

# GPPH Rounds

Graduate Programs in Public Health - Tufts University School of Medicine

Fall 1998



Lori Marcotte, MPH '98 and Julie Roberts, MPH '98.

## See Commencement 1998 p.

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The Graduate Programs in Public Health of Tufts University School of Medicine publishes the GPPH Rounds semi-annually. It reports on the activities of the programs, students, faculty, and alumni. We welcome your suggestions, photographs, news items and alumni notes (job, family and address changes).

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## Director's Message

by Dr. Lauro F. Cavazos

I am pleased we are opening our lines of communication through this first issue of our Graduate Programs in Public Health Newsletter. The governance and operation of the Combined MD/MPH and DVM/MPH Programs underwent major restructuring in 1997 to respond to administrative challenges. The new administrative entity, called the Graduate Programs in Public Health (GPPH), oversees our MD/MPH, DVM/MPH, MPH, and Health Communication Programs.

Our first MD/MPH class graduated in 1990. There have since been many changes and new developments in our public health program and the department. Clearly, we cannot present ten years of news in the first issue, but we will attempt to give you a flavor of the exciting developments in the GPPH.

It is our expectation that this publication will grow to serve our graduates, students, faculty and others interested in the GPPH. We are interested in your progress, and would like to learn how you are applying your public health education. This newsletter seeks to bring us together so we can learn of our successes and how to improve our program. The quality of our educational program is reflected in our graduates. We are proud of our graduates' educational achievements. We hope some of you will write, make suggestions for improvement, and let us know how you are doing. Our current students should consider this newsletter a mechanism for communication to each other, the faculty, and our alumni.

Let me touch briefly on some of the major changes in the last ten years. Change is important. It indicates that we are constantly reviewing our educational efforts and seeking ways to improve them.

1. In 1994, we began a new Combined DVM/MPH Program with the Tufts University Veterinary School. We also increased the enrollment in the Combined MD/MPH Program from 15 to 20 students. Two positions are reserved for the veterinary students, and the rest are filled from the entering first year medical class.

2. We began a new freestanding MPH Program in 1996. This is a joint offering with the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Nutrition Science and Policy on the Tufts Medford campus. Currently, 49 students are enrolled in the MPH Program. Nine of these students are in a joint degree, MS in Nutrition/MPH Program.

3. In 1995, departmental reorganization created the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health at Tufts University School of Medicine. This is the departmental home for the GPPH.

4. As I mentioned earlier, the GPPH was formed in 1997 to increase the breadth of our educational offerings and to strengthen our services to students and graduates. To integrate and enhance syner-

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## HCOM Student Puts Training to Work

by Joanne Barker, MS '98

Training in Health Communication has served Loralie McGuire, MS in Health Communications '99, well. This fall, she accepted the position of Clinical Trials Manager in the Department of Anesthesiology at New England Medical Center (NEMC). The wide-ranging expertise McGuire picked up in classes like Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Research Methods, and Ethics has become part of her day-to-day life.

McGuire not only establishes research protocols and negotiates contracts, she serves as the liaison to patients participating in the department's clinical trials. Research on human subjects involves serious ethical issues. She spends time with all participants to make sure they enter the trials fully aware of their rights and the purpose of the study.

Patients often are in so much pain they will try any treatment in hope of finding some relief. When she detects a patient may be motivated by desperation, McGuire draws on her medical background and her ability to communicate to make sure the patient enters the clinical trial fully cognizant of the possible risks and the uncertainty of the results.

McGuire entered the Health Communication Program in the fall of 1996 with a degree in nursing. She has worked full time throughout her tenure as a graduate student, taking classes in the evenings and every summer and doing homework anytime she can.

Her dedication has already paid off. Her ability to do a thorough literature search and interpret epidemiologic results reported in medical journals, skills she developed in the Health Communication Program, set her apart from other applicants for her position. In fact, clinical research favors people with training in public health and health communication. Jocelyn Weiss, a Tufts' MPH Program candidate works as a Research Assistant with McGuire.

