Greetings from LIU Brooklyn!

I would like to welcome all new students and all new faculty members to our Department. We have a nice group of 14 new students, two new adjunct faculty members Aicha Diallo-Bennet and Renata Schiavo and one new full-time Assistant Professor of Public Health Jelena Malogajski with us this Fall semester. Despite an unusually bumpy start of the academic year for all of us at LIU Brooklyn – we are back and working diligently on our tasks.

We are excited to be working on public health challenges in our local and national settings, and also looking forward to expanding and strengthening our global partnerships in the Balkans and beyond. Over the summer months, more MPH students visited Serbia and Montenegro, exploring and comparing the healthcare systems in the US and abroad. Our collaboration with both Brooklyn Historical Society and Start, have been providing students with opportunities to learn and engage in local public health issues. I invite you to review our Fall 2016 issue of The Voice to get the latest news from the Department of Public Health.

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**STUDENT’S CORNER**

**Summer fun & research?**

*By David Thomas, MPHc*

Summer Time, Summer Time! Unfortunately, it came and left. The burden of homework assignments, tests, and papers have returned. YAAAS! There were many activities to be enjoyed over the summer months such as beach trips, vacations, and research. Wait, did I say research? Yes! During the summer months, students had the opportunity to participate in a few research projects; we conducted a comparative analysis of healthcare systems in Serbia and New York. As much as we enjoy the heavy workload that our program provides, we are still able to work on teams in the research studies conducted in our Department. Our fellow MPH classmates Nikia Joseph, Fatu Massalee, and Cherubin Dorcent are preparing to work on the research on condom use among Caribbean men. Chenade Rennie and Naiya Patel have been working on “flipped classroom” project. So, here is my advice: if you would like to take a break from the workload and gain experience that you can use in the future, and have it on your resume for future endeavors, do not hesitate to join in on the fun! Contact me at David.Thomas@my.liu.edu with any inquiries.

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**EDITORS OF THE V O I C E**

Bojana Berci
Halyna Dyatlova
David Thomas
Amitkumar Patel
Public Health Club

By Juthi Ghosh, MPHc

Hello, my fellow LIU Blackbirds! My name is Juthi Ghosh, and I am the president of the Public Health Club at our very own LIU Brooklyn. The CDC defines public health as the field devoted to protecting the health of populations. These populations can be as small as a local neighborhood, or as big as an entire country or region of the world. Since the PH Club is fairly new, we want to expand on and bring forth the potential of this club and continue to promote and protect the health of people and the community primarily where we live and study – LIU Brooklyn. The Club is open to all health-related, and non-health-related students enrolled in programs in all Schools and all majors! The Club is run by the students in the MPH Program, and under the advisement of Professor Brian Gilchrist.

We are planning to hold many exciting events and activities this year. At the beginning of each year, we hold potlucks to provide a networking opportunity and welcome new students to the program. The Club will be participating in walks to raise awareness about disease prevention. In October we will be attending the annual American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference in Denver, which will provide an opportunity to network with Public Health students and professionals nationally, to hear others’ as well as to share our experiences. If you are considering becoming a member of PH Club, please contact one of the e-board officers:

President—Juthi Ghosh, Juthi.Ghosh@my.liu.edu
Secretary—Alyssia Caruso, Alyssia.Caruso@my.liu.edu
Vice President—Eusica Edmond, Eusica.Edmond@my.liu.edu
Treasurer—Halyna Dyatlova, Halyna.Dyatlova@my.liu.edu

Study Abroad Experience

By Alyssia Caruso, MPHc

From May 26th to June 12th, 2016 I had a pleasure of traveling to Belgrade and Novi Sad, Serbia, as well as to Kotor, Montenegro with my fellow MPH classmates as part of the MPH 650 Study Abroad course. The main purpose of our trip was to immerse ourselves in another culture and to collect data to study health care practices in America and Europe. The course provided the experience for collecting and analyzing data for our study, and then for writing a manuscript. It opened my eyes to how people view the Public Health field and what is the perception they have to keep themselves healthy and prevent sickness in both countries – US and Serbia. As part of data collection process, we visited different neighborhoods in Belgrade and observed the architecture of the buildings, transit system availability as well as other necessities a person will have available in the neighborhood, such as a hospital, supermarket, and recreational space. Another wonderful experience was in Novi Sad, Serbia during the visit to Milan Petrovic School for Children with Special Needs. I was impressed with the equipment and the facility where healthcare professionals and special education teachers work with children with disabilities. It truly touched my heart to see the way professionals and teachers work and teach them life skills, to equip children in becoming independent individuals. This trip was a life changing experience because everything that I have learned in the MPH classes came alive.

MPH class in Montenegro, Summer 2016
FACTOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

By Halyna Dyatlova, MPHc

Bojana Beric – Stojisic, Associate Professor and Department Chair

HD: Professor Beric, what is your current involvement in the field of Public Health?

BBS: In my current position as faculty member and department chair, I have been actively involved in teaching and preparing future Public Health professionals at the Master’s level, working on developing our MPH Program to meet the standards of CEPH accreditation, and with it to secure its place in the arena of competitive public health preparation programs locally and nationally; at the same time, I have been actively working on crossing the geographic borders and preparing our students for cross-cultural, global and interprofessional collaboration by establishing partnerships with Public Health institutions in the Balkans, primarily in Serbia, my native country. Furthermore, as Regional Vice President of IUHPE - NARO I am actively involved in Health Promotion and Education globally in a slightly different capacity. Finally, being a founding member of the Editorial Board of the journal Pedagogy in Health Promotion: The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, I participate in contributing to the development and shaping of pedagogical theory and practice of health promotion, and public health, again in local and global context.

HD: What do you think is the most challenging aspect of our profession today?

BBS: I think that the most difficult aspect of public health is convincing professionals from different and diverse sectors to see that they all have a common goal – social justice and health for all. It is very easy to acknowledge the differences among our professional silos, but only with much effort, we recognize and appreciate similarities and identify common goals and interests. Also, often we forget that - all people have equal rights - and also, responsibilities.

HD: Is there a recipe for a successful career in Public Health?

BBS: Sure, the recipe is just like in any other profession: work, work, work and in addition to work, in Public Health: listen, listen, and listen! Giving voice to the public, to youth especially – should be the goal and priority for public health professionals. The citizen engagement and cultural empathy are two aspects of Public Health that open up the doors and minds that have been closed for a long time, and if it is done through a democratic process, we could consider it a success.

HD: Describe your best professional development experience.

BBS: Without a doubt, the best professional development experiences were the discussion sessions about the philosophical community of inquiry with late Professor Lipman in the mid-1990’s at Montclair State University in New Jersey! I learned about the giants in education, such as Paolo Freire and John Dewey who transformed thinking and understanding of both teaching and learning in the classroom. Also, something surprising I learned at that time, that some of the principles of business administration could be employed in both philosophy and (health) education.

HD: What is your teaching philosophy that guides your practice in the classroom?

BBS: A philosophical & theoretical framework for practicing in my classroom is Community of Health Inquiry. This teaching-learning process provides students with the opportunity for participation, dialogue, selection of common agenda, for asking questions, providing answers, clarifications, summaries, and engaging in more inquiries. In another word, placing students in the center of learning is the objective in my classrooms; to achieve that takes time, energy, patience, but I am convinced, and I know that it works: once the student takes charge and control (away from me) over their own learning – my job is done, actually – well done! I immensely enjoy observing my students who understand concepts in more depth, who search further for knowledge and answers and learn the content better on their own than what I can pour onto their heads and into their ears during lectures.

HD: Do you have any special messages to share with the students?

BBS: Sure – getting to know that public health is not about us, practitioners, but it is about public’s health – is the bottom line. Again, placing public in the center of Public Health. I often paraphrase the statement by one of the applicants to our program: Public Health is NOT about “us” the public health professionals, but it is about “them,” it is about public and public’s health.

