

PUBLIC HEALTH DIPLOMACY SUMMIT



TOGETHER *WE CAN*
IN COLLABORATION WITH ASPPH & GNAPH

SEPT. 25-27

UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS, SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH



PUBLIC HEALTH DIPLOMACY SUMMIT

A WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS COMPETENCIES AND RESOURCES ON PUBLIC HEALTH DIPLOMACY.



DEAN'S WELCOME MESSAGE



I express my deepest gratitude in welcoming participants from 15 countries: Australia, Brazil, Germany, Grenada, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Nigeria, Qatar, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Taiwan and the United States, which are representing all the seven regional public health associations from around the world: Association for Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH), Latin American Alliance for Global Health (ALASAG), Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australasia (CAPHIA), Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER), South-East Asia Public Health Education Institution Network (SEAPHEIN), Asia Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health (APACPH), Association of Schools of Public Health in Africa (ASPHA), along with participation of representatives from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) to this three-day summit to begin a meaningful and insightful discussion to lay down the foundation of a new field in public health diplomacy as an area of study among public health students and professionals.

As part of the work of the Public Health Diplomacy Lab, the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) and Global Network for Academic Public Health (GNAPH) are working with the University of Memphis School of Public Health to organize the public health diplomacy summit with the goal of identifying competencies and curricular resources on public health diplomacy and creating a public health diplomat workforce.

A handwritten signature in white cursive script that reads "Ashish Joshi".

Ashish Joshi, PhD, MBBS, MPH

Dean & Distinguished University Professor

ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Vision

To achieve excellence in public health education and research while promoting greater community impact in local, national and global settings.

Mission (SPH-CARES)

To advance health and well-being of all populations while engaging **Communities**, and being an **Anchor** institute, offering innovative academic programs, driving **Research-based** solutions, supporting **Entrepreneurship** and innovation while remaining **Student-Centric** (CARES).

SPH Core Values

Faculty, staff and students wholeheartedly adopt the University's motto — Ascend. Similarly, the School of Public Health's values are:

Striving to adapt ourselves to changes in health needs and priorities of the population in a rapidly changing environment.

Advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in our school's culture and environment.

Defining student success beyond earning an academic degree to encompass having a successful and impactful professional career in public health.

Creating opportunities for cutting-edge, impactful research that expands the field of public health and responds to the needs of the community.

Aspiring to become a trusted resource for public health needs of our local community, the residents of Tennessee and beyond.

Developing and maintaining collaborations at the local, national and international levels for advancing health equity.

Introduction

The School of Public Health at the University of Memphis is launching a Public Health Diplomacy Lab — the first of its kind in the country.

These local and global strides connecting the UofM with partners near and far are part of the School of Public Health's (SPH) strategy to address health issues and access to health care while gaining insight from others.

The School of Public Health is dedicated to becoming impactful in the community and through its partnership with more than 200 community-based organizations, each addressing several sustainable development goals such as:

No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-being, Quality Education, Gender Equality and Clean Water and Sanitation.

The Public Health Diplomacy Lab at UofM, SPH will bring together multiple stakeholders including governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and academic and research institutions.

It aims to enhance population health, improve collaboration and coordination among all stakeholders to promote health and will support advancement of fair and equitable access to healthcare resources attaining equitable results, enhance equality and enhance good health and well-being.



CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. Laura Magaña, President and CEO, ASPPH

Dr. Ashish Joshi, Dean, School of Public Health,
University of Memphis, Memphis, TN, ASPPH

Catherine Kane, Technical Officer, World Health Organization, Switzerland

William Yotive, Model UN Coordinator, World Federation of United Nations Associations

Dr. Matthew Brown, Special Advisor, Global Health Policy and Data Institute,
Adjunct Professor, Uniformed University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD, USA

Dr. Timothy Mackey, Professor, Global Health in the Global Health Program at UC San
Diego, Director Global Health Policy and Data Institute

Dorothy Biberman, Senior Director of Global Engagement and Executive Initiatives at
the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH)

Dr. Judy Makhoul, Professor, American University of Beirut,
Faculty of Health Sciences, Lebanon, ASPPH