The NEMC Department of Anesthesia investigates aspects of pain management. McGuire coordinates between six and ten studies at once, including investigations of methods of medicine delivery such as transdermal patches and dose-specific electrical devices. Getting a graduate degree and working full-time requires one to juggle many plates at once. Clearly McGuire has not only mastered this ability but thrives on it.

## Award Winning Applied Learning Experience

by Ann McCann, MPH Candidate

Imagine, in the space of a couple of years going from a major in the classics with minors in psychology and chemistry to having your work used in a multimillion dollar public health lawsuit. Srilakshmi Ravi, MPH '98, had just that experience. Ravi was one of the first students to enroll in the Tufts University School of Medicine's Masters of Public Health Program (MPH) and a member of the program's first graduating class.

The MPH Program requires all degree candidates to undertake an Applied Learning Experience (ALE). The combined classroom and field experience is intended to encourage students to employ newly acquired skills and



Srilakshmi Ravi, MPH '98 with MPH Program Director Dr. Elizabeth Barbeau

knowledge to a current public health problem. Ravi received the Applied Learning Experience Award for her project, "Smoking-Attributable Mortality, Morbidity and Economic Costs: Massachusetts 1996". The award was given to her for demonstrating an ability to apply public health knowledge and skills to address a significant public health issue, successfully identifying resources and overcoming obstacles in the course of her work and demonstrating commitment to the project, the host public health agency, and to the health of the public during the course of the project.

In search for an ALE project that would combine Ravi's coursework in epidemiology and

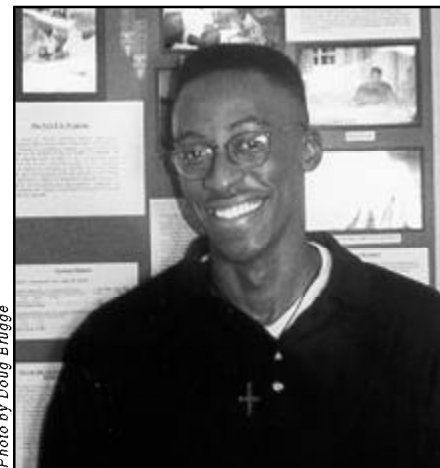


Photo by Doug Brugge

Tafadzwa S. Kasambira, MD/MPH '01

## "Serving the Underserved"

### Health Care in Developing Countries

by Tafadzwa S. Kasambira, MD/MPH '01

The notion that a child who lives in the United States could die from diarrhea is unconscionable and yet over three million young lives are extinguished worldwide each year by this easily treatable condition. AIDS can wipe out families in developing countries with shocking rapidity, and the squalor in which people in these places try to survive and raise their children often makes a healthy life seem more like a blessing than a right.

In one of many proactive gestures aimed at finding solutions to these and other health dilemmas around the world, students from the seven medical schools which comprise the New England Regional Medical Education Consortium (NERMEC) meet each year to discover ways in which they can make an impact in the global health sphere. NERMEC, which is the regional chapter of the International Health Medical Education Consortium (IHMEC), decided that the theme of this year's conference would be, aptly, "Serving the Underserved", and all medical students who had an interest in working internationally at some time during their training or careers were invited to attend.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Health Conference was held at Dartmouth Medical School in Hanover, New Hampshire, on October 24, 1998. Close to 200 medical students from Boston University, Brown, Dartmouth, Harvard, University of Connecticut, Univer-

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# Community Outreach: Boston Coalition for Adult Immunization

by R. Glover, R. Pechersky, A. Porto,  
M. Rosenberger, and J. Schneider

In 1996, the Boston Coalition for Adult Immunization (BCAI) was formed following a Statewide Conference on Adult Immunizations. Anna Bissonette, Associate Professor of Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine and Patrick O'Reilly, Assistant Director of Education and Evaluation at Massachusetts Peer Review Organization (MassPRO), recognized that a number of agencies across the City of Boston were involved in adult immunization efforts, but that the work was uncoordinated. As a result of several discussions, a Coalition for Adult Immunizations was formed with the principle goal of improving the coordination of adult immunization activities in communities through expansion of access to and availabil-



Photo by Doug Brugge

Melissa Rosenberger, MD/MPH '01; John Schneider, MD/MPH '01; Anthony Porto, MD/MPH '01; and Rachel Pechersky, MD/MPH '01



John Schneider, MD/MPH '01 immunizes Dr. Howard K. Koh, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

ity of influenza and pneumonia vaccines. BCAI's intent was for their activities to result in the increase of immunization of high-risk populations. The four areas of activities targeted are underserved populations; medical, nursing, and public health student education; hospitals and long-term care facilities; and media/communications. The BCAI includes representatives from hospitals, government agencies, health maintenance organizations, nursing schools, public health schools, and private agencies.