“I immensely enjoy observing my students who understand concepts in more depth, who search further for knowledge and answers and learn the content better on their own than what I can pour onto their heads and into their ears during lectures!”
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS & MEMBERSHIPS

By Halyna Dyatlova, MPHc

Our global partner is the European Center for Peace and Development (ECPD), established by United Nations University for Peace. To learn more about what they do, click here.

Partnership with ECPD has allowed us to establish collaboration and working relationship with the Institute for Public Health “Milan Jovanovic Batut” in Belgrade. To learn more, click here.

Keeping Up With Alumni

By David Thomas, MPHc

In this issue we have wonderful and exciting news from the class of 2013-2016!

* Felix Ollennu lives in New Jersey while continuing his career in the medical setting while also got married in August 2016.
* Neha Chopra was recently married in September 2016, lives in New Jersey, and working for the New Jersey Department of Health.
* Caitlyn Meadows was married in August 2016 and is living in Toronto, Canada.
* Carly Michel is working for the New York City school construction authority.
* Lauren Loor recently moved to Maui, Hawaii. While she lived in New York, she worked as a Nutrition Instructor at the New York Common Pantry.
* Shannon Givens has been a Scientific Operation/Program Manager at NIH/NCI (Rockville, MD) (since graduation in June 2014) and volunteers as an NIH FAES Teacher's Assistant for Field Research Class and Takoma Park Church.
* Daryl Elizabeth Johnson lives in San Diego, California and works as an emergency management coordinator at UC San Diego Health.
* Vinessa Gordon has been working as Education and Community Outreach Coordinator at Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health in New York, since February of 2016.
* Dora Izaguirre-Anariba – started her residency program in Internal Medicine at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center in New York, on July 1, 2016.

We would like to have more news and announcements about our Alumni. Please send us a blurb with where you are now, and share any news in your life!

GIVE BACK TO PARTNERSHIPS

Compiled Amitkumar Patel, MPHc

Nutrition Education Internship Opportunity

The Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) is an organization engaged in addressing global health challenges, which was established in 2008 with generous funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and The Rockefeller Foundation. To learn more, click here.

The membership with CUGH gives all of us at LIU the opportunity to be a part of the dynamic association of more than 145 organizations globally, mainly Universities. CUGH membership includes various benefits. Click here to read more about the benefits.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Compiled by Halyna Dyatlova, MPHc

* Next Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) Exam - April 22, 2016

  Click here for more information about CHES certification, exam deadlines and fees.

* Athens Celebrates ASPHER

By Jeffrey Levett, PhD

The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region [ASPHER, 1966] is the key independent organization dedicated to strengthening the role of public health in Europe by improving education and training of professionals for both practice and research.

This year 2016 ASPHER reaches 50 (1966-2016) and is an engaged celebration. Its’ significant achievements will appear in the Anniversary Book. The official ceremony will take place in Athens, Greece 25-27 May 2016 and with an opening event in the Acropolis Museum. The celebration will be hosted by the Hellenic School [1929], which was launched following heroic efforts of Greek pioneers in malaria, a bizarre pandemic of dengue fever [1927-30] and as an outcome of a little known, unique and short-lived revolution in public health, which hiccuped its way into history. ASPHER was modeled on the organization of the American Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH, 1953) and circa 1966 several other Regional Associations and one World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) were all established.

Dr. Gilchrist represented the Department of Public Health, Long Island University, Brooklyn.

* The XII ECPD International Conference

By Jeffrey Levett, PhD

The XII ECPD International Conference, FUTURE OF THE WORLD BETWEEN GLOBALIZATION AND REGIONALIZATION, was held in Belgrade (City Hall), 28-29 October 2016. The conference was opened by three distinguished individuals namely the President of the ECPD Council H.E. Prof. Dr. Federico Mayor, Former Director General Unesco, President of the Foundation for Culture of Peace, H.E. Prof. Dr. Ernard Busek, Vice-Chancellor of Austria Chairman of the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe, Prof. Dr. Johan Galtung, Founder and First President Peace Research Institute, Norway.

They examined the pathway from Regionalization to Globalization and What Stands in its Way and asked whether we can simultaneously Think Globally and Think Regionally.

Over five plenary sessions leading experts from the region and from all over the world filled in many gaps and expanded the subject matter. Some of the highlights include:

Globalization Process and Impact on World Peace and Development with

- Prof. Dr. John Maresca, Former Rector of the UN University for Peace
- Current Situation in Europe and the Region and How It Is Evolving;
- Professor Dr. Steven Meyer, Daniel Morgan Academy, Washington DC, USA
- Towards Multi-polarity - Trends and Challenges;
- Professor Dr. Boris Shmelev, Russian Academy for Sciences and Arts, RF
- The New Cold War – Who is Guilty and What to Do?
- Professor Dr. Horst Mahr, Chairman, Foreign Affairs Association, Munich, Germany
- The Increasing Russian-American Tensions and their Proxy Wars

FELLOWSHIPS

Compiled Amitkumar Patel, MPHc

Dr. James A. Ferguson Emerging Infectious Disease Fellowship
Global Health Corps Fellowships
HIV/AIDS Public Policy Fellowship
CSTE Fellowships

CDC Fellowships and Internships
Center for Global Development
Cancer Research Fellowship, Internship and Training
Emory Healthcare Administrative Fellowship
Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program
Administrative Fellowship at Palomar Health

Dr. James A. Ferguson Emerging Infectious Disease Fellowships
Global Health Corps Fellowships
HIV/AIDS Public Policy Fellowship
CSTE Fellowships

CDC Fellowships and Internships
Center for Global Development
Cancer Research Fellowship, Internship and Training
Emory Healthcare Administrative Fellowship
Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program
Administrative Fellowship at Palomar Health
Regionalization Vis-à-Vis Globalization with
- Academician Vlado Kambovski, Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Skopje
- Prof. Dr. Pasquale Baldocci, Faculty of Diplomacy, Gorizia, Italy

Topics include Regional Integration, Democratic Consolidation and Constitutional Democracy; Societies in Transition; Increasing Russian-American Tensions; Proxy Wars; Survival of Humanity Edges and Paradoxes of Human Life; Guilt for the New Cold War; The Role of Educational Institutions in Building Bridges for Actualization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Program development is also based on a CONCEPT NOTE written by Jeffrey Levett and available to participants. It discusses conflicts of various natures and magnitudes one between two world models evolving dynamically in two different spheres, on two different time scales with two different time constants, one over the short term, entrenched in immediate self-interest, the other, a longer one relating to socio-economic responsibility. They straddle a dichotomy of politics and profit versus sustainability of humanity on planet earth. It calls for a culture of peace and development with wisdom, reason, morality and justice, which is the mission of the ECPD.

IN MEMORIAM
Celebrating Lives that Touched Our Own

Dr. Dragan Ilic (1954-2016) Director of the Institute for Public Health of Serbia "Milan Jovanovic Batut" passed away in September.

Dragan Ilic was born April 14, 1954. He received his Master's degree at the Center for Multidisciplinary Studies of the Belgrade University and a Ph.D. at the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Belgrade. He graduated and specialized in epidemiology at the medical school of the University of Belgrade. During his career, Dr. Dragan Illic held the following positions: Director of the Institute for Healthcare Students of the University of Belgrade, President of the National Expert Group for the Development and Health of Youth of the Ministry of Health of Serbia, President of the Union of Students of the Belgrade University, President of the Youth Organization of Serbia, President Of Yugoslavia, Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Assembly of the City of Belgrade, Secretary-General of the Red Cross of Serbia, President of the Red Cross of the city of Belgrade, and Director of the Institute for public health of Serbia "Dr. Milan Jovanović Batut."

He is also the founder and Director of the Association for the fight against AIDS "JAZAS." He published more than 50 scientific papers in international and prominent national magazines, and was an author, co-author, and editor of 17 books.

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