

IHPME CONNECT 03.2017

IHPME ALUMNI

STAYING INVOLVED, STAYING CONNECTED:

“Be yourself” may be hackneyed advice, but when the Institute’s alumni sought to re-focus their efforts, they approached the review like they would their day jobs – researching best practices, making comparisons and consulting widely.

“We talked to a number of alumni in our own community and we looked at other alumni communities from institutions across North America to see what some of the top performers were doing,” says [Lee Fairclough](#), alumni president. “As IHPME graduates, I guess it’s in our nature to take such an approach. There is even literature out there on the subject of alumni engagement.”

[IHPME’s alumni activity is going through a period of change and renewal.](#) The alumni group is now known as IHPME Alumni, rather than “the Society of Graduates”. Alumni activity is being coordinated within the Institute itself, which will provide additional administrative resources and integrate alumni priorities more closely with the goals of the Institute.

Lee points out that over 30 years of leadership by the Society of Graduates (SOG) built a strong legacy of alumni contribution to IHPME. She highlights that her predecessor, Jodeme Goldhar, led the alumni group’s integration within the Institute. It was the SOG, in fact, that suggested the broader review of alumni activity. “IHPME alumni are viewed as one of the most engaged at the University of Toronto. Most of us feel a sense of pride and commitment which inspires us to want to give back to the school that we graduated from,” says Lee.



The review committee noted that some major universities in the U.S put a focus on alumni relationships that are mutually beneficial. This could include increasing opportunities for alumni to audit courses or serve as guest lecturers. “Our alumni members are particularly keen to pursue mentorship. This is mutually beneficial and a good draw for new grads to stay involved and connected,” says Lee.

The review also pointed to a need for more strategic engagement with alumni in areas such as advancement, and in raising the profile of the Institute. Alumni have been a largely untapped resource in highlighting the Institute’s continuing impact on health care policy and decision making. “Most people understand that health systems must continually change and improve but not enough people know how the work of IHPME’s world class faculty, students and alumni help to shape specific improvements and contribute to thinking on broader system transformation,” says Lee.

The committee also considered that alumni are a diverse group, with people in both the public- and private-sector and in early career, mid-career and senior leadership. “We need to create more ways for alumni to engage by recognizing that level of engagement changes over the years,” says Lee. For many graduates, engagement is high during the years following graduation but might drop off in the years when people have more responsibilities, both at work and to family. Later in life, many alumni appreciate how their years at the Institute were among the most formative of their career and want to increase involvement. “A more layered approach to alumni engagement would help alumni to stay connected to us, and for the Institute to keep track of them,” says Lee.

More on the next page...

In academic institutions, as in health system performance, making progress means measuring outcomes. For IHPME this could mean knowing where graduates are working and how their careers are progressing. Are they leaders of institutions? If graduates chose an academic focus, what positions do they hold in other schools of higher learning? In the private sector, are IHPME alumni among the innovators developing new products and services? Measurement also means capturing how knowledge generated at IHPME is transferred to the health system.

To help answer these and other questions, a new advisory committee is being formed to provide advice to IHPME Director Adalsteinn (Steini) Brown. The committee will have diverse representation from all IHPME programs, including health informatics, quality improvement or clinical epidemiology — programs that have not traditionally had strong representation in alumni activities.

“Increasing alumni engagement is really about maximizing the contributions of the entire IHPME community. A strong alumni network contributes to education at the Institute and supports continual learning among alumni themselves. This is about staying connected to each other and to the Institute with the shared goal of improving health care systems and the health of Canada’s population,” says Lee.

AWARDS

CivicAction 25 DiverseCity Fellows 2017

Congratulations to [Dr. Maria Chiu](#), Assistant Professor at IHPME and Scientist at ICES for being named one of CivicAction’s 25 DiverseCity Fellows of 2017. DiverseCity Fellows are emerging leaders from various sectors who have made an impact in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.

[CivicAction’s DiverseCity Fellows](#) “CivicMBA” program is an award-winning and prestigious program that provides opportunities for emerging leaders to further develop their leadership skills and increase their impact in their specific fields. “These emerging leaders are already on track to have a big influence on our region, but the DiverseCity Fellows program will accelerate this tenfold,” says Sevaun Palvetzian, CEO, CivicAction. “This program creates space for exceptional people from different backgrounds to be exposed to new city-building perspectives, build meaningful and lasting relationships with diverse peers – and ultimately become better allies and authentic champions for inclusivity.”

Read the
DLSPH Bulletin

IHPME STUDENTS AWARDED GORDON CRESSY STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

Three students from the Institute of Health Policy Management and Evaluation have been recognized for their leadership efforts and achievements as the 2017 recipients of the esteemed [Gordon Cressy Student Leadership Award](#). Aviroop Biswas, Mark Tatangelo and Rosemary Yachouh will be honored in a ceremony on April 25, 2017 at Convocation Hall along with award winners from across the University.

