

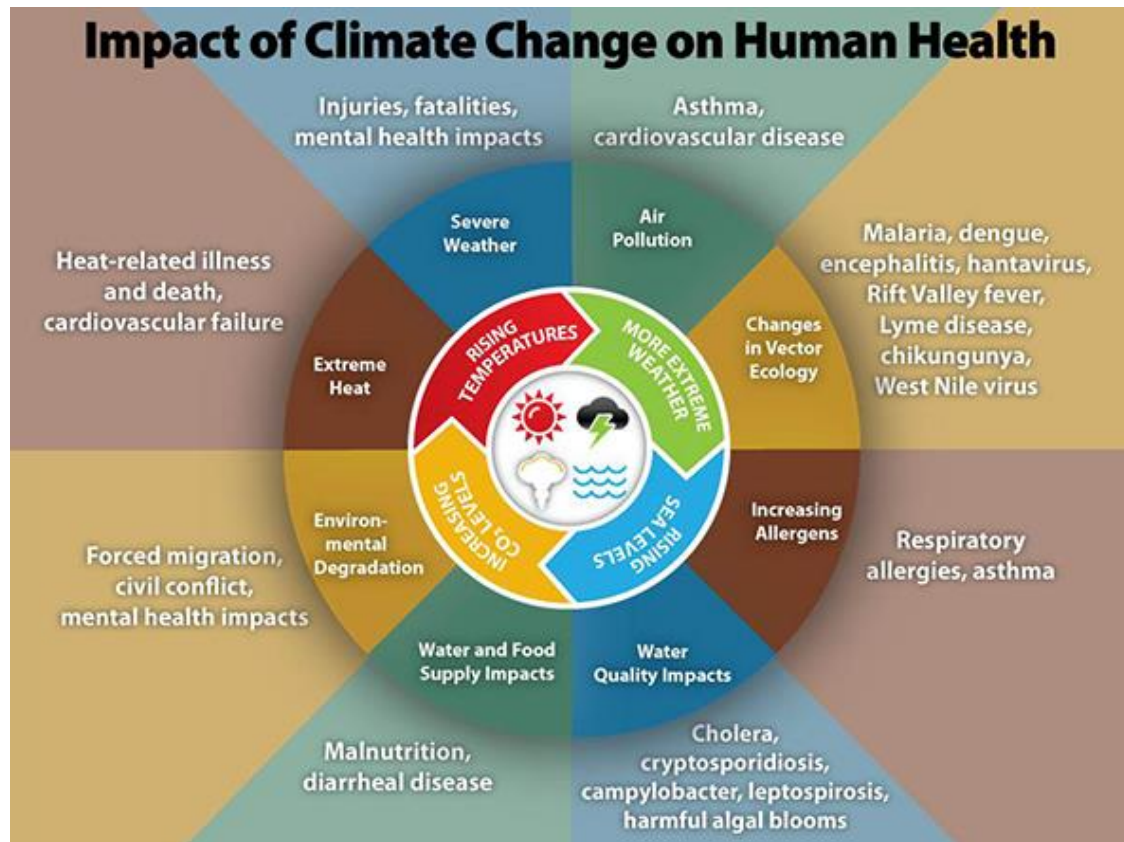


# **PUBLIC HEALTH HAPPENINGS June 2018**

## UCONN Graduate Programs in Public Health

- *2018 Program Convocation*
- *UCONN MPH FastTrack (4+1 BA/BS -MPH)*
- *American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting Announced*
- *Join the Council on Education for Public Health at APHA*
- *Connecticut Public Health Association Annual Meeting Announced*
- *Alumni Featured Article – Katie E. Boyle, MPH, Founder and CEO, Boyle's Naturals, LLC*
- *Public Health Student Organization 2018-19*
- *Online Certificates in Public Health*
- *Delta Omega, Beta Rho updates*
- *Joan Segal Scholarship Fund*
- *Get Certified in Public Health*
- *Looking For a Job?*
- *Employment Opportunity*
- *Alumni and Faculty News*

Taken from the CDC.gov on 6/4/18.



