# UConn

## Graduate Programs in Public Health

**SAS Programming and Data Management** with Deb Paturzo from 2 pm to 5 pm.

**Topics in Intermediate Biostatistics** with Joe Burleson from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

### Thursdays

**Introduction to Epidemiology and Biostatistics I** with Scott Wetstone from 6 pm to 9 pm on both the Farmington and Storrs campuses. The Farmington Teaching Assistant will be Cory Loftis and the Storrs Teaching Assistant is yet TBD.

### Online Courses

**Foundations of Public Health in Disabilities** with Tara Lutz

**Disability Law, Policy, Ethics and Advocacy** with Tara Lutz.

**Epidemiology of Substance Use Disorders and Psychiatric Co-Morbidities** with Helen Wu.

**Clinical and Social Service Systems Research in Alcohol and Addiction Science** with Tom Babor.

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## 2018 ANNUAL PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT POSTER SESSION

Please save the date for our 2018 annual public health student poster session!

**Date:** Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Location:** UConn Health, Academic Lobby

**Time:** 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Light refreshments to be provided.



*Ian Clark and Ran Zhao pictured above*

## 2018 ANNUAL POSTER INSTRUCTIONAL SESSION WITH DR. STEVENS & DR. UNGEMACK

**Date:** Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Location:** Building 195, Suite 2100, Large Conference Room (public health office location)

**Time:** 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

If you plan to have your poster printed by the program:

- It must be sent to Morgan Spencer on or before April 12<sup>th</sup>
- No background color
- Edit your poster before sending. We will not be doing any editing for you.
- Send in PDF format

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### **UConn MPH Fast Track**

#### **(4+1 BA/BS -MPH)**

The UConn Master of Public Health (MPH) program offers a FastTrack (4+1 BA/BS - MPH) option for qualified students. The program allows students to complete bachelor's degrees in any UConn-approved discipline and the MPH degree within 5 years of their initial matriculation as undergraduates.

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### **New Student Convocation**

Please join us in welcoming our incoming public health students at our New Student Convocation and Reception on **Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5 pm**. Location is TBD. We are honored to have **State Senator Doug McCrory**, Democratic Deputy President Pro Tempore. Senator Doug McCrory was elected with the continued promise of continued accountability and accessibility as the State Senator for the 2nd Senate district in a special election in February, 2017 to represent parts of Bloomfield, Hartford and Windsor. He was first elected to the General Assembly in 2004 to represent the 7th House district, which he served for six full terms. Even before his service as a legislator, Senator McCrory has been committed to strengthening neighborhoods through education, development and civic engagement. He is currently chair of the CT Aging Committee, Vice Chair of the Banking Committee and Committee on Children, and is a member of the Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee and the Joint Committee on Judiciary.



**Katherine Kuzmeskas, MPH**, a UConn alumnus will also be a featured speaker. Katherine is the founder and CEO of SimplyVital Health. SimplyVital Health provides an intentionally simple care coordination platform that uses Blockchain technology to prevent denials and increase reimbursement for value based programs and MACRA.

Prior to founding SimplyVital Health, Katherine was the Program Manager of the Center for Musculoskeletal Care for Yale New Haven Health where she managed, designed, and analyzed the joint replacement and spine bundles and gainsharing programs. Katherine's experience also includes strategic planning for the medicine and surgery service lines at Yale New Haven Health and overseeing the design and development of an enterprise wide care management dashboard at a statewide community health center network.

# UConn

## Graduate Programs in Public Health



*Katherine Kuzmeskas, MPH pictured above*

**Natalie Moore, MD** will serve as our current student speaker. Dr. Natalie Moore provided much needed medical and humanitarian assistance to island residents while also trying to juggle her MPH class responsibilities. Dr. Moore is the first International Disaster Emergency Medicine Fellow at UConn.



*Photo credit: Dr. Natalie Moore, pictured in the middle:*

<https://today.uconn.edu/school-stories/uconn-health-physician-offers-first-person-account-hurricane-zone/>

### GRADUATING STUDENTS – DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 12th:** Last day to submit poster to Morgan for printing. **If you are doing so, no background color.** Please submit as PDF.

**April 15th:** Completion of written Capstone paper signed by advisory committee to be eligible for consideration for program awards (Mulvihill Medal and Susan S. Addiss Award) or election to Delta Omega. Please note\*\*\*Signed approval page or final exam form must be submitted to Barbara Case on or before April 15th.

**April 19th:** Public Health Annual Poster Session in the Academic Lobby.

**April 20th:** Last day to defend Capstone or doctoral dissertation.

**May 4th:** Last day to submit Capstone Plan B paperwork to Barb Case

**May 4th:** Last day to submit thesis and dissertation final copies to digital commons and related paperwork to the Graduate School at Storrs

**May 7th:** Commencement Day at Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts on the Storrs Campus.

NOTE: Meet with advisors on delineating the project and then with major advisor regularly. Keep associate advisors updated. Preferably, give Major advisors a minimum of **8 weeks to review first draft** (no less than 4 weeks). Preferably, associate and external advisors should have 4 weeks (no less than 2 weeks prior to deadline).

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# UConn

## Graduate Programs in Public Health

### COMMENCEMENT DAY DIRECTIONS FOR GRADUATES



Date: Monday, May 7, 2018

Location: Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts

**Prior to Ceremony:** All graduates must report to the Harriet Jorgensen Theatre Lobby of the Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts at 10:15 a.m. for individual and class photographs. No guests are allowed in this area. The entrance is located on Jorgensen Road. Those riding the shuttle bus from UConn Health will be dropped off at this entrance. Following photographs, students may congregate and enjoy light refreshments prior to the processional lineup at 12:30 p.m. Please note: Class photos will be taken at the following times – 11:15 a.m. M.P.H. and Ph.D. programs, 11:30 a.m. Schools of Medicine and Dental Medicine programs.

**Personal Items:** Due to limited secure storage space at the Jorgensen Center please keep personal items to a minimum. It is recommended to leave items with family members. All personal items must be removed from the building prior to 4 p.m.

**Diplomas:** All Medical, Dental, and Graduate School graduates will receive their official diploma by mail. A diploma case will be handed to each graduate while on stage.

The processional begins **PROMPTLY** at 12:45 p.m.

Processional Order:

- Dental Students
- Graduate Students
- Medical Students
- Faculty
- VIPs

### Details:

**1. Attire:** Wear gown and cap with tassel on the left, hood is draped over the left arm. Staff members will assist with the proper folding of the hood.

**2. Seating:** This is very important. Please obtain a seating card at the check-in table in the foyer of the Jorgensen Center. This card will have your name and number on it. It is used to line up everyone in the proper order.

**3. Lining Up:** Students will line up for the processional as instructed by assigned staff members and behind the school marshal. Once again the order is dental students followed by graduate students and in a separate line medical students. You must stay in sequence otherwise you will be seated incorrectly once you reach the student seating area.

**4. Marching:** Follow the marshals. They are there to direct you to your seats. Please remain standing until all students have marched in.

# UConn

## Graduate Programs in Public Health

**5. Gifts:** A copy of the commencement program bearing your name and a small gift will be on your seat.

**6. Distribution of Diplomas:** To receive your diploma do as the marshal instructs. Bring your seating card to the stage. Approach the stage, hand your card to the school marshal who will be the first at the podium. Your name will be read off the card, please proceed toward the middle of the stage to be hooded. The chief marshal will then direct you to one of the hooding stations. (If your parent is a UConn Health faculty member, you may request to have him/her hood you. This must be arranged in advance. In that case, please tell the chief marshal that your parent will be hooding you.) If you are directed to the further station, please walk behind the hooders rather than walk in front of them. After hooding you will be greeted by University dignitaries to shake hands and receive a diploma case.

**7. Exiting:** Exit the stage using the center stairway and return to your seat.

### Recessional Order

- VIPs
- Faculty
- Dental School Graduates
- Graduate School Graduates
- Medical School Graduates

### AFTER THE CEREMONY

**8. Photographs:** Following the recessional there will be time for you to meet up with family members outside the auditorium for photographs.