The Cressy award was established in 1994 by the University of Toronto Alumni Association and the Division of University Advancement, as a means of recognizing the outstanding achievements of student leaders and their contributions to extra-curricular activities in their college, school, or division. For our three award winners, the importance of participating in extra-curricular activities and giving back to the community has played an integral role in their time here at IHPME.



“My goal was always to get the best possible experience out of my time at IHPME,” says [Aviroop Biswas](#) who successfully defended his doctoral dissertation on February 27, “it gives you opportunities to connect with faculty and students one on one and increase your network of friends and colleagues.” Biswas has been actively involved in student politics

both as a representative on the IHPME Graduate Student Union acting as a spokesperson for student issues, and as an executive member of Academy Health UofT, which ran a university wide case competition on health policy. He has also chaired and organized the institute’s major annual student led conference, Research Day. “The experience of being Chair really stood out for me,” Biswas says, “it allowed me to take on a challenging role and work closely with faculty, staff and students bringing together different perspectives to make the event a success.”

[Rosemary Yachouh](#) would agree that being involved creates a variety of networking opportunities, “I felt I wasn’t interacting with students outside of the classroom, especially being a commuter,” she says, “I knew that being more actively involved in student life would push me out of my comfort zone and create greater networking opportunities with my peers.” Yachouh is in the final stages of completing her MSc in the Health Services Research concentration, and has creatively balanced both academic life and her volunteer activities. Currently the scholarly events coordinator for the IHPME Graduate Student Union, Yachouh has been instrumental in organizing the monthly Lunch & Learn Seminars for graduate students in the program. However, it is her work as the President of the Assyrian Chaldean Syriac Student Union that is most impressive. “I pitched a tent and lived in it for a week outside in downtown Toronto, to emulate the life of a refugee,” she states. For over two years this fundraising campaign Yachouh has spear-headed has raised

over \$45,000 in funds to support Syrian and Iraqi displaced peoples, some of which was matched by the Canadian government. "It is in my power to volunteer

now," Yachouh says, "but I want my research to give a voice to Syrian newcomers, about how the system has fallen short, or how it has been successful for them in any way."

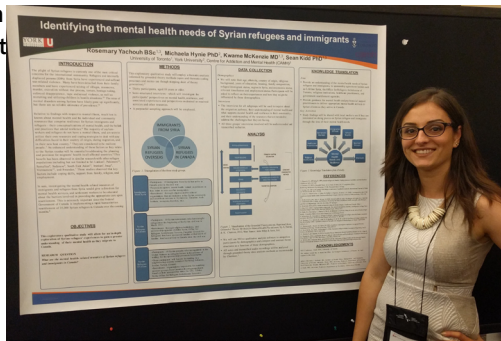
Being active in extracurricular activities is not just beneficial for networking opportunities as **Mark Tatangelo** points



out, it is also a means to give back to the community that has invested time and effort into you becoming a more well-rounded individual. "It isn't enough anymore for researchers to just have a solely academic background," he says, "increasingly the soft skills are being sought after for the complete package, that includes both professional and interpersonal skills." Tatangelo, who will be completing his PhD

this year in the Health Services Research, Outcomes and Evaluation (PAS), has spent his time as a graduate student in a variety of roles. Acting as a VP of Finance for the U of T Ironsports Club, he has worked on expanding their membership and encouraging students to see strength training as an accessible option for fitness. He has also worked closely with the Ontario Best Practices Research Initiative, a clinical cohort following Ontario rheumatoid arthritis patients in routine care. "My research is focused on improving the lives of patients with inflammatory arthritis," says Tatangelo, "and so my volunteer activities are also ways to further my research and give back to the community."

Though in their final year of study in their various programs, these three students will all be moving on to bright and challenging future endeavours. Biswas has secured a post-doctoral fellowship with The Institute for Work and Health, where he will be looking into ways of making work places healthier environments for all. Tatangelo will be continuing his work in seeking sustainable access to medications for patients with inflammatory arthritis, and Yachouh, will continue her efforts to support Syrian refugees. Her most recent efforts will take her to the Hult Prize Competition in London, UK where her team will represent the University of Toronto in their efforts to create a mobile web app for volunteer agencies involved with Syrian refugees and



newcomers, in the hopes of assisting them in providing more streamlined care.

Esta Wall Award of Excellence in Gerontology

The Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation is pleased to announce the establishment of the Esta Wall Award for Excellence in Gerontology. This newly created graduate award will be given to a student enrolled in IHPME who has provided outstanding leadership and made the most significant contributions in the fields of geriatrics, gerontology or long-term care.