The BCAI noted that the latest Health of Boston report states that pneumonia was the

second leading cause of hospitalization for elderly in 1994-1996. Pneumonia/Influenza was the third leading cause of death among Boston's seniors between 1989 and 1995. The Coalition tries to change these statistics by increasing access to and availability of pneumonia and influenza vaccines in a variety of community settings with a special eye toward those communities that are underserved and hard to reach.

The BCAI provides educational experiences to medical, nursing, and public health students that expose them to delivery of care in community-based health care programs. The Tufts University School of Medicine Graduate Programs in Public Health (GPPH) participated in the BCAI Program for the first time this year along with Boston University School of Medicine and Harvard Medical School. Four of the GPPH 2<sup>nd</sup> year MD/MPH students, John Schneider, Rachel Pechersky, Anthony Porto, and Melissa Rosenberger, were student leaders for Tufts. The student leaders began the planning phase of the immunization campaign in early September by attending meetings at Boston University School of Medicine, setting up training sessions and site visits. Other responsibilities included recruitment of students, securing funding as a student organization, assigning students to site visits, ensuring that the students would be able to participate, and planning the expansion of the program for next year.

Two training sessions were held at the end of September where Jennifer Kaylor, R.N., BCAI Program Manager, taught students

how to give intramuscular injections. Students first practiced with saline solution on oranges and then demonstrated proficiency on each other. The site visits commenced at the beginning of October and continued through early November, with two to four Tufts medical students attending each clinic. The sites were quite diverse, the students visited the Latino Health Institute, Pine Street Inn, Sharewood Clinic, Chinese Bible Church of Greater Boston, Marcus Garvey Apartments in Roxbury, Vietnamese-American Civic Association, Kingston House Rescue Mission, St. Peters Church in Dorchester, Foley Apartments in South Boston and Boston Medical Center's Kick-Off Day. Medical students assessed the health status of the people coming in for their immunizations and gave the appropriate flu and/or pneumococcal vaccines.

Next year, the student leaders hope to expand the number of clinic sites to target a larger elderly population. In addition, they would like to include more clinics that are in the immediate Chinatown area and surrounding the Tufts/New England Medical Center Community.

Although this was only the first year of BCAI's existence at Tufts, the program was extremely successful. Overall, the student leaders from the three schools recruited 174 students, 52 were from Tufts. The students visited 38 clinics. Students appreciated the early clinical exposure, meeting other medical students, and the opportunity to give something back to the Boston Community. Kaylor commented that the Tufts students were enthusiastic and conscientious. The students and

# Commencement 1998



*John Espinola, MD/MPH '98 and his wife Astrid Pujari, MD '98 celebrate.*

## Commencement '98

*by Robin Glover*

The Graduate Programs in Public Health (GPPH) celebrated as 36 of its students participated in Tufts' 142<sup>nd</sup> Commencement on May 17<sup>th</sup>. The MD/MPH Program graduated 15, DVM/MPH Program 1, MS in



*Courtney Paskell, MS '98 winner of the Norman S. Stearns Applied Learning Experience Award.*

Health Communication Program 12, MPH Program 6, and MS in Nutrition/MPH Program 2. Steve Kailes, MD/MPH, gave the Medical Class President's Address. Mary Fariba Afsari, MS in Health Communication Program, gave an articulate Special Programs Student Address encouraging graduates to learn to understand and respect the very different lives of the colorful neighbors that make up their complex communities.

Congratulations are extended to the MPH Program for graduating its first class this year.

The program matriculated its first students in 1996 under the direction of Elizabeth Barbeau, MPH, ScD, Associate Director of the GPPH for the MPH Program.