**9. Reception:** Reception will immediately follow the ceremony on the third floor of the Student Union in Ballrooms, #330-331 and 304 ABC. If you are making dinner plans for that evening in the Hartford area, it is recommended that you make reservations after 6 p.m.

**10. Professional Signature Book:** A tradition since 1979, this book, which was the class gift from that year's graduating class, is kept at UConn Health and brought out at the time of commencement to collect and record the signature of each graduate in a meaningful and lasting fashion. Be sure to sign the book with your first real M.D. or D.M.D. signature.

**11. Receipt of Official Diploma:** All graduates will receive their official diploma by mail.

**12. Returning Caps and Gowns:** All caps and gowns must be returned before departing the Storrs campus. The regalia return area will be located in the vicinity of the Student Union, Room #310 on the third floor. Staff members will be available to assist you.

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by National Board of Public Health Examiners

The Certified in Public Health (CPH) is the only credential of its kind for public health that demonstrates not only your knowledge of key public health sciences, but also your commitment to the field through continuing education focused on emerging and established public health issues. As the field of public health grows and its mission becomes more defined, it is crucial for public health professions to stay current in this rapidly evolving field.

Demonstrate to public health employers and leaders that you have mastered key contemporary public health sciences, by going beyond your education and choosing to sit for and successfully pass a voluntary examination.

By becoming certified in public health, you solidify your dedication to meeting and maintaining a national standard, agree to adhere to professional values, and follow a core standard body of knowledge, while distinguishing yourself from other professionals in the field. Raise the bar in public health. Distinguish yourself as a public health leader and sit for the CPH exam today!

Be the public health professional the public needs! Get CPH Certified!

Benefits of being CPH:

- Stay current on best practices and education
- Meet and maintain a national professional standard
- Increase recognition of the public health professions

- Invest in your career
- Evidence mastery of public health sciences
- Potential for promotions and salary increases
- Distinguish yourself from peers
- Go beyond your education
- Raise the visibility of public health

### When is the CPH exam held?

The CPH exam is offered all year round. As long as the computer-based testing facility of your choice is available, you will be able to schedule your exam any time. Click [here](#) to search for a computer-based testing center.

If you prefer to sit for the exam by paper-based, the paper-based exam schedule is below. Because the CPH exam is now available 12 months a year, paper/pencil exams may be scheduled only on an as-needed basis. Organizations wishing to schedule a paper-pencil exam may be responsible for the proctor fee (approximately \$475). Exceptions will be made for schools and programs without an AMP testing center in close proximity. Contact [info@nbphe.org](mailto:info@nbphe.org) for more information.

All information above taken from:

<https://www.nbphe.org/>

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# UConn

## Graduate Programs in Public Health

### **PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT ORGANIZATION (PHSO) NEWS**

#### **National Public Health Week**

<http://www.nphw.org/nphw-2018>

*We are planning to host 4-5 events both on and off campus to celebrate NPW.*

Monday April 2: Behavioral Health

Tuesday April 3: Communicable Diseases

Wednesday April 4: Environmental Health

Thursday April 5: Injury and Violence Prevention

Friday April 6: Ensuring the Right to Health

#### **CT Mission of Mercy Free Dental Clinic Day** <http://www.cfdo.org/ctmom.html>

#### **InCHIP Intervention Mapping Workshop**

Date: Monday, April 2nd, 2018

Time: 9 am – 5 pm

Location: J. Ray Ryan Building, RM 14 Storrs Campus

Speaker: Guy S. Parcel, Dean Emeritus, University of Texas School of Public Health and Co-Developer of Intervention Mapping

\*Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be provided to all workshop participants\*

<https://chip.uconn.edu/intervention-core-im-workshop-rsvp/>

#### **Cancer Education Course Series**

Date: Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Time: 12 pm to 1 pm

Speaker: Susan Tannenbaum, MD

Topic: How We Manage and Treat Triple Negative Breast Cancer

Location: UConn Health, Outpatient Pavilion, 4th floor large conference room S4532

