

**Department of Public Health
School of Medicine
Annual Report, 2010-2011**

[\(http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/\)](http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/)

The Department of Public Health continues its development towards establishing a school of public health on the IUPUI campus. The following report highlights accomplishments in this transition during the 2010-2011 academic year.

Faculty recruitment; graduate education; research and scholarship; diversity of faculty, staff, and students; international programs and international partnerships, and infrastructure development all have been key components of this transition.

A major effort was focused upon planning for a department of biostatistics, which will report jointly to the School of Medicine and the school of public health, when that school is formed. This department will play a major role in health sciences on the IUPUI campus, strengthening graduate education, research and scholarship, and public health.

On June 23, 2011, the Indiana University Board of Trustees unanimously approved the establishment of a school of public health on the IUPUI campus.

Teaching and Learning

Graduate education in public health expanded during the 2010-2011 academic year:

- The public health program was re-accredited by the Council on Education in Public Health for 7 years. This includes the MPH program and the doctoral programs in biostatistics, epidemiology, and health policy and management.
[\(http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/\)](http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/)
- A new PhD program in Health Policy and Management was approved and admitted its first class of students:
http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/f_phd.hpm/description_phd_hpm.html).
- The MPH concentration in environmental health was established.
http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/f_academic_programs/ehs_conc.html)

- The MHA program was transferred to public health as a key component of developing the school of public health.
(http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/f_students/mha/index.html)
- A new undergraduate program in public health was developed—the BSPH major in Community Health
(http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/f_students/ch/major.html).
- The undergraduate program in environmental health (BSPH) was transferred to public health (http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/f_students/ehs/index.html).
- International programs and partnerships in public health are being developed under the leadership of Richard M. Fairbanks Professor Gregory A. Wilson. This partnership builds upon the established collaboration between the IU School of Medicine and MOI University in Eldoret Kenya. It also establishes international connections with the North American partners of AMPATH. Five members of the public health faculty visited the MOI University schools of medicine and public health in December of 2010 and established educational and research collaborations. Professor Wilson spent two months in the summer of 2011 with MPH students in Eldoret to oversee their internships and final project research.
- The MHA Program was ranked 13th in the nation by U.S. News & World Report (<http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-public-affairs-schools/health-management-rankings>).
- Francis C. Henderson, an undergraduate student in the Bachelor of Science in Health Services Management program, was selected to participate in the Health Management and Policy Summer Enrichment Program sponsored by the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor School of Public Health
(http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/f_about_dph/initiativesnews.html).
- Associate Professor Cindy Stone was awarded a Trustees Teaching Award for her exceptional pedagogical skills.
- Associate Professor Cindy Stone and Epidemiology PhD Student Marion Greene developed a new graduate service learning course to help students learn how to conduct “Health Impact Assessments” in partnership with the Marion County Department of Health.

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity

The Department of Public Health is expanding its health sciences research programs and capacity in part through faculty recruitments, with a strong emphasis on environmental health, community engagement and on chronic diseases, especially cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease, and health policy. International programs and partnerships were initiated under the leadership of Professor Gregory Wilson, who was awarded the Richard M. Fairbanks Professorship for Community and Global Health.

- Faculty recruitment brought two additional faculty into the social and behavioral sciences division: Kathryn Coe and Lisa Staten. Dr. Staten was recruited as the Director of the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
(http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/f_faculty_staff_sbs.html)
- Faculty recruitment added two faculty in environmental health—David McSwane and Ingrid Ritchie. (http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/f_faculty_staff/faculty_epi.html). These faculty transferred into Public Health as a major component of developing the school of public health.
- Additional efforts in faculty recruitment added 5 faculty in health policy and management—Ann Holmes, Alejandro Arieta, Paul Lang, Sara Johnson, and Steve Reed. These members of the faculty transferred into Public Health as a major component of developing the school of public health.
(http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/f_faculty_staff/faculty_hpm.html)
- Professor Gregory A. Wilson was named the Richard M. Fairbanks Professor for Global and Community Health
(http://www.pbhealth.iupui.edu/f_faculty_staff/faculty_hpm.html)
- The Walther Foundation awarded the department a grant to develop infrastructure that will expand and enhance the department’s ability to work effectively in community settings, increase departmental and community capacity for cancer research, and train the next generation of public health students in community engaged cancer prevention and survivorship research. Lisa Staten and Kathryn Coe are leading this effort.
- The Arete Initiative at the University of Chicago awarded a “Science of Virtues” grant to Professor Kathryn Coe. The grant focuses on forgiveness and is aimed at exploring whether or not forgiveness, across cultures, is held to be a virtue; what the process involved reaching forgiveness requires; what the key elements of rituals of forgiveness are; what effect forgiveness may have on health (physical and psychological) and well-being; and can forgiveness serve as a mechanism for dealing with historical trauma?