## 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>** beginning at **5 pm**. The event will be held at UConn Health, Building 195, Suite U3071A, 195 Farmington Avenue, Farmington, CT. 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



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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 alumna 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.



*Katherine Kuzmeskas, MPH pictured above*

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



*Dr. Natalie Moore pictured above*

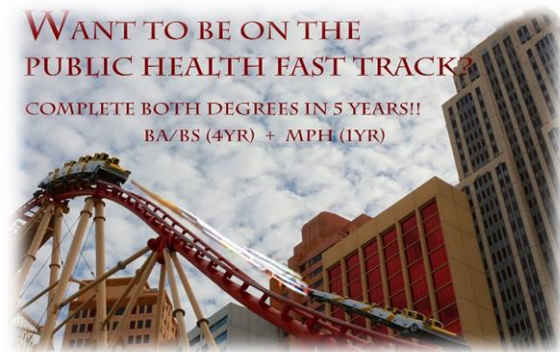
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### UConn MPH FAST TRACK

#### (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. We are excited to announce that we have 15 current FastTrack students and 7 incoming for the fall 2018 semester.



*Picture above by Barbara Case*

<b>Fast Track 2016</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Undergraduate Major</b>
Madison Adams	Molecular & Cell Biology
Emily Bludnicki	Allied Health Sciences
Alexa Friedman	Biology & Human Rights
Leann Hennessey	Communications
Rebecca Nelson	Biological Sciences
Nikita Roy	Biological Sciences
Mark Shettle	Physiology & Neurobiology
<b>Fast Track 2017</b>	
Kritika Shankar	Anthropology
Dae-zhane Boland	Physiology & Neurobiology
Elizabeth Frenis	Healthcare Management
Lindsay Phaneuf	Allied Health Sciences
Marta Holovatska	Allied Health Sciences
Woodlyn Joachim	Molecular & Cell Biology
Odia Kane	Cognitive Science
Miriam Katz	Physiology & Neurobiology
<b>Fast Track 2018</b>	
Timothy Coccozza	Physiology & Neurobiology
Carly Danziger	Psychological Sciences/Research
Julianna Elmasri	Healthcare Management
Holly Labrecque	Psychology
Magdalene Mlynek	Population Health
Amy Nelson	Molecular & Cell Biology
Corona Zhang	Anthropology

## "Creating the Healthiest Nation: Health Equity Now"

[Registration](#) and [housing](#) are open!



APHA's Annual Meeting and Expo is the largest annual gathering of public health professionals. More than 12,000 people attend, and thousands of new abstracts are presented each year, making APHA 2018 the most influential meeting in public health.

**APHA's 2018 Annual Meeting and Expo, November, 10-14**  
**Theme:** [Creating the Healthiest Nation: Health Equity Now](#)  
**Location:** [San Diego Convention](#)

[Center](#) - 111 W Harbor Dr. San Diego, CA 92101.

### Calls for Submissions

**APHA's Global Public Health Film Festival** — The [Call for Films](#) is now open! Showcase your film to more than 12,000 attendees. We are in search of films that inspire, educate and empower public health. The submission deadline is **June 30**.

### Be a Part of APHA 2018!

#### Become an Exhibitor and/or Sponsor

Your organization can become an integral part of the [Public Health Expo](#) and/or show your commitment to public health, the attendee experience and our meeting with a [sponsorship campaign](#)!

#### Join the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) at the 2018 APHA Annual Meeting

*Registration for APHA is **NOT REQUIRED** for attendance at any CEPH events.*





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**Interactive Workshop: Trending topics in CEPH accreditation**

*\*\*\*open to accredited & applicant schools and programs only*

**Saturday, November 10th**

3:00-7:00 p.m. local time  
Hilton San Diego Bayfront (Room TBA)  
Registration fee: \$250  
[Click here to register!](#)

This workshop will include:

**Presentations** from CEPH staff on salient topics

Small group guided **discussions** with peers & CEPH staff. Each participant will be able to take part in two different discussion groups.