#### **Career Conversations-Community Health Center Associations & More**

Date: Wednesday, April 4th, 2018

Time: 12 pm to 1:30 pm

Location: Downtown Hartford, Zachs Atrium, Hartford Times Building

#### **2018 CTMOM Free Dental Clinic | April 20-21, 2018 | Torrington High School**

#### **Volunteer day in New Haven County** *Date and location TBD*

#### **Second Annual Greater Hartford Harm Reduction Coalition: Narcan Training** *Date and Location TBD*

#### **Many thanks to the PHSO and its executive board!**

Cassie Therriault, President MPH '18  
Alyssa Gilbert, Vice President, MPH '18  
Cory Loftis, Treasurer, MPH '18  
John Garcia, GSO Liaison, MPH '18  
Ruth Shefraw, Secretary, MPH, '19  
Vonnie Pawlukiewicz, Events Coordinator MPH '19

<https://www.facebook.com/UConn.PHSO>



### ALUMNI FEATURED ARTICLE

Written by:

Zygmunt Dembek, PhD, MS, MPH



#### *Tips on Success in a Public Health Career - Connect, Communicate, and Reflect*

**Connect.** When encountering professional difficulties, use your professional network. This will be easy to do, because you regularly keep in touch with your peers from school and work! Many colleagues have had (or soon will have!) similar difficult experiences, and might be willing to offer their advice or discuss the issue. Always remember that for every problem there are multiple solutions, which include the ones that you can deduce, along with those provided by your friends and colleagues! Professional social media, e.g., LinkedIn, is a great way to reach out to those colleagues you may have lost touch with.

Remember that your professors have much to share which could benefit you in your career. One great strength of the UConn MPH program are the many working professionals who teach from their own public health practice-based based experiences. My life has been made much richer from keeping in touch over the decades with two of my undergraduate professors. They have long served as my personal role models, and it was a joy to have one of them attend my doctoral dissertation defense.

Communicate. From dealing with the public, I've developed a personal preference for professional communications to be made in the following order:

1. In-person
2. By phone
3. Lastly, and only if necessary, by email, text message or instant messaging.

Given the rapid transmission of information possible by the use of technology, why on earth would anyone want to communicate the "old fashioned way", i.e., in-person or by phone? When you work in a public health position and receive phone calls from the public, you quickly learn that you are responsible for getting back to those individuals, hopefully with an answer which will be helpful to them, whether a question about how to obtain an influenza vaccination, what the requirements are for childhood vaccines for school attendance, listening to the descriptions of potential foodborne illness symptoms, and why it was due to eating at food service establishment, and so on. The caller relies on you for an answer that will help them. When you can repeatedly provide such assuredness to the public throughout the workday, you are mastering public health practice!

Similarly, an in-person meeting or phone conversation helps to establish a degree of communication and trust for which electronic messaging can't replicate. Your direct communication with that person should be succinct, yet impart information vital to solving a potential problem.

Reflect. Remember to enjoy what you are doing – this is also known as “take time to smell the roses”! Don't expect to be thanked or congratulated for your work. Appreciate that helping others, especially through working in public health, brings its own rewards. On those occasions when someone thanks you for doing your job, don't forget to reflect upon how your work efforts can help to make a difference every day for others.

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### CONNECTICUT PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION



## Connecticut Public Health Association

Promoting Public Health in Connecticut Since 1916

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**Become a member of the  
largest public health network  
in Connecticut!**

**What does CPHA do for you?**

- **Advocate** for greater public health resources and infrastructure at the state and federal level
- Voice **your opinion** on public health issues
- Provide **networking opportunities** with health professionals from across industries in Connecticut
- Participation in the **Annual Conference** at a discount
- Offer opportunities for **CHES credits** throughout the year
- **E-newsletters** and updates on public health issues that matter to you

### **What does CPHA do for Connecticut?**

- **Making a change** to improve safety and health of the public in Connecticut
- **Advocate** for healthy living in Connecticut
- Connecting with and **affecting change** at local health boards
- Support the public health workforce through **mentoring and educational** opportunities

### **What does CPHA do for agency/organization members?**

- **Promotion** of events, personnel and job openings
- **Advocate** on your behalf for greater resources at the state and federal level
- Discounted individual **memberships** for up to 3 of your employees/members

### **CLICK HERE TO JOIN CPHA!**

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, contact the Membership Committee at [membership@cpha.info](mailto:membership@cpha.info).