- Research grants in epidemiology were awarded, including the very prestigious Kay Yow Cancer Fund award for innovative breast cancer research, given to Chunyan He. Chunyan He received another prestigious award (only 2 were funded nationally) for Illumina-EA cancer GWAS studies for genotyping of breast cancer specimens.
- The Center for Health Policy, under contract with the Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction, released two new policy reports on substance use and abuse in Indiana, entitled *The Consumption and Consequences of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs in Indiana: A State Epidemiological Profile 2010* (<http://www.healthpolicy.iupui.edu/publicationDetail.aspx?publicationID=659>) and *Indiana Strategic Substance Abuse Prevention Targets for 2015* (<http://www.healthpolicy.iupui.edu/PubsPDFs/Prevention%20Priorities%202015.pdf>)
- The Center for Health Policy prepared a detailed plan and recommendations to guide the development of the new state-level health insurance exchange required by the Affordable Care Act of 2010 (<http://www.healthpolicy.iupui.edu/PubsPDFs/CHP%20Proposal%20for%20a%20Hoosier%20Health%20Insurance%20Exchange.pdf>)
- International research programs and partnerships were initiated through the leadership of Associate Vice Chancellor for Public Health G. Marie Swanson and Richard M. Fairbanks Professor in Community and Global Health Gregory A. Wilson. A research workshop in collaboration with Moi University School of Public Health faculty on the Eldoret campus focused on areas of mutual research interest, development of international research infrastructures, and establishing one on one faculty exchanges for mentoring and collaboration.

Civic Engagement

The extensive role of public health in civic engagement was recognized by the continuing grant of \$20 million from the Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation to support the development of a school of public health on the IUPUI campus. This grant is being utilized to develop the school, with most of the funds being used to establish an endowment for the school. The Walther Foundation grant described above also was awarded in recognition of the expertise in civic engagement among our faculty and the need to develop infrastructure and programs for community integrated research.

Unique community programs established over the last year include:

A 5 year grant from HRSA was awarded to support the Indiana Public Health Training Center. Carole Kacius is the PI for this center. HRSA awards just one grant per state for public health

training centers, thus our expertise in civic engagement was given this critical national acclaim.
<http://www.publichealthconnect.org/aboutiphtc>

The Indiana Center for Health Workforce was funded by the AHEC program, with Terry Zollinger as the PI.

Diversity

As Public Health expands on the IUPUI campus, we are diversifying our faculty and staff. These efforts, built into our recruitment and search procedures, have diversified both faculty and staff in terms of race, ethnicity, and sexual orientation.

Faculty and staff recruitments during this academic year increased racial and ethnic diversity in both groups, as well as increasing the number of women on our faculty. These recruitments include staff and faculty who are African-American and Latino.

Public Health continues to excel in recruiting diverse students, with the percentage of African American students in the MPH Program (10%) exceeding that of the IUPUI graduate and professional students (5%) and the state of Indiana (9%).

Best Practices

Through webinars and live programs, the HRSA-funded Indiana Public Health Training Center has served 100% of Indiana's local health departments. This center is recognized nationally for producing cutting edge online training for public health professionals.

External Awards and Appointments

Key national honors and appointments obtained by DPH faculty, include:

- Professor Eric R. Wright was elected Chair of the Medical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association.
- Lecturer Sara Johnson was elected to the Governance Committee of the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA)