

Richard M. Fairbanks
School of Public Health
2012-2013 Highlights
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On September 27, 2013, Indiana University celebrated the establishment of the School of Public Health at IUPUI, formally naming the school the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health in recognition of a transformative gift by the Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation.

Founding Dean Paul Halverson presided over commencement exercises in May, during which nearly 100 undergraduate students were eligible to participate. Additionally, there were 68 graduate students from the MPH program.

As of the spring semester of 2013, there were approximately 250 graduate students in the MHA and MPH programs. The growing population in the undergraduate programs was about 170, with approximately 65% with 86 or more credit hours. The Bachelor of Science in Health Services Management is currently the most popular undergraduate program in the Fairbanks School.

Teaching and Learning

- Dr. Max Moreno, Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Science, designed a new course -- *GIS Applications in Public Health*. Dr. Moreno will bring his expertise in remote sensing technology and population health to the classroom, where students will learn to apply spatial analysis tools to solve public health problems.
- Dr. Eric Wright, chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management, was a 2012 recipient of the Indiana University Trustee's Teaching Award.
- The Fairbanks School created a new 120 credit Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) major in Community Health that will prepare students to provide health education, promote healthy lifestyles and healthy choices, prevent diseases, and enhance quality of life in communities. <http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/index.php/prospective-students/undergraduate/bsph-in-community-health/>
- Zhuokai Li, PhD student in Biostatistics received a travel award from the American Statistical Association to support her participation and presentation at the 10th International Conference on Health Policy Statistics. The title of her presentation is "A Semiparametric Analysis of Health Care Utilization in Patients with Heart Failure." The meeting will be held October 9-11, 2013 in Chicago.

- Dr. David McSwane was recognized as one of the best in food safety education by Food Safety News in a February 18, 2013 online article. His research targets environmental hazards that cause illness and injury with a specific focus on food safety and defense. Dr. McSwane retired from the Fairbanks School in June 2013.

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity

- Dr. Stephen Jay had accepted by Indiana Historical Press two articles to be featured in “Indiana’s 200: The People Who Shaped the Hoosier State” in conjunction with the Indiana 2016 Bicentennial celebration. Dr. Jay’s articles are about two of Indiana preeminent public health leaders: Leonard Scheele MD, MPH, 7th U.S. PHS Surgeon General and Alice Hamilton MD, the “Mother of Industrial Toxicology and Occupational Medicine in America.”
- Dr. Emily Ahonen, Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Science, published an article that describes a participatory evaluation process for a national network training program that aims to improve health and safety for marginalized workers. The article was published in *New Solutions*, a progressive occupational health policy journal.
- Dr. Constantin Yiannoutsos in collaboration with colleagues at Johns Hopkins University received a grant from NIH for the accurate evaluation of programs monitoring HIV/AIDS patients, such as US-sponsored PEPFAR. This project proposes to develop integrated double-sampling designs and methods to accurately evaluate such monitoring programs and best benefit patients given limited resources.
- Dr. Jaroslaw Harezlak is a site PI on the R01 grant “PREDICTING BRAIN CHANGES IN HIV/AIDS” funded by the NINDS in August 2012. Jointly with Dr. Thompson at UCLA and Dr. Navia at Tufts University, Dr. Harezlak will study the brain disease progression amongst chronically infected HIV patients. By better predicting who will decline clinically, the project will empower the design of therapeutic trials.
- Addressing a state and national public health priority to decrease the burden of hypertension and related morbidity/mortality and cost, Dr. Stephen Jay finished phase I of a research project to estimate cost benefits for IU Health to provide home blood pressure monitors to plan members.
- Dr. Terrell Zollinger had five projects funded in connection with his research in the Department of Epidemiology. Serving as PI on three of the project, funding sources for

Dr. Zollinger's research include the Indiana Department of Health, the American College of Sports Medicine and Good Samaritan Hospital.