Dr. William Bradley Hawkins, Practicum Director, Vanderbilt MPH Program, Nashville,
TN, ASPPH

Dr. Kun-Hsien Tsai, Associate Dean and Professor in the Department of Public Health
at the College of Public Health, National Taiwan University, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

Dr. Diana Maddah, Senior Health Advisor, Risk Communication and Community
Engagement and Research UK-Med, Qatar, ASPPH

Dr. Erica Kastrup, Cooperation Advisor, Researcher at the CRIS Center for International
Relations in Health of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil, ALASAG

Dr. Wah Yun Low, Deputy Executive Director (Research & Internationalization),
Asia-Europe Institute University Malaya, Malaysia, APACPH

Dr. Kerry Mitchell, Assistant Dean of Students, Associate Professor. Chair, Department of
Public Health and Preventive Medicine, St. George's University, Grenada, West Indies, ASPPH

Dr. Shafik Dharamsi, Dean and Professor, University of North Texas
Health Science Center, School of Public Health, ASPPH

Dr. Woldekidan Amde, Researcher, University of the Western Cape
School of Public Health, South Africa, ASPHA

Dr. Rajendra Surenthirakumaran, Dean and Professor, Faculty of Medicine,
University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka, SEAPHEIN

Bernard Saliba, Lecturer, University of Technology Sydney, Australia, CAPHIA

Dr. Rodrigo Reis, Assistant Vice-Provost and Director, Office of Public Health,
Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, ASPPH

Dr. Glory Nja, Senior Lecturer, Department of Public Health, University of Calabar,
Nigeria, ASPHA

Dr. Bridget Kelly, Associate Professor, University of Wollongong, Australia, CAPHIA

Dr. So Yoon Kim, Department of Medical Law and Ethics, Yonsei University, South Korea,
APACPH

Giada Scarpetti, Technische Universität Berlin Department of Healthcare Management,
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Dr. Ramunė Kalėdienė, Head of Department of Health Management,
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Dr. Marian Levy, Associate Dean, Public Health Practice & Community Engagement,
University of Memphis, Memphis, TN, ASPPH

Dr. Xinhua Yu, Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Program Coordinator
Epidemiology, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN, ASPPH

Dr. Diana Ruggiero, Professor of Spanish, Department of World Languages and
Literatures, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN

Dr. Beverly Tsacoyianis, Associate Professor of History, University of Memphis,
Memphis, TN

Dr. Gretchen Peterson, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Memphis,
Memphis, TN

AGENDA

Day 1

Wednesday, Sept. 25

Location: FedEx Institute of Technology, Lobby
365 Fogelman Dr, Memphis, TN 38152

5:30-8 PM

Welcome Remarks by:

Dr. Bill Hardgrave | President, University of Memphis
On behalf of University of Memphis

Dr. David Russomanno | Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
and Provost, University of Memphis

Dr. Ralph Alvarado | Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Health
On behalf of Tennessee Department of Health

Dr. Laura Magaña | President and CEO, ASPPH
On behalf of ASPPH and GNAPH

Dr. Ashish Joshi | Dean,
Distinguished University Professor of School of Public Health
Host and Organizer

Day 2

Thursday, Sept. 26

Location: Fed Ex Institute of Technology
Fishbowl, Room 203/205

7:30-8:30 AM

Breakfast & Introductions

8:30-8:45 AM

Welcome Remarks

Dr. David Russomanno, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
and Provost, University of Memphis

8:45-9 AM

Opening Remarks

Dr. Laura Magaña, President and CEO, ASPPH

9-9:15 AM

Video Message: Dr. Matthew Brown, Special Advisor, Global Health Policy and Data Institute, Adjunct Professor, Uniformed University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD, USA

9:15-9:45 AM

Inaugural Talk: Dr. Ashish Joshi
Need for Public Health Diplomacy in the 21st Century

9:45-9:50 AM

Workshop Agenda Overview
Dr. Ashish Joshi Dean & Distinguished University Professor
University of Memphis School of Public Health

9:50-10 AM

Break
Participants will be broken down into groups with each group having a facilitator and a note taker. Participants will have discussion for each theme for about 40 minutes and key findings will be summarized and presented back to others.