Participants from the same university can split up to cover a broader range of topics. Topics will include MPH curriculum, DrPH curriculum, bachelor's curriculum, concentration competencies, guiding statements & evaluation, and data collection & management.

**Networking** Reception

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**Technical Assistance Sessions**

*\*\*\*open to all schools and programs*

**Session 1: Bachelor's Curriculum**

**Sunday, November 11th**

9:00-10:00 a.m. local time  
Hilton San Diego Bayfront (Room TBA)  
*No registration required*

Designed for all accreditation units with undergraduate degrees, this session will include presenters from accredited units & CEPH staff on the required cumulative and experiential activities (SBP Criterion B4 & SPH/PHP Criterion D12).

**Session 2: MPH Curriculum**

**Sunday, November 11th**

10:30-11:30 a.m. local time  
Hilton San Diego Bayfront (Room TBA)  
*No registration required*

Designed for SPH and PHP working on compliance reports and/or self-studies, this session will include presentations from CEPH staff & accredited units on hot topics in the MPH curriculum.

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**Express Consultations**

*\*\*\*open to all schools and programs*

One-hour sessions with CEPH staff available by appointment only  
Registration fee: \$100

**Saturday, November 10th** | slots available from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. local time

**Sunday, November 11th** | slots available from 7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. local time

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Monday, November 12th | by appointment only

Email [Olivia Luzzi](mailto:Olivia.Luzzi@uconn.edu) for more information and to book your appointment

November 8, 2018

Conference Theme:

**"Epidemics"**

**Submit Abstracts Today!**

Click [here](#) for a description of the different presentation styles



**Connecticut  
Public Health  
Association**

Promoting Public Health in Connecticut Since 1916



Location: Sheraton Hotel Hartford South  
100 Capital Blvd, Rocky Hill, CT

**2018 CPHA Annual  
Conference**

**Be a Part of CT's Premier  
Public Health Event**

**ALUMNI FEATURED ARTICLE**

By: Katie E. Boyle, MPH (09)

**UConn MPH Grad Invents New  
Product for the Oldest of Human  
Problems**



Katie E. Boyle, MPH, 2009 graduate of the University of Connecticut's MPH program, is the owner of **Boyle's Naturals, LLC**, a natural product manufacturing company and social enterprise that offers consumers evidence-based solutions for reducing exposures to toxins in their homes' air,

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water, food and products they buy. Boyle wants consumers at all income levels to be able to shift away from “conventional” personal care and household products, including deodorant/anti-perspirants, to natural versions of the very same products. And she wants big manufacturers to invest in *lower-priced* natural options, giving consumers more choice.

Boyle’s business interest wasn’t the only driving force behind getting an MPH at UConn. “It’s also education around prevention.” Boyle’s father died in 1997 from a workplace fall when she was 17. “We can prevent much of the injury, sickness and disease we experience as humans. After having my children, removing products with carcinogens and endocrine disruptors felt pretty easy to do.” After formally studying environmental health and toxicology in the UConn MPH program, she and her husband decided to open Boyle’s Naturals (formerly Boyle Public Health). They knew it would be risky, but the right thing to do. What’s not so easy is getting natural products to work as well as their more toxic counterparts, says Boyle. Boyle has been in business for two years as of March 2018.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT ORGANIZATION

### **Congratulations 2018-19 Public Health Student Organization (PHSO) Executive Board Members!**

Vonnie Pawlukiewicz, President  
Ruth Shefraw, Vice President  
Nita Thapa-Chhetri, Treasurer  
Muhammad Razzaq, GSO Liaison