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# UConn

## Graduate Programs in Public Health

"CPHA membership is the best way to stay connected to the public health community in Connecticut, receive regular updates on relevant state and federal policies, and learn about current job opportunities. My affiliation with CPHA has opened so many doors for me over the last 10 years. I recommend membership to everyone, especially young public health professionals and new MPH students."

-Annamarie Beaulieu, MPH, Director of Academic Administration,  
Connecticut Children's Medical College

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### **2018 CPHA Public Health Awards and Networking Breakfast**

Please join us for the 2018 CPHA Awards and Networking Breakfast held on **Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018** at Southern Connecticut State University, in the Adanti Student Center Ballroom, 345 Fitch Street, New Haven, CT 06515.

Parking for the event is free at the Wintergreen Garage on campus, 23 Wintergreen Ave, New Haven, CT 06515.

Student and Community Health Worker registration is \$12.50

Regular registration is \$15

### **Nominate An Outstanding Individual or Agency!**

The CPHA wants you to nominate an individual or organization for the one or more of the following awards below. For more information on the awards visit our [Awards Page](#) and find someone deserving of recognition. All nominees are evaluated on their strengths, talents and abilities, as well as their contributions to public health in Connecticut. Anyone is

welcome to submit a nomination, even individuals who are not members of CPHA.

[The Ira V. Hiscock Award](#)

[The Charles G. Huntington III Award](#)

[The Michael J. Perlin Student Award](#)

[The C.E.A. Winslow Award](#)

### **Submit a Nomination**

The deadline for submitting an application is **March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018** and submission forms can be found below in Word Document and PDF versions.

[Awards Nomination Form \(Word Document\)](#)

[Awards Nomination Form \(PDF\)](#)

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the Awards Committee Chair, Brittany Allen, at [cpha@cpha.info](mailto:cpha@cpha.info).

### **Register to Attend the Awards Breakfast**

Register [HERE](#) to attend the 2018 CPHA Awards Breakfast.

### **PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR THE CPHA ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST!**

Date: Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Time: 8 am to 10 am

Location: Legislative Office Building (LOB)

<http://www.cpha.info/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1080612>

### **LOOKING FOR A JOB?**

# UConn

## Graduate Programs in Public Health

### APHA CareerMart

The APHA CareerMart is the online job bank maintained by the American Public Health Association.

### ASPH Job Bank

The ASPH Job Bank is maintained by the Association of Schools of Public Health, an association which serves all the schools of public health in the U.S.

### Connecticut Department of Administration Services Employment Connection

The Connecticut DAS website contains all Connecticut government positions and explains the state testing and application process.

### Idealist.org

Idealist.org is a job board for non-profit organizations including groups concerned about public health.

### NACCHO Job Listings

The National Association of County and City Health Officials job bank focuses on openings in county and local boards of health.

### National Healthcare Career Network

The NHCN website has links to job listings from over 100 public health organizations and institutions around the country.

### Public Health Employment Connection

This job bank is maintained by the Emory University Rollins School of Public Health and contains listings for jobs around the country.

### PublicHealthJobs.com

PublicHealthJobs.com lists job openings by state and city.

### USAJOBS

USAJOBS is the job bank for the U.S. government and contains listing for all government agencies.

### WHO Job Listings

The WHO job bank lists current WHO positions around the world and explains the WHO application

Taken from the CPHA website: <http://cpha.site-ym.com/?page=ResourcesJobs>

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### ROMAN SHRESTHA, PhD(2017), MPH (2013)

Roman Shrestha, MPH, PhD, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Department of Allied Science, UCONN, has been selected to receive the **Society of Behavioral Medicine's (SBM's) 2018 Outstanding Dissertation Award**, which will be at SBM's 2018 Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions, being held April 11-14 in New Orleans, LA.