- Drs. Bary Katz and Zhnagsheng Yu will direct the Data Coordinating Center for the recently NIH funded Translational Research and Evolving Alcoholic Hepatitis Treatment (TREAT) consortium. TREAT is a collaboration among IU, Mayo Clinic and Virginia Commonwealth University and encompasses a large observational study, 3 clinical trials and 3 mechanistic studies related to alcoholic hepatitis.
- Funded by Health IU, Dr. Gregory Steele and Dr. Lisa Staten are responsible for the design, collection, analysis and reporting of results of the IU Workplace Health and Wellness Research Project which is to help understand how well IU workplaces are supporting the health of employees. All full-time employees were eligible.
http://pbhealth.iupui.edu/files/4313/6121/8647/Study_Information_Sheet_url.pdf
- IU Simon Cancer Center Breast Cancer Research and Fairbanks faculty member Dr. Chunyan He was awarded \$100,000 in grant support from the Kay Yow Cancer Fund™, in partnership with The V Foundation for Cancer Research. Dr. He studies genetic susceptibility and the role of environmental and lifestyle factors in the development of breast cancer.
<http://communications.medicine.iu.edu/newsroom/stories/2011/iu-simon-cancer-center-breast-cancer-researcher-receives-100000-1/>
- A team of researchers from the Fairbanks School completed a study that estimated the economic cost of health services and premature loss-of-life costs from secondhand smoke exposure in Indiana, titled “A Model for Estimating the Economic Impact of Secondhand Smoke Exposure: a Study in Indiana.”
<http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/index.php/research/publications/a-model-for-estimating-the-economic-impact-of-secondhand-smoke-exposure-a-study-in-indiana/>

Civic Engagement

- During the spring 2013 semester, eight students from The Corps went directly into the Meadows Community of Indianapolis, considered a “food desert” because it lacks a full-service grocery store, to survey residents about their food shopping and eating habits. These survey results contributed to the completion of a Health Impact Assessment useful to stakeholders who are trying to build support for a grocery in this disadvantaged area (<http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/index.php/alumni-and-organizations/thecorps/aboutus/>).

- As a board member with Great Lakes Division of the American Cancer Society Dr. Marie Swanson was appointed to chair a task force to develop criteria for new board members for the national organization's "transformation" in which regional boards are now advisory, rather than governing.
- A volunteer cadre of graduate students facilitated free influenza vaccinations for nearly 800 clients of the Gennesaret Free Clinics in Indianapolis during the fall of 2012.
- Dr. Marie Swanson was invited to serve as a Board member for the Community Cooperative, a global NGO that carries out projects in Africa, Asia and South America to enable people to develop products and companies that will strengthen economic stability. Dr. Swanson led an effort that raised funds for a community center in Nbita, Kenya.
- The sixth annual Indiana Joint National Public Health Week conference, "Public Health is ROI: Save Lives, Save Money," offered over 15 presentations by state and national experts. Over 200 public health students and professionals attended this event.
- Dr. Eric Wright gave the keynote address to the Indiana Attorney General's 4th Annual INSPECT Summit in Indianapolis. Dr. Wright's keynote address was about prescription opiate abuse in Indiana.

Diversity

- Along with epidemiology doctoral student, Kat Kwiatowski, and colleagues Professor Kathryn Coe and John Bailar, the article "Inclusion of Minorities and Women in Cancer Clinical Trials A Decade Later: Have We Improved?" was published online by the journal *Cancer* and will appear in print in August, 2013. This updates a study carried out by Swanson and Bailar in the previous decade, in which they showed the low levels of inclusion of women and minorities in cancer treatment and prevention clinical trials. The recent study shows minimal improvement, and has critical implications for the quality of science in these studies as well as for social justice in the conduct of cancer clinical research.

External Awards and Appointments

- Dr. Steven Lacey, Chair of the Department of Environmental Health Science, was appointed as a Case Study Column Editor for the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene*.

- Dr. Eric Wright, chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management, was a 2013 faculty inductee into Delta Omega Public Health Honor Society.
- Dr. Marie Swanson was elected to serve a three-year term on the Board of the American College of Epidemiology (ACE). Dr. Swanson was also appointed to chair the ACE Presidential Strategic Planning Task Force, which will carry out the first ever review of the ACE Strategic Plan. This plan will define the professional priorities and needs of practicing epidemiologists that can best be met by ACE.
- Dr. Cynthia Stone is the American Public Health Association's chair elect for PHN section 2013-2013 and chair of PHN section 2013-2014, and served on the governing council for the 2012 APHA meeting.
- Dr. Dennis Watson was elected to be a council member for the American Sociological Association's Section of Sociological Practice and Public Sociology.