Ms. Esta Wall was eager to provide IHPME with an impactful contribution that would support research connected with the University that was intent on fostering solutions for seniors in care. Wall was a graduate of the IHPME Health Administration program in 1978, and dedicated her life to being an active leader in the health care industry, as both a strategist, consultant and mentor. Her main goal was always to create a warm, welcoming and respectful place for seniors. It is for this reason that she enjoyed many years as the Executive Director of the Bernard Betel Centre, a place of learning and wellness that strives to empower seniors to lead active, creative and healthy lifestyles in a Jewish environment.

It was Ms. Wall's wish that her contribution be focused on recognizing a student at IHPME, whose research is currently providing an impact on the life of seniors whether focused on creative living, or community and grass-roots based projects in gerontology research. IHPME is honored to have been the recipient of such a generous gift from Ms. Wall, and looks forward to awarding many deserving students in the future.

[The deadline to apply is April 17, 2017.](#)

IHPME ON flickr

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

New Appointments

Lisa Barbera – Associate Professor, Status
Capri Cafaro - Adjunct Professor
Brenda Hemmelgarn – Professor, Status
Michelle Nelson - Assistant Professor, Status
Carolyn Steele-Gray – Assistant Professor, Status

Renewed Appointments

David Alter – Associate Professor, Status
Aaron Berk – Adjunct Lecturer
Andrea Doria - Professor, Status
Erin Kennedy - Associate Professor, Status
Nicole Look Hong – Assistant Professor, Status
Joe Parker – Adjunct Lecturer
Stephanie Soo – Adjunct Lecturer

SUPPORT IHPME

The Institute of Health Policy, Management & Evaluation, as part of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, is the first Canadian public health school to launch its own fundraising campaign. With the support of our generous donors, our Boundless Campaign will enable IHPME to continue shaping training and research in health systems, management and policy.

For more information on how you can get involved, give annually, create a named fund, or consider the School in your estate planning, please contact **Annette Paul, Director of Advancement** at annette.paul@utoronto.ca or visit [IHPME Donate](#) or [Support/Campaign](#). Thank you for your support!

IHPME IN THE NEWS

UofT Home to first North American academic hub for health system comparison

Hear more from founding member [Prof. Greg Marchildon](#). Full story: <http://www.dlsph.utoronto.ca/2017/02/u-of-t-home-to-first-north-american-academic-hub-for-health-system-comparison/>

Will Cannabis Legalization Lead to an Increase in Tobacco Use in Canada?

The government needs to encourage alternative forms of consuming legal marijuana rather than smoking, [Robert Schwartz](#) weighs in.

Full story: <https://news.lift.co/will-cannabis-legalization-lead-increase-tobacco-use-canada/>

Toronto GP and author offers prescription for health care system

[Dr. Danielle Martin](#) says her 6 'big ideas' won't cost more money and don't all involve health care.

Full story: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/danielle-martin-health-care-doctor-book-1.3995590>

NEW STAFF



Rebecca BIASON will be joining the staff of IHPME as the new full-time Communications and Events Coordinator. For the past four years, Rebecca has worked as the Communications Coordinator for the Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies at the University of Toronto, and has a wide range

of experience in communications strategy, social media implementation, digital marketing and events coordination. She has a Master of Arts degree in Theatre and Literature from the University of Toronto, and a post-graduate certificate in Digital Media Publishing from Centennial College. She is currently pursuing a certificate in Digital Communications Management and Social Media Strategy from the School of Continuing Studies.

She is thrilled to be working within such a dynamic department and is looking forward to using her skills and creative knowledge in strategic communications, to enhance the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation's brand image, outreach and public appeal.

SAVE THE DATE IHPME EDUCATION DAY

Tuesday, April 4 | 8 am - Noon

Location: Hart House, Music Room, 7 Hart House Circle

Register Now: <http://my.alumni.utoronto.ca/edday2017>

PUBLICATION

[A J Culyer](#)

International Journal of Health Policy and Management

[HTA-algorithm or process? Comment on 'Expanded HTA: enhancing fairness and legitimacy'](#)

T Wilkinson, K P Claxton, M J Sculpher, P Revill, A H Briggs, Y Teerawattansanon, E Asfaw, R Lopert, [A J Culyer](#), D Walker
Value in Health

[The International Decision Support Initiative Reference Case for Economic Evaluation: an aid to thought](#)

K Chalkidou, R Li, [A J Culyer](#), A Glassman, K J Hoffman, Y Teerawattananon

International Journal of Health Policy and Management
[Health Technology Assessment: global advocacy and local realities: comment on 'Priority Setting for Universal Health Coverage: We Need Evidence-Informed Deliberative Processes, Not Just More Evidence on Cost-Effectiveness](#)

[A J Culyer](#),

An Undisciplined Economist: Robert G Evans on Health Economics, Health Care Policy, and Population Health, McGill-Queen's University Press

[On economics and economists: Foreword](#)

[A J Culyer](#),

Economia y Salud

[Economists versus Deciders- a note on aspects of 'Grappling with cost-effectiveness'](#)

Purdy, S., Little, M., Mayes, C. et al.

