

HPM IN ACTION

- ❖ Kathy Swartz discusses the replacement of the Health Secretary with Reuters Correspondent David Morgan <http://ow.ly/vLpL3>
- ❖ Interesting article about politics, public health, and guns with a quote from David Hemenway <http://www.newrepublic.com/article/117258/surgeon-general-nomination-vivek-murthy-guns-and-public-health>
- ❖ Beautiful interview with Atul Gawande about the late Sherwin Nuland, who talked frankly about dying <http://ow.ly/uISsp>
- ❖ Ben Sommers points out, White, older and self-employed people want to keep their health plans <http://wapo.st/1JCLe98>
- ❖ Congratulations to this year's HPM stars celebrating milestone anniversaries at the School, including Deborah Azrael (15), Catherine Barber (15), Atul Gawande (10), Sue J. Goldie (15), Jim Hammitt (20), Lucian Leape (25), Anne Occhipinti (10), Mary Odle (30), Meredith Rosenthal (15), and Milt Weinstein (40)!
- ❖ And, another huge congratulations to Aurora De Mattia (pictured below) on receiving the A.C.E Award. This award is given to an individual staff member who has made an extraordinary effort in a particular task or aspect of their position, accomplished something special, and/or exemplifies a collaborative commitment to their work and the School's mission.



HPM Bake-Off Results

HPM held its annual bake-off on February 11, 2014.

Congratulations to the following winners:

1st place for Best in Show: Nancy Turnbull with her Lemon Zest Cake with Lemon Curd, Whipped Cream Mascarpone Frosting, Lemon Meringues, and Candied Citrus Peel.



1st place for Olympic Theme and the Runner up for the Best in Show: Nandini Sarma, Liana Woskie, Josie Fisher, Yelena Kuznetsov and Juliana Stone with "Lesbian Olympics Cross Country Skiing on Chocolate Baklava (Susan and Mikaela take gold!)."

Runner up for Olympics: Katherine Hefli with "Rainbow Tears: Human Rights under Attack in Russia."



Upcoming HPM Research Seminars:

Kresge 439 from 12:30 – 1:30 pm

May 1: **Lenny Marcus, Barry Dorn, & Eric McNulty** - *Crisis Meta-Leadership Lessons from the Boston Marathon Bombing Respons: The Ingenuity of Swarm Intelligence*

May 8: **Beatrice Podtschaske & Jeroen Struijs**

Make sure to follow us on [Twitter](#) for more information about upcoming seminars and events!

HPM Comings and Goings Welcome

- ❖ Ashish Jha's Team: Xiner Zhou, Programmer, Garret Johnson, Research Assistant, & Nancy Beaulieu, Research Scientist
 - ❖ Atul Gawande's Team: Tanya Palit, Executive Assistant
- Farewell and good wishes**
- ❖ Financial Team: Alec Torres, Financial Associate
 - ❖ Atul Gawande's Team: Kristina Vitek, Executive Assistant

Student Spotlight - Caitlin McMurtry, by Kevin Nguyen



Caitlin’s interest in public health began while working as a research intern in Mobile, Alabama collecting interviews on risk behaviors and mental health topics with adolescents living in high-poverty neighborhoods. Listening to the teenagers’ stories made her question her complicity in society and a government that would allow children to grow up in such situations without options for recourse. She pursued the field of public health, which combined her academic interests in sociology, anthropology, and policy research.

Following graduation from Carleton College, Caitlin’s passion for public health led her to Kansas, where she continued to do interesting work related to state and local health issues at the Kansas Health Institute and Healthy Communities Wyandotte.

Caitlin says that her HPM coursework and her role as a teaching assistant for Dr. John McDonough have been incredible opportunities to learn about different aspects of the domestic health care system. She also highly values the department's female faculty, who she describes as “accomplished, tremendously good at transmitting the information they know, approachable, and kind.”

This summer, Caitlin will be interning for Senator Al Franken. She sees this as an opportunity to understand how policy is considered, deliberated, passed or not passed at the national level.

Staff Spotlight - HPM Staff Who Love to Learn!

With so many staff applying to graduate schools, gearing up to go, in the middle of, concluding, etc., we thought it would be a good time, as the academic year comes to an end, to reflect on some members unique paths.

Julia Dennett

Entering the Harvard PhD Program in Health Policy in Fall 2014

How do you plan to apply your degree in the future?

“I plan on applying the training I will receive in graduate school to pursue a research career and explore questions in health policy and economics.”

Yelena Kuznetsov

Beginning law school in the fall

What advice would you give prospective students considering a legal education?

“Have a concrete plan for what you want to do after you graduate when you begin the application process. It’ll make your application more of a sound proposal (make them an offer they can’t refuse!).”

Kirstin Scott

PhD Candidate in Health Policy

Plans for next year: Finalizing my dissertation studies from Kigali, Rwanda, where I will working on a variety of health policy research projects related to quality and governance.

“Among my most memorable and valuable experiences in the program thus far has been the opportunity to serve as a teaching fellow for Bob Blendon, Ashish Jha, Meredith Rosenthal, Paul Farmer, Arthur Kleinman, Anne Becker, Salmaan Keshavjee, Haiden Huskamp and Barbara McNeil in courses focused on health politics, quality and global health. The combination of such impressive faculty, inspiring students and meaningful content has helped deepen my appreciation for the field of global health quality and how all key players in health care - ranging from researchers to physicians to politicians - can play a role in improving the lives of patients around the world.”

Daniel Liebman

Enrolling at Harvard Medical School this fall

“Why did you decide to work at HSPH before applying to medical school?”

“I decided to take two years before medical school to work at HSPH in order to deepen my understanding of the health policy landscape prior to beginning my medical studies. My time off has allowed me to refine my short- and long-term career interests and goals, and has given me a host of tangible skills to take with me to medical school. I believe that my health policy exposure here will add context to my medical studies, and allow me to keep an eye on the “big picture” of health care even as I delve into the smallest details of biochemistry and physiology.”

Why did you chose Northeastern?

Maggie Lamond: “I chose the Northeastern Higher Education Administration program because it allowed me to continue working full time while also being capable of completing the program within 2 years. I also appreciate the flexibility to choose whether I wanted to take courses on campus or online.”

What do you enjoy about Harvard Graduate School of Education and experience do you find most valuable?

Colin Fleming: “The Higher Ed program at HGSE continuously challenges me while providing new perspectives and ideas for creating solutions and new initiatives within HPM.”