10-11 AM | DISCUSSION TOPIC 1

Intersection of Health and Diplomacy
What are the health functions that require diplomatic skills?

11-11:15 AM

Break

11:15 AM-12:30 PM | DISCUSSION TOPIC 2

What competencies are required and what specific training will help public health professionals serve as Public Health Diplomats?

12:30-1:30 PM

Lunch

1:30-2:30 PM | DISCUSSION TOPIC 3

What are the existing resources available for public health students toward health diplomacy in a complex, rapidly changing multilateral system and what are the gaps for new resources?

2:30-2:45 PM

Break

2:45-3:45 PM | DISCUSSION TOPIC 4

Global and regional collaborations to develop resources for health diplomacy education: where do we start?

3:45-4 PM

Break

4-5:15 PM | REFLECTIONS FROM THE GLOBE

Participants will share their perspectives and provide valuable insight about the skills and competencies that could be universally applicable and those that are specific across different regions and essential for preparing a public health diplomat workforce to address public health challenges of the 21st century in a rapidly changing environment.

Dr. Timothy Mackey, Professor, Global Health in the Global Health Program at UC San Diego, Director Global Health Policy and Data Institute

Dr. Rodrigo Reis, Assistant Vice-Provost and Director, Office of Public Health, Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, ASPPH

Dr. Wah Yun Low, Deputy Executive Director (Research & Internationalization), Asia-Europe Institute University Malaya, Malaysia, APACPH

Dr. Kun-Hsien Tsai, Associate Dean and Professor in the Department of Public Health at the College of Public Health, National Taiwan University, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

Dr. Erica Kastrup, Cooperation Advisor, Researcher at the CRIS Center for International Relations in Health of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil, ALASAG

Bernard Saliba, Lecturer University of Technology Sydney, Australia, CAPHIA

Dr. Glory Nja, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Public Health, University of Calabar, Nigeria, ASPHA

Dr. Rajendra Surenthirakumaran, Dean and Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka, SEAPHEIN

Dr. So Yoon Kim, Department of Medical Law and Ethics, Yonsei University, South Korea, APACPH

5:15 PM

Departure to Hotel

6:45 PM

Hotel Pick-up

7-9 PM

Dinner at The Capital Grille

9 PM

Hotel Drop-off at Double Tree

Day 3

Friday, Sept. 27

Location: University Center, River Room 300
499 University St., Memphis, TN 38152

7:30-8:30 AM

Breakfast

8:30-9 AM

Reflections on the topic from multilateral organizations:

Catherine Kane, Technical Officer, World Health Organization

William Yotive, Model UN Coordinator for the World Federation of United Nations Associations

9-10:30 AM | REFLECTIONS FROM THE GLOBE

Participants will share their perspectives and provide valuable insight about the skills and competencies that could be universally applicable and those that are specific across different regions and essential for preparing a public health diplomat workforce to address public health challenges of the 21st century in a rapidly changing environment.

Dr. Kerry Mitchell, Assistant Dean of Students, Associate Professor, Chair, Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, St. George's University, Grenada, West Indies, ASPPH

Dr. Diana Maddah, Senior Health Advisor- Risk Communication and Community Engagement and Research UK-Med, Qatar, ASPPH

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Dr. Shafik Dharamsi, Dean and Professor, University of North Texas Health Science Center School of Public Health, ASPPH

Dr. Ramunė Kalėdienė, Head of Department of Health Management, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, Lithuania ASPHER

Dr. Woldekidan Amde, Researcher, University of the Western Cape School of Public Health, South Africa, ASPHA

Dr. Bridget Kelly, Associate Professor, University of Wollongong, Australia, CAPHIA

Giada Scarpetti, Technische Universität Berlin Department of Healthcare Management, Germany, ASPHER

Dr. William Bradley Hawkins, Practicum Director, Vanderbilt MPH Program, Nashville, TN, ASPPH

10:30-11 AM | WAY FORWARD Q&A PANEL

Workshop participants will share the action items and recommendations for the next steps on how to coordinate and collaborate in an effort toward building a public health diplomacy as a new area of concentration in the field of public health.