### **Public Health Student Organization Video: Looking Back**

<https://www.facebook.com/UConn.PHSO/videos/vb.80469869525/10154057398719526/?type=2&theater>



*Public Health Student Organization tending to the community gardens in Hartford*

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### ONLINE PUBLIC HEALTH CERTIFICATES

**Online Public Health Certificate in Disability Studies** – 12 credit graduate level certificate offered entirely online. For more information see: [phcids.uconn.edu](http://phcids.uconn.edu)

**Courses include:**

- PUBH 5501: Foundations of Public Health and Disability
- PUBH 5502: Epidemiology of Disability
- PUBH 5503: Disability Law, Policy, Ethics, and Advocacy
- PUBH 5504: Public Health Interventions in Disability.

**Online Certificate in Addiction Science (CAS)** – 12 credit certificate appropriate for MPH and doctoral students, as well as post-docs. It is also appropriate for those in training for professions like psychology, social work, counseling, nursing, medicine, allied health, and sociology, public policy, and those currently practicing their professions. For more information see: <https://health.uconn.edu/community-medicine/certificate-in-addiction-science/>

**Courses include:**

- PUBH 5478 - Epidemiology of Substance Use Disorders and Psychiatric Co-morbidities
- PUBH 5480 - Clinical and Social Service Systems Research in Alcohol and Addiction Science
- PUBH 5479 - Alcohol and Drug Policy Research

- PUBH 5481 - Research Careers and the Responsible Conduct of Research in Alcohol and Addiction Science

### DELTA OMEGA, BETA RHO, PUBLIC HEALTH HONOR SOCIETY



**Delta Omega**  
Honorary Society in Public Health

We would like to welcome our newest members to ***Delta Omega, Beta Rho, UConn's Chapter:***

Name	Type of Membership
Audrey Chapman	Faculty
Fludiona Naka	Student
Kathryn Bentivegna	Student
Kathleen McHugh	Student
Andrew Lyon MPH	Alumni
Nishelli Ahmed MPH	Alumni
Rachel Sadlon MPH	Alumni
Roman Shrestha, MPH, PhD	Alumni

### **JOAN SEGAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Alumni and faculty of the Program discuss Joan Segal's legacy and the importance of a scholarship in her name.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSellYj-LHM>



To donate to the Joan Segal Scholarship fund, visit: [s.uconn.edu/segalmph](https://s.uconn.edu/segalmph)

**CPH** Certified in  
Public Health

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

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- 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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### **LOOKING FOR A JOB**

#### **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**



## Graduate Programs in Public Health

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

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

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### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The **Institute for Community Research (ICR)** has an immediate opening to begin in July 2018 for a full-time **Research Data Manager/Analyst**.

ICR is an independent, non-profit community-based research organization located in Hartford, Connecticut, whose mission is to conduct research in collaboration with community partners that promotes justice and equity in a diverse, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural world. ICR research and dissemination projects focus on community health, education, participatory research methods, community documentation, and community research capacity building. Details on the Institute are available at [www.incommunityresearch.org](http://www.incommunityresearch.org).

**Position Description:** The Research Data Manager/Analyst will work with multidisciplinary research teams on NIH funded research studies to create, manage, and prepare datasets for analysis and conduct preliminary and descriptive analyses. Specific responsibilities include:

- Based on specific research study needs, design computer assisted survey instruments with QDS, Qualtrics, Survey Monkey, Red Cap, or other software.
- Develop study participant databases with Access, Excel, or other software, that allows field staff to

document and track participants' engagement in various research activities.