To honor the excellence of graduating students, five awards were established this year



*Dr. Murray Feingold, Joanne Barker MS '98, and Dr. Timothy Johnson*

and were awarded at a reception for the GPPH Class of 1998. The Academic Achievement Award was presented to Elisabeth Wilson for the MD/MPH Program and Melissa Page for the MPH Program. In the opinion of the faculty, both Wilson and Page consistently demonstrated the highest level of academic achievement, and showed promise for making significant contributions to public health practice.

The Applied Learning Experience Award was bestowed on Srilakshmi Ravi, MPH, for demonstrating an ability to apply public health knowledge and skills to address a significant public health issue. She was successful identifying resources and overcoming obstacles in the course of her work and demonstrating commitment to the project, the host public

health agency, and to the health of the public during the course of the project.

Joanne Barker, MS in Health Communication, was honored with The Murray Feingold and Timothy Johnson Health Communication Academic Achievement Award for consistently demonstrating the highest level of academic and professional achievement. The award also recognizes the outstanding contribution of Drs. Murray Feingold and Timothy Johnson to the field of health communication.



*Ava Lee, MD/MPH '98 and Elisabeth Wilson MD/MPH '98 share a laugh.*

Courtney Paskell, MS in Health Communication, was given the Norman S. Stearns Applied Learning Experience Award for demonstrating an ability to apply health communication knowledge and skills to address an important health or public health problem. The award recognizes the commitment of Dr. Norman S. Stearns to the establishment of a



*The MPH Class of 1998 presents a gift to Sharon Freeman (far right), Registrar, Office of Special Programs.*

# Commencement 1998

health communication program at the Tufts University School of Medicine.

In addition, the medical school honored several of the graduating MD/MPH students. Steven Kailes received The Commencement Committee Award for his contribution to the welfare of the medical school. David Lowrance was the co-recipient of the Martin J. Loeb Memorial Prizes in recognition of the two qualities which together make for the truly complete physician and which



James Hyde, MSc, MA (far left), Sharon Freeman (left), and Scott C. Ratzan, MD, MPH (far right) with the 1998 Emerson-Tufts Program in Health Communication Graduates.

reflect the personality of Dr. Loeb – academic achievement and evidence of basic human qualities. Ava Lee was honored with the Philip E. Sheridan Prize for gaining the respect and admiration of Tufts' academic community through the dedication shown in successfully mastering the medical curriculum while being obliged to deal with unanticipated external problems.

The MD/MPH and MD/DVM Programs Class of 1998 honored James N. Hyde, Jr., MSc, MA, Associate Professor of Family Medicine & Community Health, with the Excellence in Teaching Award for demonstration of a sincere concern for students, an ability to share knowledge effectively and a manner that inspires by example. The MD/MPH Program's Class of 1997 initiated the Excellence in Teaching Award hoping that it will become an annual event.

**Congratulations  
to all graduates  
from the**

## The Albert Schweitzer Urban Fellowship

*by Datcha Dorvila, MD/MPH '01*

Albert Schweitzer was born in Alsace, Germany in 1875. His list of accomplishments included valuable contributions in the fields of music, religion, and philosophy. He was an acclaimed organist, world authority on Bach, church pastor, and university professor. However, at the age of 30, he had a life changing experience where he became aware of the desperate needs of Africans for medical care. He decided to go to medical school and devote the rest of his life serving the people in Africa.

At the age of 37, Dr. Schweitzer opened a hospital in Lambarene, Gabon, then a province of French Equatorial Africa. In 1953, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his campaigns against the dangers of nuclear war. Until his death in 1965 at the age of 90, he continued to oversee the hospital. He and his wife are buried on the hospital grounds in Lambarene.

The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship was founded in 1940 to help Dr. Schweitzer's hospital in Africa after the outbreak of World War II had cut off supplies from Europe. It has

continued to furnish direct assistance to the Hospital in Lambarene. In 1955, Albert Schweitzer gave the Fellowship a mandate to promote his world-acclaimed ethic of "Reverence for Life". This insight, which came to him after being put in a concentration camp in 1915, stressed the interdependence and unity of all life. From the "will to live" evidenced in all living beings, Dr. Schweitzer believed that "Reverence for Life" should be our ethical response.

The Boston Schweitzer Fellows Program, entering its eighth year, is rooted in Dr. Schweitzer's belief that there is a vast, untapped reservoir of idealism in our communities that can become a powerful resource in helping underserved communities. The Boston Schweitzer Fellows Program is a yearlong fellowship open to all Boston area students enrolled in a degree-granting health-related field. The Fellows work with an existing community agency and carry out a health related service project of at least 200 hours that addresses unmet health needs of an underserved community.

The Graduate Programs in Public Health (GPPH) has participated in the Schweitzer Fellowship for the last seven years. Three GPPH students and an alumna were awarded with a 1998-99 Schweitzer Fellowship. Sarah Alder, MS in Health Communication Program, is working with the Claddagh Campaign to provide support for court-involved teens in South Boston. Mary Afsari, MS in Health Communication '1998, is participating in a Breast Cancer Education Outreach Program in Dorchester. Datcha Dorvil, MD/MPH '01, is developing a needs assessment and reviewing cultural attitudes on the determinants of infant feeding practices to try to increase breast feeding awareness among immigrants in Chinatown. Jessica Stevens, MD/MPH '01, is working with Centro Presente on improving health care access for Central American immigrants.

For further information about the fellowship, please call Kari Hannibal, Boston Program Coordinator at (617) 667-7028. You can also visit the Albert Schweitzer website at [www.schweitzerfellowsup.org](http://www.schweitzerfellowsup.org). If you're interested in talking to a current fellow, please con-

## Faculty Notes

**Markley H. Boyer, MD, DPhil, MPH**, Professor of Family Medicine & Community Health, presided over a panel "Medical Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Three Programs Designed to Modify the Undergraduate Training of Future Physicians" at the national meeting on "Primary Care Education For The 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Lessons from National Initiatives".

**Norman Daniels, PhD**, Goldwaite Professor of Rhetoric and Professor of Philosophy, received a 3-year \$250,000 Robert Wood Johnson Investigator Award in Health Services Research. This award will help to continue research of the last several years on decisions to limit care in health plans. Dr. Daniels was also received an award from the Rockefeller Foundation to adapt 'benchmarks of fairness' for health care reform.

**Paula Minihan, MSW, MPH**, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine & Community Health, gave a presentation "Tufts Four Year Combined MD/MPH Program" at a national meeting on "Primary Care Education For The 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Lessons from National Initiatives".

**Aviva Must, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Family Medicine & Community Health, was recently promoted from assistant to associate professor. Dr. Must was also recently awarded a five-year grant by the National Institute of Child Health and Human De-

velopment to study the "Impact of Childhood Obesity and Growth on Mortality".

**Carole Palmer, EdD**, Professor of Dental Medicine, is developing a new video/workbook self-study program for pregnant women and caregivers of young children on the subject of nutrition and oral health. It will be made available through the National Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Clearing House in Washington, DC and at each state's MCH Office.

**Beth Rosenberg, ScD, MPH**, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine & Community Health, gave a presentation on "The Social Determinants of a Successful Silicosis Control Program, Vermont Granite Industry 1938-1960" at the first meeting of the History of Occupational and Environmental Disease Prevention Conference in Rome, Italy.

**Mark Woodin, MS, DSc**, has been given a permanent faculty position in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at Tufts University after successfully completing his doctoral degree at Harvard School of Public Health.

**Margo Woods, MNS, DSc**, Associate Professor of Family Medicine & Community Health, received the Nutrition Academic Award for "Teaching a Nutritional Approach to Cardiovascular Disease". Dr.

7. I am currently the Director of the GPPH. Jeffrey Griffiths, MD, MPH & TM, is the Associate Director of the GPPH for the Combined MD/MPH and DVM/MPH Programs. Elizabeth Barbeau, MPH, ScD, is the Associate Director of the GPPH for the MPH Program. James Hyde, MSc, MA, directs the Tufts-Emerson Health Communication Program. The major decision-making for the GPPH is assigned to faculty/student committees. Those of us who are administrators in the GPPH have responsibility for carrying out the committees' decisions.