11-11:15 AM

Final Remarks: Dr. Laura Magaña, President and CEO, ASPPH

11:15-11:30 AM

Vote of Thanks: Dr. Ashish Joshi, Dean, University of Memphis School of Public Health

11:45 AM-1 PM

Participants Working Lunch at the School of Public Health

1:15-4:15 PM

Tour of National Civil Rights Museum

BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Laura Magaña

Dr. Laura Magaña is President and CEO of the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) and the founding President of the Global Network for Academic Public Health (GNAPH). Under her leadership, ASPPH has advanced academic public health through new initiatives like the Data Center and academic public health leadership institute, and has expanded its global reach. Dr. Magaña has over 35 years of experience in transforming public health education globally, including as Dean of the School of Public Health at the National Institute of Public Health in Mexico. She has authored 90 academic publications focused on education and technology in public health.



William Yotive

William Yotive is the Model UN Coordinator for the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), where he organizes global Model UN programs and trains participants on simulating UN bodies. He also served as Curriculum Director for WFUNA's summer youth program in South Korea, focusing on the Sustainable Development Goals. Previously, Mr. Yotive was Project Manager for the UN Global Teaching and Learning Project, creating educational materials and organizing global videoconferences. He is an Advisory Council Member for the Committee on Teaching about the United Nations and serves on the International Institute on Peace Education's Transnational Advisory Group.



Dr. Ashish Joshi

Dr. Joshi is the Dean and Distinguished University Professor of the School of Public Health at the University of Memphis. An accomplished innovator, entrepreneur, educator, researcher and administrator, he has a rich background in working across 12 countries with a diverse range of stakeholders including community organizations, academic institutions, and policymakers. Dr. Joshi's expertise lies in population health informatics, where he merges his training in clinical medicine, public health and informatics to develop technology-enabled interventions aimed at improving population health. He has led significant research efforts, securing nearly \$25 million in grants and successfully completing over two dozen projects in various countries. His dedication to advancing public health through innovative research, education and community engagement continues to make a significant impact globally.



Dr. Matthew Brown

Dr. Brown is a thought leader in the field of global health diplomacy practice with more than 50 peer reviewed publications in this nascent field continues to lecture and mentor student research in the field, and maintains academic appointments at the University of California, San Diego; George Washington University; and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.



Dr. Timothy Mackey

Dr. Timothy Mackey is a Professor of Global Health at UC San Diego, Director of the Global Health Policy and Data Institute, CEO and co-founder of S-3 Research, and Editor-in-Chief of JMIR Infodemiology. He holds a BA in Political Science-International Relations, a Master's in Health Policy & Law, and a PhD in Global Public Health from UC San Diego-San Diego State University. Prof. Mackey's research spans global health governance, diplomacy, policy and data science, with over 10 years of private sector experience and consulting roles for organizations like the WHO and the U.S. Department of State. He also teaches global health policy, including health diplomacy simulations.



Catherine Kane

Catherine Kane is a technical officer with the WHO Health Workforce Policies, Norms and Standards team in Switzerland, focusing on global health worker initiatives and community health workers. Her career includes roles with the Red Cross and various national and international health agencies. Catherine holds a Master's in Contemporary Diplomacy from the University of Malta and Bachelor's degrees in International Relations and Russian from the University of Notre Dame. She is also an advisory board member for the International Institute for Primary Health Care in Addis Ababa.



Dorothy Biberman

Dorothy Biberman is the Senior Director of Global Engagement and Executive Initiatives at ASPPH, where she oversees global health partnerships, strategic communications and the climate change and health initiative. With 15 years at ASPPH, she has supported public health practice, policy and education. Dorothy holds an MPH from George Washington University and a BS in biology from Brandeis University, and she completed Peace Corps service in Belize. She is also Certified in Public Health.



Dr. Judy Makhoul

Dr. Judy Makhoul is a professor at the Department of Health Promotion and Community Health at the Faculty of Health Sciences at AUB in Lebanon, with interest in social and structural determinants of health, social exclusion, research ethics, public health ethics and community engaging research. Dr. Makhoul's research examines the pathways of action of global and structural factors, such as regulations, laws, institutional practices, corporate practices and armed conflicts, on the well-being of local communities and people in general. More recently, Dr. Makhoul has taken up work on the commercial determinants of health.



