



## Happy Summer to All!

The Department of Epidemiology wishes you the very best this summer. We hope all members of this department's network have the opportunity to enjoy as much sunshine and recreation as possible this season as we prepare for the beginning of another exemplary academic year. We welcome our summer session course participants and we excitedly anticipate the arrival of all new and returning department members this coming fall.

## Welcome David Vaughn!



The department is delighted to announce that we have filled the Director of Administration position. **David Vaughn** will be transitioning in to his new role over the next two weeks. David will join our department full time effective **August 4, 2014**. He comes to us from MIT's

Picower Institute for Learning and Memory where he was the Assistant Director for Administration. He brings a strong background in managing operations, grants management, program management and post-doc faculty appointments. David is excited to join the Epidemiology department and we welcome him with the same sentiment. We look forward to what this next year brings under David's leadership!

## Society for Epidemiologic Research SER Annual Meeting

This year's **SER Annual Meeting** took place in Seattle, WA from [June 24-27](#) and there was most certainly a powerful HSPH, Department of Epidemiology presence at the [event](#).



Many department community members participated through sharing truly incredible talks, posters and oral presentations with other esteemed professionals in the field. Participants included [but are not limited to] Julia Sisti, Laura Schummers, Leslie Farland, Ellen O'Neal, John Jackson, Rebecca Graff, Brittany Charlton, Elizabeth Cespedes, Pamela Rist, Deirdre Tobias, Laura Dodge, Brittany Charlton, Jennifer Stuart and Sonja Swanson. Faculty members **Tyler VanderWeele**, **Miguel Hernan** and **Eric Tchetgen Tchetgen** gave outstanding lectures as well. Next year's **conference** will take place in Denver, CO from June 16-19th.

Epi SD candidate, Jennifer Stuart, was announced the President Elect for the **SER Student and Post-Doc Committee (SPC)**. She will serve as elect, current, and past president for the next three years and she looks forward to representing the Harvard School of Public Health on the board.

## Summer Program in Epidemiology

This summer, the Department of Epidemiology hosted 8 remarkable undergraduate students from universities around the country to participate in the 4th annual **Summer Program in Epidemiology**. The four week Summer Program in Epidemiology integrates mathematics and quantitative methods to provide students with an understanding of the skills and processes necessary to pursue a career in public health. Program participants attended lectures provided by Epi and HSPH faculty members and post-docs, excelled in introduction to epidemiology, biostatistics and GRE preparation courses, and most notably- worked together in small groups with faculty mentors to create research projects investigating compelling questions of public health relevance. Many thanks to *all* members of the department who helped make this program a major success!



*Summer Program in Epidemiology and **FACETS** participants at the program Welcome Dinner at the Museum of Fine Arts*

## Department News & Recognition

### Harvey Fineberg Fellowship Awardees

- Doctoral Candidates Leslie Farland (RPP Epi) and Tianyi Huang (Cancer Epi) were awarded the **Harvey Fineberg Fellowship** for 2014-2015. The Fellowship was created to honor **Harvey V. Fineberg** and supports students who plan to focus on various areas of cancer prevention. Be sure to read their research project proposals [here](#).

### Pamela Rist Appointed to Epi Instructor

- Previously a Research Fellow in the Department of Epidemiology, Pamela has been appointed as the lead instructor for the new course on epidemiology and biostatistics (ID200S) this summer to the first class of students in the new **Doctor of Public Health Program**. We congratulate her on her new position.

### Epi Promotions

- Sincerest congratulations to **Alkes Price** who was recently promoted to Associate Professor of Statistical Genetics in Epidemiology and to **Eric Rimm** who has been promoted to Professor of Medicine at the Harvard Medical School. Our outstanding staff member in the **PGSG** group, Jill McDonald, has also been promoted to Faculty Coordinator for Drs. David Hunter, Peter Kraft, Alkes Price & Liming Liang.

### Movember Global Action Plan

- **Lorelei Mucci** was invited to be on the steering committee for an international randomized trial of an exercise intervention among men with advanced prostate cancer. This project, is funded by the charity organization **Movember**. Their Global Action Plan aims to investigate the effects of the exercise intervention on biomarkers of disease biology and progression.

### Antidepressants and Pregnancy

- The Pharmacoepi team had a compelling article published in **NEJM** entitled, “**Antidepressant Use in Pregnancy and the Risk of Cardiac Defects**” that has been receiving a great deal of accolades and media attention.

### Young Investigator Award

- Congratulations to **Kathryn Wilson** who was awarded a **Prostate Cancer Foundation Young Investigator Award** for her work on bone metabolism and bone metastases in prostate cancer. This 3-year \$225K award aims to fund the future leaders in the field of prostate cancer.

### Postdoc Highlights

- **Marina Kvaskoff** was awarded a **Postdoctoral Research Fellow Leadership Award** from the Center for Faculty Development and Diversity at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) for her “achievements and dedication to serve the postdoctoral and wider scientific community.” Additionally, **Ericka Noonan** received a postdoctoral fellowship from the US Army Prostate Cancer Program and **Tom Ahearn** received a postdoctoral fellowship from the **American Cancer Society**.



### CDC 'Predict the Influenza Season Challenge'

- **Dr. Jeffrey Shaman**, **Dr. Marc Lipsitch** & team won first place in the **CDC 'Predict the Influenza Season Challenge'**. Dr. Shaman is a CCDD collaborator who works with Dr. Lipsitch and others on the seasonality of influenza. Read the full story [here](#).

### AACR Workshop:

#### Boston | August 11th-15th

- **Peter Kraft** and Lorelei Mucci are taking part in the 2nd annual **American Association for Cancer Research Integrative Molecular Epidemiology Workshop**. This workshop is designed to accelerate the training of the next generation of cancer researchers.

### In Epi Grant News...

#### NHLBI T32 Training Grant in CVD Epi

- The Department is thrilled to announce that the competing continuation of the NHLBI T32 training grant in **CVD Epidemiology** received an impact score of **10!** They will be able to continue this exceptional program which supports so many young research investigators.

### Donna Spiegelman's Project Funded

- Congratulations to **Dr. Donna Spiegelman** who received an NIH R01 for project titled “New methods for the design and evaluation of large HIV prevention interventions”. This project will be funded through the NIH for four years until May of 2018.

*Congratulations to all involved in working with the innovative projects occurring in this department!*



**George Seage** and his advisees, research fellow, **Nadia Abuelezzam** and SD candidate Kathryn Rough, celebrating after the 2014 graduation ceremony

## Department News & Recognition



Emilie Zoltick receiving an Outstanding TA Award with Department Chair, Michelle Williams

### Save the date!

#### Department Faculty Retreat

- The Department of Epidemiology's annual faculty retreat will be held on Wednesday, **September 24th** in the **Joseph B. Martin Conference Center** at the NRB. The retreat moderator will be **Amanda Spickard** and **Francesca Dominici** will present.

#### Registration Begins

- Reminder:** Monday, **August 4th** marks the start of the registration period for the fall academic session.

#### Student Happy Hour

- Save the date for our next summertime student social event coming up on Thursday, **August 7th**. The event will take place from 4-6pm at the Yard House in Fenway.

#### HSPH New Student Orientation

- Orientation** will be held the final week of August: Monday the 25th—Friday the 29th. This week long event is a wonderful opportunity for new students to become engaged in the HSPH school culture as they learn about their degree programs as well as resources available to them.

#### Epi Seminar Series

- Department of Epidemiology seminar series will begin again this fall on **September 10th**. We look forward to the first seminar presented by **Michelle Holmes** from 12:30-1:30pm in Kresge 502.

#### Reel Epi

- Have you joined in on the fun yet? HSPH's *Reel Epi* gatherings are an exciting opportunity to share a love of movies, epidemiology and great discussions with fellow epi enthusiasts. The next event is set to take place on **September 16th** - more details to follow!



Dr. Michelle Holmes



### Incoming Epi Students

We look forward to welcoming all members of the Department of Epidemiology community this fall semester but we especially look forward to meeting our incoming students who will be beginning their new degree programs.

#### Doctor of Science

Barnhart, Dale A.  
Bohn, Justin M.  
Bykov, Katsiaryna  
DuPre, Natalie C.  
Hitchings, Matthew D.  
Kolokotronis, Thomas M.  
Kponee, Kale  
Ma, Wenjie  
Markovitz, Amanda R.  
Mooring, Eric Q.  
Newlan, Sami A.  
Paik, Julie M.  
Peak, Corey M.  
Phillips, Sharon J.  
Rough, Kathryn E.  
Schummers, Laura C.  
Sheu, Yi-Han H.  
Siam, Zeina A.  
Wang, Min-Jung  
Wang, Weike  
Yoshida, Kazuki  
Zhong, Qiuyue

#### Master of Science 80 Credit Program

Allawzi, Iman  
Anderson, Amanda M.  
Baik, Inhye  
Barber, Lauren E.  
Butler, Rebecca K.  
Cantos, Krystal V.  
Comerford, Erin O.  
Dickerman, Barbra  
Downer, Mary K.  
Feng, Danielle D.  
Johnson, Blake E.  
Li, Yu  
Lucht, Sarah A.  
Molsberry, Samantha A.  
Tran, Phoebe M.  
Vinayak, Pooja G.  
Wang, Zhihui  
Yang, Rui

#### Master of Science 42.5 Credit Academic Year Program

Eseyin, Olabimpe R.  
Ladha, Karim S.  
Lin, Brian M.  
Secemsky, Eric A.  
Gonzalez Latapi, Paulina  
Karra, Lakshmi  
Kim, Sean H.  
MacFadden, Derek R.  
Olson, Heather E.  
Patel, Sanjay B.

#### Master of Science 42.5 Credit Summer Program

Cameron, Anna  
El-Chaar, Darine  
Ferraro, Pietro Manuel  
Filbin, Michael R.  
Haller, Maria C.  
Jin, Chunzi Jenny  
Mosepele, Mosepele  
Ouattara, Yenadounou J.  
Peck, Robert  
Schlenker, Matthew B.  
Subbaraman, Ramnath  
Thavendiranathan, Paaladinesh  
Wallace, Zachary S.  
Wong, Jorge A.

#### Master of Science in Computational Biology & Quantitative Genetics

Awad, Lana  
Buendia Buendia, Jorge Eduardo  
Chaffin, Mark  
Cheever, Elizabeth  
Chen, Danfeng  
Hou, Suqin  
Jiang, Wenqing  
Lee, Nicole D.  
Nishihara, Reiko  
Shang, Jin  
Wang, Harold  
Wu, Weimiao  
Zhao, Haoquan