Bioethical Inquiry (2017).

[Debates about Conflict of Interest in Medicine: Deconstructing a Divided Course](#)

EVENTS

[POHR Seminar with Health Policy Rounds](#)

March 7 | Noon - 1:30 pm | HS412 | Free

Dr. Stephen Peckham - Involving Patients and the Public: Lessons from Health Care Commissioning in England

[CCHE Seminar Series](#)

Fridays | 10:00 am - Noon | HS100 | Free

Please note the upcoming seminars:

- [Bernard Van den Berg, March 10](#)
- [Mayvis Ribiera, March 17](#)

[CRNCC HSPRN and IHPME Joint Symposium](#)

[Living Well with Dementia](#)

March 16 | 8:30 am - 2:00 pm | Ryerson University | \$

This symposium tackles key assumptions around dementia and dementia care starting with the assumption that persons living with dementia are incapable of contributing to their own lives or the lives of others. It considers initiatives now being undertaken internationally, nationally and locally, to move beyond thinking about dementia as an individual medical condition, to dementia as a collective responsibility best addressed through the creation of dementia-friendly communities.

Registration: www.eply.com/1773026

[Resiliency and Change: Finding Your Balance in a Dynamic Health Care System](#)

IHPME Alumni Association (formerly SOG) and the GTA Chapter of the Canadian College of Health Leaders (CCHL)

March 20 | 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm | Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital | \$

Featuring four experienced and compelling health care leaders who will share their personal stories and explain how future leaders can respond effectively to finding balance during health system change.

This event will borrow from the popular TED Talks format to give each leader 10 minutes to present and end with an opportunity for audience participation.

[Register Online](#)

[Learning More About the World Health Organization \(WHO\) - A Conversation with Prof. Gary Aslanyan](#)

March 28 | 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm | HS610 | Free

The Office of Global Public Health, Education & Training will be hosting an informal talk about the World Health Organization (WHO) with Professor Garry Aslanyan, Manager, Partnerships and Governance at the WHO

RSVP by March 24 to ghoffice.dlsph@utoronto.ca

[Education Day: Mobilizing Health Systems to Meet the Challenges of Climate Change](#)

April 4 | 8:00 am - 12:00 pm | Hart House, Music Room | \$

This year, the theme of Education Day is the environmental and social responsibility of the health sector. This follows from the obvious importance of the issues, but also the burgeoning University of Toronto-wide efforts to address the



"Environment, Climate Change and Sustainability," as well as IHPME's own efforts in this area, with a committee that is working to identify ways for IHPME to address these issues.

Featured Speakers include: Dr. Curtis Lavoie, Pediatric Emergency Physician CHEO, Chair CHEO Green Team; Dr. Eileen de Villa, Medical Officer of Health, City of Toronto; Brian Hilberdink, President Novo Nordisk Canada and Dr. Edward Rubenstein, Director-Environmental Compliance, Energy and Sustainability at UHN.

[Register TODAY!](#)



World Health Summit of the M8 Alliance

May 8 - 9 | Palais des congrès de Montréal | \$

The Université de Montréal and the Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal (IRCM) / Montreal Clinical Research Institute are proud to announce that they will be hosting the 1st World Health Summit (WHS) of the M8 Alliance to be held in North America. The world leaders in global health will be attending this prestigious event, including over 800 researchers, doctors, industry leaders, decision-makers, government members and civil society actors from around the world.

Based on the theme of Health and Healthcare Delivery in Pluralistic Societies, this interdisciplinary event will focus on the question of human diversity in the practice, education, research and public policy pertaining to health.

[Register Online](#)

Save the Date IHPME Research Day

Wednesday, May 3 | 8:30 am - 7:00 pm

Location: Health Sciences Building, 6th & 7th Flr

Call for Poster and Oral Presentations:
Deadline April 7

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

2017-2018 COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM IN PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY

Become a part of a dynamic training and research community in Public Health Policy!

Engage with academic mentors, students and policymakers in governmental and non-governmental public health agencies to learn about real-world policy issues and public health policy agenda setting, and enhance the professional skills required to succeed in your profession.

Any student who has been accepted into a graduate-level program at the University of Toronto may apply.

For application forms and more information about the program, please visit our website or send your information request to publichealthpolicy@utoronto.ca.

Website: www.publichealthpolicy.utoronto.ca

Application Deadline: May 5, 2017 - 5:00 pm.

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

We're pleased to receive submissions of 400 words or less for consideration in upcoming editions. If you'd like your event listed, please send full details.

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rebecca.biason@utoronto.ca