Dr. Erica Kastrup

Dr. Erica Kastrup is an advisor for South-South cooperation at the Center for International Relations in Health at Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (CRIS/FIOCRUZ) in Brazil. She holds a master degree in Global Health and Health Diplomacy and a PhD in History of Sciences and Health from Fio Cruz. Her primary research focus is on health, foreign policy and South-South cooperation in Brazil. Dr. Kastrup is currently the co-editor of the publication Health Diplomacy and Global Health from the research group on international relations and health at CRIS/FIOCRUZ. Also, she collaborates in educational programs and technical cooperation projects, especially with African countries.



Dr. William Bradley Hawkins

Dr. William Bradley Hawkins is a public health professional with over 25 years of experience in research, education and administration. He holds degrees from the University of Mississippi and Tulane University. Currently, he directs the Master of Public Health Program, overseeing student internships and career development, and teaches Public Health Practice. Previously, he led outreach and education at Vanderbilt University and coordinated research projects at Tulane and in Suriname.



Dr. Wah-Yun Low

Dr. Wah-Yun Low is an Honorary Professor of Psychology at Universiti Malaya in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Dr. Low holds a BA from the National University of Malaysia and an MSc and PhD in medical psychology from the University of Surrey. Dr. Low has published over 30 books and 300 journal articles in behavioral science, public health, HIV/AIDS, and aging. She is the President Emeritus of the Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health (APACPH), President of the Malaysian Association for Scientific Research in Psychiatry, and Editor-in-Chief of the Asia-Pacific Journal of Public Health. She is also a Fellow of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia.



Dr. Ken-Hsien Tsai

Dr. Kun-Hsien Tsai is an Associate Dean and Professor in the Department of Public Health at the College of Public Health, National Taiwan University, Taiwan (R.O.C.). He holds a PhD in Entomology from National Taiwan University, a Master's in Biology, and a Bachelor's in Biology from Tunghai University. His research encompasses public health and entomology.



Dr. Kerry Mitchell

Dr. Kerry Mitchell is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine at St. George's University in Grenada. With a background in environmental and biological sciences, he focuses on the connection between environment and human health. Dr. Mitchell teaches graduate courses in environmental health and biostatistics to MPH and MD students. His current research examines air quality in the Caribbean, aiming to develop a regional notification system for particulate matter and its health impacts.



Dr. Diana Maddah

Dr. Diana Maddah is an Assistant Professor at Qatar University's College of Health Sciences, specializing in public health. With over 12 years in humanitarian work, she has served as a Senior Health Advisor for the UK-Med Emergency Medical Team, focusing on public health preparedness and response. Her academic work centers on health promotion and community health, particularly in humanitarian settings. Dr. Maddah also trains internationally on gender equity, with certification from George Washington University.



Dr. Shafik Dharamsi

Dr. Shafik Dharamsi brings over 25 years of international experience in global public health to his role as Dean of the School of Public Health at The University of North Texas. He established his academic career in Canada, earning a PhD from the University of British Columbia, where he also received tenure in the Department of Family Medicine and led the Center for International Health. He has held various leadership positions in academic and international development settings and serves on several national and international boards.



Dr. Woldekidan Amde

Dr. Woldekidan Amde is a senior researcher at the School of Public Health, University of the Western Cape, South Africa with expertise in sociology, development management and public health. His work focuses on health policy, capacity development and social determinants of health. He coordinates the doctoral program, teaches a postgraduate module and is on the Executive Board of the Association of Schools of Public Health in Africa.



Dr. Rajendra Surenthirakumaran

Dr. Rajendra Surenthirakumaran is a Professor of Community Medicine and a Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka. His research focuses on social determinants of health, health systems, aging and palliative care. He has been with the University of Jaffna since 2004 and was previously Head of the Department of Community and Family Medicine. He is President of the Sri Lanka Public Health Education Institutions Network, a member of SEAPHEIN and GNAPH and holds the TIPH award for 2021.