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*Congratulations Roman! We are so proud of you!*

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# UConn

Graduate Programs in Public Health

## THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

The **Kresge Foundation** is seeking applicants for **Emerging Leaders in Public Health** – an 18-month, leadership development initiative aimed at providing local, governmental public health leaders with the knowledge and skills to lead in today’s changing health care environment. The health officer and a second leader from the same agency team up for an action-oriented experience designed to enhance organizational and leadership skills and competencies. In the application, teams will propose a “transformative concept” that advances a new, innovative role or model for their public health agency in the community.

Participants will receive training on leadership, organizational development, communications strategy and financing models, as well as a grant up to \$125,000 to develop and implement their transformative concept. To learn more about the initiative, including the selection criteria and application process, visit [kresge.org/elph](http://kresge.org/elph) or contact [elph@kresge.org](mailto:elph@kresge.org).

Applications will open at 12 a.m. Eastern Time, on April 2, 2018 and will be accepted through 5 p.m. Eastern Time, on April 30, 2018.

### QUALIDIGM’S ANNUAL SUMMER INTERNSHIP INFORMATION EVENT!

Date: Thursday, March 22, 2018

Time: 11 am to 2 pm

Location: Qualidigm’s offices at 936 Silas Deane Hwy, Suite 1A, Wethersfield, CT 06109

Students are expected to arrive by 10:45 am to allow sufficient time for check-in. There is no cost to attend, however, you must pre-register and submit a resume and a writing sample by Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. For information and to register, simply contact Jennifer Upton-Grayon, Human Resources Generalist at [jgrayson@qualidigm.org](mailto:jgrayson@qualidigm.org) or contact her at 860-632-6341.

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### PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATION DINNER/ALUMNI REUNION EVENT – PLEASE JOIN US!



Date: Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Location: Academic Rotunda, UConn Health

Time: 6 pm



*Graduate Programs in Public Health*

**UCONN MPH PROGRAM FEATURED  
IN UCONN ENGAGED SPRING 2018  
NEWSLETTER**

We are proud to say that the UCONN MPH program was included in the Civic Action Plan for the University:

<https://engagement.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/991/2018/02/Spring-2018-OPE-Newsletter.pdf>

Please see page 13.

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**CT ASSOCIATION OF HEALTHCARE  
EXECUTIVES STUDENT CAREER  
PANEL**

Date: April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Location: Keller Auditorium, UConn Health

Time: 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Topic: Effective Decision Making in Healthcare Organizations

Agenda:

- 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm: Registration and Networking
- 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm: Discussion Panel & Audience Questions

For questions, please contact: Mariam Poonnose at

[Mariam.poonnose@uconn.edu](mailto:Mariam.poonnose@uconn.edu) or

Zachary Smith at:

[Zachary.smith@uconn.edu](mailto:Zachary.smith@uconn.edu)

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**UCONN OFFERS A 9 CREDIT ONLINE  
GRADUATE PROGRAM IN EXERCISE  
PRESCRIPTION**

<http://exerciseprescription.uconn.edu>

<http://lsplinks.net/YouTubeExRxCertificate>

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**‘Public Health Game Night’ featuring  
‘Pandemic’  
By: Luis Pantoja**

Come join Central Connecticut Health District (CCHD) as we celebrate National Public Health Week, a week long, nationwide, public health initiative structured around daily themes during the first week of April. On Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, CCHD will be hosting ‘Public Health Game Night’ from 6-9 PM at ‘Your Friendly Neighborhood Tabletop Shop’ in Newington, CT. We are excited about the prospect of engaging with our community on ‘Communicable Disease Day’ through tabletop gaming. As public health officials, we couldn’t think of a more appropriate game to feature than ‘Pandemic’ by Z-Man Games.

‘Pandemic’ is a cooperative board game where players form teams of specialists, assuming their respective roles and playing off one another’s strengths, in order to find the cure to four emergent infections threatening various regions around the world before they spread, and thus preventing the titular pandemic. Players begin in Atlanta, GA taking on the role of a scientist, researcher, epidemiologist, quarantine specialist, medic, field operative, and alike. The participants must travel to regions across the world in order to investigate outbreaks, treat emergent infections, build research stations and coordinate their efforts in order to develop cures to eradicate all four disease before they spread, causing pandemics.

# UConn

## Graduate Programs in Public Health

During CCHD's 'Public Health Game Night', we will be assembling cooperative teams of community members and real public health officials from around the state. This will allow us to reach a wider audience and in turn, provide us with the unique opportunity to not only educate the public, but also provide insight into the public health field. We will do so through direct interaction with health directors, epidemiologists, sanitarians, professors, physicians, researchers and more! We are gearing up to set up 12 copies of 'Pandemic' for competitive gameplay, in where successful teams will be eligible to win copies of Pandemic's base game. Each game can hold 2-4 players, granting us the potential to host an event for around 100 people. Additionally, CCHD will set up an educational booth equipped with brochures, condoms/goody bags, snacks and drinks. We are also looking into offering door prizes for participants throughout the night.

During the event, CCHD is looking to record and upload edited gaming sessions featuring members of our community with added effects such as science facts and personal insight from public health officials to our official Twitch account. We will be reaching out to public health officials around the state, in addition to reaching out to our media contacts, sending out press releases and advertisements.

We are committed to putting in an effort toward making this event a success! We would like to extend our invitation to the Public Health Program. CCHD cordially invites you to join Central Connecticut Health District, public health officials and community members from around the state for our 'Public Health Game Night' during National Public Health Week. Please contact Luis Pantoja, Health Educator at [lpantoja@ccthd.org](mailto:lpantoja@ccthd.org) or sign up on our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/352430141931230/>

Luis Pantoja  
Health Educator  
Central Connecticut Health District  
761 Old Main Street  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067  
Phone: (860) 258-2706  
Fax: (860) 258-2767  
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### **FACULTY NEWS**

**Deb Paturzo** was among a select group of faculty who were recognized for their teaching by both the Vice and Interim Provost.

### **ALUMNI NEWS**

**Matthew Brennan, MPH (2013)**, is now a Research Associate and Project Manager for the Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at UConn Health.

**Zygmunt Dembek, PhD (1995), MS, MPH (2005)** has been published:

A Co-Authored Journal Article:

Lebeda FJ, Adler M, Dembek ZF. Yesterday and Today: The Impact of Research Conducted at Camp Detrick on Botulinum Toxin. *Military Medicine*. Vol 183, Issue 3-4, March-April 2018.

A book containing a book chapter:

*F. J. Lebeda, Z.F. Dembek, M. Adler.* Chapter 10. Foodborne botulism from a systems biology perspective. In: *Foodborne Diseases*, Vol. 15. 1st Edition. Elsevier. 2018. See:



# UConn

## Graduate Programs in Public Health

<https://www.elsevier.com/books/foodborne-diseases/grumezescu/978-0-12-811444-5>

An Article:

"Don't Drink the Water" was released on page 40 in the online magazine Chemical, Biological & Nuclear Warfare (CBNW, UK) at:

[https://issuu.com/immags/docs/cbnw\\_jan\\_2018?e=9365673/57500571](https://issuu.com/immags/docs/cbnw_jan_2018?e=9365673/57500571)

**Nishelli Ahmed, MPH (2016), CHES**, now serves as a Health Educator for the Wellness and Prevention Services Department at UCONN. Nishelli was asked to write a spotlight piece for NASPA's The Region 1 Bulletin, a Wellness and Health Promotion newsletter that can be found here: :

<http://nasparegion1.tumblr.com/post/170380824102/wellness-and-health-promotion-kc-february>

### **STUDENT NEWS**

**Yinghui (Delian) Duan**  
Dissertation Defense

*"Use of Tamsulosin and the Risk of Psychiatric Disorders among Older Men with Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia: a Retrospective Cohort Study Using Medicare Data from 2006 to 2012"*



Date: March 16, 2018  
Time: 11:30 am to 1:30 pm  
Location: 195 Farmington Ave, Suite 2100, large conference room.

**Cassy Setzler**, a current MPH student, was asked to write a spotlight piece for NASPA's The Region 1 Bulletin, a Wellness and Health Promotion newsletter that can be found here: :

<http://nasparegion1.tumblr.com/post/170380824102/wellness-and-health-promotion-kc-february>

Written By: Morgan Hollenbeck Spencer