8. To enhance administration of the programs, we have created the post of Program Administrator of the GPPH and appointed Mrs. Robin Glover to that position. In this capacity, she gathers data to assist in evaluation of the GPPH, monitors the programs' compliance with criteria for accreditation set forth by the Council on Education for Public Health, works in collaboration with the faculty to ensure program implementation, and assists student in the GPPH on course matters. Her office is in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health.

9. I am pleased to inform you that Morton A. Madoff, MD, MPH, who became Dean of the School of Medicine in 1992, rejoined the department as a Professor after his appointment as Dean Emeritus in 1995. As many of you are aware, Dr. Madoff was the architect of Combined MD/MPH Program. Presently he is the course director for the "Introduction to Public Health" course. Patricia Lynch, Staff Assistant, joined the department in 1986, the initial year of the MD/MPH Program. She continues to be most helpful to students, staff and faculty.

10. Enhancement of the diversity of the students in the GPPH is a major priority. We have developed initiatives to attract more minority applicants to our programs. If you know of minorities who are considering careers in public health or health communication, please urge them to explore the possibility of entering the GPPH at Tufts.

We also seek to increase the diversity of the GPPH faculty and have initiated programs that should help us in achieving this goal. Be assured that attracting a diverse student body and faculty for the GPPH is a high priority. We know that this is a long-term and difficult initiative, but we must find ways of bringing more minorities to Tufts.

The creation of the GPPH is a major achievement. This entity is the result of work by faculty, staff, and students. The GPPH forms

## Director's Message

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gies between the GPPH, the faculty elected to operate through a committee structure. The standing committees of the GPPH include Academic Affairs, Admissions and Recruitment, Student Life, Student Ethics & Grievances, and an External Advisory Committee. The GPPH eases coordination of teaching, faculty responsibility, and student issues and needs across the programs. Each of the degree programs in the GPPH remains focused on the health of human populations through education, research, and community service.

5. The medical school continues to support all academic aspects of our programs and supplies substantial administrative and financial support to the GPPH. In 1996, because of the development of a number of new education initiatives, the Dean's Office established

the Office of Special Programs. Its mission is to coordinate administrative functions associated with each of the several graduate programs of the School of Medicine. Three members of this office, Sharon Freeman, Suna Karagozler, and Nicole Diminico are key to many of the operations of the GPPH.

6. The Tufts-Emerson Master of Science in Health Communication, which was founded in 1994, has become a part of the GPPH. This degree program, the first of its kind in the nation, acknowledges the need for skilled health communication professionals. Health communication is important to consumers, health service providers, third party payers, and the government and other agencies. The Academic Affairs Committee of the GPPH recently approved a concentration in Health Communication in the MPH Program.

# Alumni Notes

**Sean Curtis MD/MPH '90**, of Ardsley, New York, is giving industry sponsored clinical research a try at Merck Research Laboratories as Associate Director of Clinical Pharmacology.

**Alan Hirshberg MD/MPH '90**, of Hershey, Pennsylvania, is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

**Jill Shannahan MD/MPH '90** of Berkeley, California, is a Psychiatrist, at Berkeley Therapy Institute.

**James Zeitlin MD/MPH '90** of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, is in private practice and an Associate Professor of Medicine at Maine University School of Medicine. He is also a member of the Women's Health Advisory Committee and is working on quality assurance utilization in management.

**Guy Buckle MD/MPH '91**, of Roxbury, Massachusetts, is an Instructor in Neurology at the Center for Neurologic Diseases, Brigham & Women's Hospital – Harvard Medical School. He's a mentored clinical scientist whose primary research is HTLV-I-induced neurologic diseases.

**Phyllis Dunckel MD/MPH '91**, of Anchorage, Alaska, is a staff physician (including obstetrics) at Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center. For fun, she's hiking, biking and enjoying her dog.

**Genevieve Fairbrother MD/MPH '92**, of Atlanta, Georgia, is a partner in private practice. She has a son who just turned three and another on the way.

**Joel Ackelsberg MD/MPH '93**, of Albany, New York is the Centers for Disease Control's Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer for the State of New York. Joel is married to Betsy Tessler and has a son, Ian, who is 2 years old, "adorable and a guaranteed musical prodigy".

**Pauli (Nilprabhassorn) Amornkul MD/MPH '93**, of Atlanta, Georgia, is a Centers for Disease Control Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer for the International Activities/Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention in Atlanta. She is also dancing in two local dance companies.

**Kerry Gallivan MD/MPH '93**, of Waltham, Massachusetts, is Chief Surgical Resident for Surgery at the New England Medical Center.

**Richard D. Klein MD/MPH '93**, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, is completing a four year research fellowship in the Department of Surgery/Trauma & Burn Division at the University of Michigan prior to finishing his residency in General Surgery.

**Elton Lee MD/MPH '93**, of Mercer Island, Washington, is a Primary Care Internist at Pacific Medical Clinics and is a Clinical Instructor – University of Washington. He's married to Doris and has a cat named Boo Boo.

**Laszlo Madaras MD/MPH '93**, of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, is a family doctor in a very busy health center with six other doctors. He is enjoying living

on his farm with his wife and two daughters, two horses, a dog and several cats. He hopes that the MD/MPH Program is going strong, he enjoyed it very much.

**Josephine Hooten Lake MD/MPH '94**, of Wadesboro, North Carolina, is a physician in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at Anson Regional Medical Services. She is also involved in the National Health Service Corps.

**Katherine F. McGowan MD/MPH '94**, of Seattle, Washington, is a Critical Care Float for the Emergency & Infant Intensive Care Departments, Children's Hospital & Regional Medical Center. Other activities include running, Irish dancing, and knitting.

**Tani Sanghvi, MD/MPH '94**, of New York, New York, is an Ob/Gyn physician in private practice. She is also working with international reproductive health non-governmental organizations.

Congratulations to **Kāri Teran MD/MPH '94**, of Santa Rosa, California, on the birth of her son now 14 months old, "still beautiful and perfect". She is currently practicing family medicine with obstetrics at Primary Care Associates of the Redwood Empire.

**Tushar Desai MD/MPH '95**, of New York, New York, will be moving back to Boston in July to start a Pulmonary & Critical Care Fellowship at the Boston Medical Center.

Congratulations to **Kurt A. Diebold MD/MPH '95** and **Tania Bandak MD/MPH '94** of St. Davids, Pennsylvania, on their recent marriage. Kurt is a Medical Officer at the Branch Medical Clinic, Naval Air Station, Willow Grove, Pennsylvania.

**Sahba Farhad MD/MPH '95**, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is completing his Obstetrics/Gynecology Residency at Temple University.

**Wendy Gozansky MD/MPH '95**, of Denver, Colorado is a Chief Medical Resident for the Department of Medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

Congratulations to **Aditi (Basak) Sanatania MD/MPH '95**, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on her recent marriage to Hamid Sanatania. Aditi is a fourth year Obstetrics/Gynecology Resident at Magee Women's Hospital and will be relocating to Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Tanja van der Linde MD/MPH '95**, of Boston, Massachusetts, is a Fellow in Faculty Development & Family Practice at Lawrence Family Practice Residency Program. She has a special interest in patient-physician communication.

**Mollie Kane MD/MPH '96**, of Ann Arbor, Michigan is a Resident in Family Medicine at the University of Michigan.

**David Melnick MD/MPH '96**, of Ann Arbor, Michigan is a Resident in General Surgery at the University of Michigan.

**Kristina Antonsson MPH '98**, is a student in the International Health & Medicine Program at Columbia University/Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beer Sheva, Israel.

**Joanne Barker MPH '98**, of Cambridge, Massachusetts is a writer for StayWell and is currently writing a position paper on environmental tobacco smoke for the Medical Foundation. She is also a member of the Women's Community Rowing team in Watertown.

**Jacqueline Buchanan MS '98**, of Derry, New Hampshire, is a clinical consultant for Hill-Rom and a contributing writer for "Our Time", a seacoast newspaper. Other activities include enjoying time with her 5½ year old daughter, Kasey, running, and Tae Kwan Do.

**Patricia A. Cohen, MS '98**, of Canton, Massachusetts, is a Dental Hygienist for Post Office Square Dental Practice and faculty member at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, Division of Continuing Education. She is also working on projects with two medical publishers.

**Lisa Dunderdale MS '98**, of Southborough, Massachusetts, is a Health Promotion Specialist for the Tufts Health Plan.

**Charles Eastin, II DVM/MPH '98**, Indianapolis, Indiana, is a staff veterinarian at Meridian Veterinary Clinic in Greenwood, Indiana. He's "really enjoying clinical practice and is seizing every opportunity to incorporate his public health training in client education and patient treatment".

**Eric Engels, MD, MPH '98**, of Columbia, Maryland, is a senior staff fellow in the Viral Epidemiology Branch at the National Cancer Institute.

**Anna Herrera MD/MPH '98**, of New Orleans, Louisiana, is a Medicine/Pediatric Intern at Tulane Medical Center.

**Ava Lee MD/MPH '98**, of Burlingame, California is a Resident at the University of California-San Francisco, San Francisco General Hospital.

**Julia Robarts MPH '98**, of Dedham, Massachusetts, is a State Coordinator for Adolescent Nutrition & Health Promotion, Massachusetts Department of Public Health. She also teaches volleyball to adults and competes in tournaments as part of a women's team.

Congratulations to **Vanda Szuskiewicz-Blinn MD/MPH '98**, of South Dartmouth, Massachusetts who recently married Alan Blinn. She is currently an Intern at Hasbro Pediatric, Providence, Rhode Island.

**Elisabeth Wilson MD/MPH '98**, is currently an Intern at the University of California-San Francisco, San Francisco General Hospital.

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## Award Winning ALE

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biostatistics with her interest in tobacco control, she contacted Dr. Bruce Cohen, Director of Research for the Department of Public Health. Dr. Cohen offered her a position measuring smoking attributable morbidity and mortality and the health care cost associated with diseases caused by smoking.

In the space of one semester, she developed processes for incorporating data gathered at different times and formats. Recognizing that the long term effects of smoking had their greatest impact on older men and women, she extended the previous work done by the Centers for Disease Control, which had not calculated costs after age 65. Ravi believed this gap excluded "a significant segment of the population that lives beyond that age and among whom the measures ... examined are especially appropriate due to the high prevalence of smokers and former smokers in this group."

Ravi was happy to complete work that could be part of tomorrow's headlines, but was frustrated that the economic measures she worked long hours to calculate could not be included

in her ALE presentation due to its legal and political sensitivity as part of Massachusetts' anti-smoking lawsuit. Dr. Cohen, Ravi's preceptor, praised her independence, her ability to take charge, and her commitment to see the project through to its completion, saying

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## Serving the Underserved

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sity of Massachusetts, and Tufts were in attendance. In addition to faculty, researchers and physicians from the participating medical schools, national and international organizations took part in the conference.

The wealth of knowledge and experience present was substantial, from the joint keynote address given by Dr. Nils Daulaire, President of the Global Health Council and Dr. Scott Lillibrige, Associate Director of the Global Health Program at the Center for Disease Control, to the Student Panel, workshops, and Professional Panel discussions. Tufts University School of Medicine was well represented on the Student Panel by Judd Walson, MD/MPH '00, who has been actively participating in work on antibiotic resistance in Nepal for the last few years.

Several workshops were held during the afternoon on a wide range of topics, such as the role of western medical care in traditional health systems and the ethics of clinical research in poor countries. The only student-run workshop was organized and moderated by Eunice Tsai, a fourth year medical student from Harvard and Tafadzwa Kasambira, Tufts' MD/MPH '01. The title of their workshop was "Approaches to Management of TB in Two Model Systems: South Africa and Cambodia". Tsai is involved in a research project focusing on TB management in Cambodia, while Kasambira spent two months last summer in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa evaluating the D.O.T.S. (Directly Observed Therapy Short-course) Program in a semi-rural area of the province. Kasambira's poster titled "Strides and Struggles in TB Control" won first prize in the poster competition.

The Professional Panel brought their own years of experience to the gathering and conveyed a sense of optimism in our capacity to effect meaningful change. Regardless of how hopeless the global status of health may seem at times, there are many ways in which individuals and especially those with medical skills, can provide assistance and care to those who need it most.

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