Bernard Saliba

Bernard Saliba is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Technology Sydney, Australia and a PhD candidate at the Kirby Institute, UNSW. His award-winning teaching prepares graduates for the Australian public health workforce, while his research addresses health challenges for LGBTQ+ and culturally diverse populations. Bernard co-produced and hosted the podcast “One Foot In,” which promotes understanding and inclusion for CALD LGBTQ+ individuals. At the Public Health Diplomacy event, he integrates cultural sensitivity with public health strategies to enhance global health diplomacy and equitable healthcare access.



Dr. Rodrigo Reis

Dr. Rodrigo Reis is an Assistant Vice-Provost and Director at the Office of Public Health at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Reis research primarily focuses on the intersections of the built environment, public health, sustainability and active living. His extensive experience includes collaborations with the Brazilian Ministry of Health, PAHO, and the National Physical Activity Plan in the U.S. Previously a professor at the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná, he has co-authored significant studies for the Lancet Physical Activity Series and the Urban Design, Transport, and Public Health series. Dr. Reis has contributed to international projects like Project GUIA, the IPEN Network, and the HULAP project, and has been pivotal in developing and implementing public health initiatives and physical activity courses across Latin America and beyond.



Dr. Glory Nja

Dr. Glory Mbe Egom Nja holds a PhD in Public Health with specializations in Health Services Management and Health Policy, an MPH, a B.Sc. in Nursing Science, and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Education from the University of Calabar, Nigeria. She also has specialized training in ENT Nursing, mixed methods research, and policy evaluation from various institutions. As a Senior Lecturer and Head of the Health Services Management and Health Policy Unit at the University of Calabar, Dr. Nja has over seven years of experience in teaching and research. She focuses on combating gender-based violence in Nigeria and is developing a digital app for reporting such violence. Dr. Nja has supervised numerous students and published extensively. She is an Executive Board Member of the Association of Schools of Public Health in Africa and is involved in various international research and advocacy efforts.



Dr. Bridget Kelly

Dr. Bridget Kelly Gillott is an Associate Professor in Public Health Nutrition at the Early Start Institute, University of Wollongong, Australia. With nearly 20 years of experience, she leads research on fostering supportive food environments for children and is a leading expert on critical food marketing. She co-directs a WHO Collaborating Centre focused on protecting children from harmful food marketing and has been a key figure in INFORMAS, monitoring food marketing and supporting global policy development.



Dr. So Yoon Kim

Dr. So Yoon Kim, MD, PhD, is a professor in the Department of Medical Law and Ethics at Yonsei University, South Korea, and the Director of the Asian Institute of Bioethics and Health Law (AIBHL), a WHO Collaborating Centre. The AIBHL focuses on legal and ethical issues in healthcare, and since 2002, it has been a leader in bioethics and health law research. Prof. Kim’s research covers medical law, ethics, biotechnology, medical disputes, patient safety and global health. She serves on various government committees, is the President of the Korean Association of Medical Law, and is the Editor-in-Chief of several journals, including the Korean Society for Global Health. Additionally, she leads the Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health (APACPH) Korea Region Office.



Giada Scarpetti

Giada Scarpetti is a Research Fellow at Technische Universität Berlin, focusing on integrated care, health care workforce and comparative health systems. She is pursuing a PhD in Public Health and teaches seminars in TU Berlin’s Master’s Programme in Public Health. Previously, she was a Global Health Consultant at NYU, developing online learning curricula. Scarpetti holds an MPH from NYU, a BA in Arabic language and culture from SOAS, University of London, and is a Fulbright Scholar.



Dr. Ramunė Kalėdienė

Dr. Ramunė Kalėdienė, MD, MPH, PhD, is the Head of the Department of Health Management at Lithuanian University of Health Sciences and President of the Lithuanian Public Health Association. She has served on various Lithuanian health committees, contributed to COVID-19 management, and is involved with the European Public Health Association and the Central, Eastern Europe and Baltics Health Policy Network. She was Dean of the Faculty of Public Health from 2002-2022, established key Master's programs, and serves as an expert for the Accreditation Agency for Public Health Education for the EU. Dr. Kalėdienė has authored over 400 scientific publications and received the Knight's Cross of the Order of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas in 2022 for her contributions to health policy.



