



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

MPH Alumni Focus

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A newsletter for Master of Public Health alumni at the University of Tennessee

DPH welcomes two new professors



Kristina W. Kintziger, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor, received her MPH degree in Epidemiology from the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University and her PhD in Epidemiology from the Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina. She has worked at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in the STD/HIV Surveillance Division, and the Florida Department of Health in the Public Health Research Unit. Her research focuses on understanding the vulnerabilities and the current and future disease burden associated with climate-sensitive hazards, and understanding the relationship between morbidity/mortality and social determinants of health. She enjoys hiking and is expecting her first child in February.



Robert Lieberthal, PhD, Assistant Professor, received his PhD in health economics at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School. Before joining the faculty at the University of Tennessee, he worked as an actuarial benefits consultant at Pricewaterhousecoopers LLP (PwC) in New York City. Dr. Lieberthal's research focuses on the application of economic and actuarial analysis to public health issues. He is most recently the author of the book "What is health insurance (good) for? An examination of who gets it, who pays for it, and how to improve it", published by Springer. Fun Fact: "I keep every note I ever received from a student in a 'feel good' file in my desk that I check whenever I need a pick me up. "

Getting the Job You Want—Alumni connect with students

On October 21, the UT Department of Public Health hosted the first of two career workshops where 25 MPH students, 30 professionals (half of whom were alumni), and 6 faculty members discussed what jobs are available for MPH graduates, how to prepare for those jobs. The event culminated in a lively networking mingle that included chocolate fondue. See page 2 for highlights.



Connect with the UTK MPH Alumni Network!

The MPH Alumni Focus Newsletter keeps alumni informed about news and opportunities. The newsletter is issued every fall and spring. As graduates of the program, your continued involvement and support strengthens the foundation for MPH graduates to follow.

Send your success stories, requests for MPH interns, jobs postings for alumni, or other news to Julie Grubaugh at 865-974-9277 or jgrubaugh@utk.edu
Website: publichealth.utk.edu
Click [here](#) to donate to MPH program

Awards & Recognition



Jennifer Brooks, MPH '88, led a team to develop incident management systems and build emergency management capacity during the 2014-2016 Ebola epidemic, published in [CDC's MMWR Supplement, July 8, 2016 653\(28-34\)](#)

Get Social!

Join our **UT MPH Alumni LinkedIn group** to network, find a mentor, be a mentor, share a job, get connected!
Click the icons below to join.



Job search advice from recent alumni



"It's important to practice interviewing skills, it can help you get the job."
-**Kendall Ray, MPH 2012**, Senior underwriter, Unum Insurance Company, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

"Don't let lack of experience hinder your job search, always explain your skills on your resume, and don't be afraid of rejection." - **Michelle Wright, MPH 2016**, Health Promotion Coordinator, Chatham County Health Department, North Carolina.



You can learn on the job but make sure to ask questions early on! Do not hesitate to ask for help." -**Sanya Sharma, MPH 2016**, Analyst/biostatistician, Data & Analytics Department, Clinical Services Group, Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), Tennessee.

"Update your LinkedIn and keep it professional." -**Febi Sammons, MS-MPH 2012**, Infection Preventionist, Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital, Dallas, Texas.

"Always stay connected." -**Justin Alexander, MPH 2016**, Public Health Advisor, Public Health Associates Program (PHAP), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, stationed in Montgomery, Alabama.

Career guidance from seasoned alumni

"One of the most important qualities is a system thinker and individuals with temperament to acknowledge own bias." -**D'Yuanna L. Allen-Robb, MPH 2004**, Director, Division of Child and Adolescent Health, Metro Public Health Department of Nashville/Davidson County.

"Take your own passions and transform it for the good of the team." -**Jennifer C. Brooks, MPH 1988**, Emergency Management Specialist, Division of Emergency Operations, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Find ways you can be helpful to your mentor. Stay connected." -**Stephanie Welch MS-MPH 1997**, RD, LDN, Interim President, The Great Schools Partnership.

"The MPH program is a platform and you should view it as such. Master interpersonal skills." -**Tim Young, MPH 1992**, CMPE, Chief Executive Officer, Invigor Strategies, LLC.



From left: D'Yuanna L. Allen-Robb, Jennifer C. Brooks, Stephanie Welch, Tim Young

Want to get involved? Volunteer as a mock interviewer at our next event for MPH students on February 10. We are particularly seeking mock interviewers from federal, private, and healthcare settings. Contact Julie Grubaugh at jgrubaugh@utk.edu or (865) 974-9277.

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