- Conduct routine data entry quality monitoring, document data entry errors and revision logs, and back up raw data according to data management protocols.
- Conduct systematic data processing, cleaning, recoding, and data transfer in preparation for data sharing and analysis.
- Work with other research team members to develop quality control systems and protocols for both participant tracking databases and research data collection processes.
- Generate regular reports to research teams on the status of the recruitment progress, data quality, data processing progress, and routine or preliminary analysis.
- Assist investigators, statisticians, and other researchers in analyzing quantitative data for specific project reports and publications.
- Develop (with other team members) and maintain organization-wide standard data management, storage, and quality control systems.
- Provide database use technical support to other research staff.
- Support integration of qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis.
- Participate in ICR staff meetings and other ICR events and activities as needed.

**Qualifications:**

- MA/MS/MPH in epidemiology, public health, bio-statistics, sociology, communication, geography, psychology, education, or other

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- quantitative social or behavioral science.
- Minimum of 3 years of solid experience in managing or analyzing data (SPSS required; experience with SAS, Stata, or R desirable). Additional experience with Access, Excel, Qualtrics, QDS, UCINET, Netdraw, ArcGIS, and/or other analytical software preferred.
  - BA with equivalent skills and an additional 7 years of experience in data management/analysis will also be considered.
  - Experience managing longitudinal and multiple related databases, documenting databases changes/modifications, and tracking and logging errors.
  - Capable of summarizing descriptive and preliminary data output in written reports. Able to understand and support the integration of different forms of qualitative data into research reports.
  - Detail orientated, and ability to quickly identify errors or irregular data patterns and alert supervisor and other related research team members.
  - Highly self-motivated with a good working attitude and the ability to accomplish multiple tasks while effectively managing time constraints.
  - Ability to set priorities and meet deadlines in a collaborative and fast-paced work environment with minimal guidance and supervision.
  - Demonstrates a consistent and high degree of professionalism, enthusiasm, autonomy and initiative.

- Strong written and oral communication and interpersonal skills.

**Salary:** Commensurate with experience; excellent benefits.

**Send cover letter and resume or CV to:**

Human Resources Office  
Institute for Community Research  
2 Hartford Square West, Suite 100  
Hartford, CT 06106-5128  
Or email: [emily.marble@icrweb.org](mailto:emily.marble@icrweb.org)

### **ALUMNI NEWS**

**Salman Al Zayani, PhD (2015)** a renowned Bahraini Doctor and one of our PhD graduates has been noted for his activity in the Kingdom in the fields of education academics, administration and research. He has recently received the **Venus International Medical Award for Excellence in Community Medicine, 2018.**

<https://www.bahrainthisweek.com/excellence-in-community-medicine-interview-with-dr-salman-al-zayani/>

**Annamarie Beaulieu, MPH (2007)**, has been appointed Senior Director, Academic Affairs, Grants and Sponsored Programs at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC)

**Zygmunt Dembek, PhD (1995), MPH (2005), MS** was recently published, *Dembek, Z., Chekol, T., & Wu, A. (2018). Best practice assessment of disease modelling for infectious disease outbreaks. Epidemiology and Infection, 1-9.* The article

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can be found here:

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/epidemiology-and-infection/article/best-practice-assessment-of-disease-modelling-for-infectious-disease-outbreaks/E2438A78C55DCD7014857F4B756FF58A>

The publisher provided a platform for Dr. Dembek and his colleagues to give a plain-English description of the paper. It can be found here:

<https://www.growkudos.com/publications/10.1017%25252Fs095026881800119x/reader>

The Editorial Board of the journal Public Health Reports, met with Surgeon General Dr. Jerome Adams during the annual Board meeting, held at during the annual Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health meeting this past March in Washington, D.C. Surgeon General Adams provided guidance to the Board on his goals for the journal, and recounted his public health experiences as the Indiana State Health Commissioner.



***Pictured above, Dr. Zygmunt Dembek with Surgeon General Dr. Jerome Adams***

## **FACULTY NEWS**

**Scott Wetstone, MD and Amanda Durante, PhD**, were among a select group of faculty who were recognized for their teaching by both the Provost and Vice Provost for Academic Affairs.

Written by: Morgan Hollenbeck Spencer

Edited by: Barbara Case