Dr. Diana Ruggiero

Dr. Diana Ruggiero is a Full Professor in the Department of World Languages and Literatures at the University of Memphis and co-chair of the engaged scholarship faculty network. Since joining in 2012, she has taught a range of courses, including Spanish for the Hospitality Industry and Spanish for Healthcare. Dr. Ruggiero emphasizes practical language skills and community engagement, developing resources like "Corazón y Mente" to support Latinx mental wellness. As the online coordinator, she has expanded online education and received the 2023-24 Teach Access Faculty Grant for advancing accessibility education. Her interdisciplinary approach and commitment to community service, including work with local nonprofits, significantly impact both academic and local communities.



Dr. Marian Levy

Dr. Marian Levy, DrPH, RD, FAND, is the Associate Dean for Public Health Practice & Community Engagement and a Professor of Social & Behavioral Sciences at the University of Memphis School of Public Health. She earned her doctorate from UCLA and is a Registered Dietitian and Fellow of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Dr. Levy leads initiatives in health equity, academic equity and public health workforce development. She has served on NIH review panels, received multiple awards including the Ruby R. Wharton Outstanding Woman Award and the Doris Spain Distinguished Service Award, and was named to the University of Memphis 2023 Class of PI Millionaires. She has also served on the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' Board of Editors and is currently on the Governing Council of the American Public Health Association.



Dr. Beverly Tsacoyianis

Dr. Beverly Tsacoyianis is an Associate Professor in the History Department at the University of Memphis, specializing in the modern Middle East with a focus on disability, migration, trauma and gender. She authored the 2022 CHOICE Academic Title Award-winning book *Disturbing Spirits: Mental Health, Trauma, and Treatment in Modern Syria and Lebanon*. Currently, she is co-editing *Disability History in the Modern Middle East*. Dr. Tsacoyianis teaches courses on modern and Islamic history, the Ottoman Empire and the Arab-Israeli conflict. She also advises the University's Phi Alpha Theta chapter.



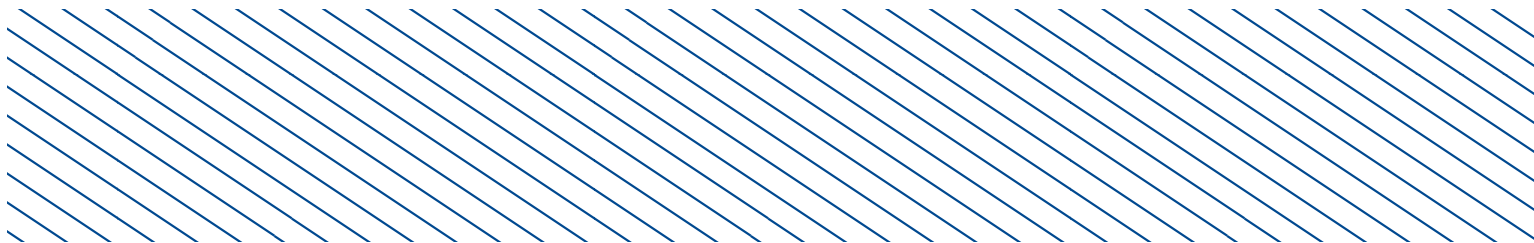
Dr. Xinhua Yu

Dr. Xinhua Yu, MD, PhD, MS, is an epidemiologist with additional training in medicine and statistics, and the coordinator of the UofM epidemiology program. He is an expert in large health data analytics and health informatics. Dr. Yu's current research focuses on health disparities, epidemiology of aging, determinants of health care utilization and epidemiological methods. He is also interested in applying quantitative methods to examine public health diplomacy and assess public health policy impact across nations.



Dr. Gretchen Peterson

Dr. Gretchen Peterson is a Professor of Sociology and the Graduate Studies Coordinator at the University of Memphis. She earned her PhD from the University of Arizona in 2000. Her research focuses on the sociology of sports, gender, emotions and social psychology, with recent work on adult recreational activities. Dr. Peterson employs various methods, including experiments, surveys and ethnography, and has published in journals such as the *American Sociological Review* and the *American Journal of Sociology*.



The University of Memphis School of Public Health is committed to being a resource to the community through partnerships, collaborations and engagements.



Learn more about the
School of Public Health



University of Memphis School of Public Health
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