



Hebrew University-Hadassah Braun School of Public Health & Community Medicine International MPH Alumni Newsletter

May 2019



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Message from Dr. Maureen Malowany, IMPH Alumni Academic Coordinator

Dear Alumni,

With a month until the end of classes and the Second Semester, our current students are struggling through the last stages of their COPC course and revisions to their proposals for Masters thesis or paper and projects for elective courses. In addition, they begin an intensive course on Monitoring &



Evaluation, taught by Dr. Segun Afolabi (Nigeria | IMPH 2005). All is not work – tours to Haifa, Caesarea, Acre and public health site visits coming up to Abu Ghosh and the Bedouin centres near Be'er Sheva in the Negev plus other events are planned as we move into summer.

IMPH Alumni West Africa Regional Conference – Cape Coast, Ghana, 24-28 February 2019

Our alumni have been equally busy! Forty-five IMPH alumni of a possible regional total of 122, counting graduates from 1973 but approximately 60 who graduated after 1995, from Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and The Gambia participated. They were joined by eight partially-funded alumni from Kenya (Raphael Mando Onyango, Grace Miheso, Ulo Benson Otieno, Jane Osindo) Russia (Kirill Danishevskiy), Turkey (Belgin Unal), Uganda (Vincent Batwala) and the United States (Anna Schmidt). Conference discussions were enhanced by the presence and work presented by these alumni from other regions.

As in previous years, planning for this Conference, we polled and debated among our alumni to set the Conference theme. West Africa Region alumni were concerned with the following issues: how to invest in the health workforce, improving the quality of health services, strengthening community systems for health advancement, expanding access to mental health services and developing a strategic approach towards achieving universal health care (UHC). We agreed on an umbrella theme “Strengthening Health Systems: Investing in the Future” that would encourage participants to report on their work within this framework, where appropriate, and to explore the regional strategies and decisions regarding UHC. We were very fortunate to have a senior

Ghanaian research consultant and policy-maker, Dr. Delanyo Dovlo, former Director, WHO-AFRO Health Systems Cluster, as Keynote Speaker. As the lead author of the WHO-AFRO policy report 'Leave No One Behind', Dr. Dovlo outlined the Report's major points and underlying strategies to meet WHO-AFRO targets, with particular reference to West Africa.

We are preparing a Declaration on the Conference Theme for distribution to policy makers, stakeholders, international agencies!

We will send you a link to view alumni presentations. Selected photos from the Conference can be accessed at: [https://medicine.ekmd.huji.ac.il/schools/publichealth/En/IMPH/IMPHAlumni/Pages/GhanaConference 2019.aspx](https://medicine.ekmd.huji.ac.il/schools/publichealth/En/IMPH/IMPHAlumni/Pages/GhanaConference%202019.aspx)



Pears Seed Grants

We are very pleased to announce the following 2019 Seed Grant Awards:

Dr. Smita Todkar (India | IMPH 2017) "Menstrual Hygiene Management among adolescent girls in urban slums of Ranchi, Jharkhand, India"

Dr. David Okia (Uganda | IMPH 2013) "Assessment of existing Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices regarding infectious waste management among health care workers in Rural Health Centre, Amuria, Uganda".

Dr. Kimton Opiyo (Uganda | IMPH 2018), Mentor: Dr. Barnabas Natamba (Uganda | IMPH 2006) : "Burden and risk factors of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and Major Depressive Disorder among South Sudanese refugees in Uganda"

7th International Conference on Health Policy, Jerusalem, 15-17 September 2019

Abstracts and/or oral presentations have been submitted by 20 alumni with 10 accepted to date by the Conference Scientific Committee. We await the final results and look forward to seeing alumni here in Jerusalem in September!

IMPH Graduation 18 September 2019

We are very excited to welcome Dr. Frank Anthony (Guyana | IMPH 2000) as our Keynote Speaker. Frank's work in advocacy and public health with a special focus on HIV/AIDS, his active participation in Guyana government especially as Minister of Culture Youth and Sports, and his Public Health teaching inspire us all!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/CONTINUING EDUCATION

I encourage you to access the two following links for **free online** short courses. The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine has a number of offerings under health!! Please let me know if you have completed any of the courses in public health and would recommend the course to other alumni.

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses>

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/women-children-health>

With warm wishes to you and your families,

Maureen

IMPH Alumni Academic Coordinator

Message from Reut Kramer, IMPH Alumni Communications Coordinator

Dear Alumni,

In the past few months we have opened regional alumni WhatsApp groups that basically cover the entire globe. We were pleased to see that so many alumni are interested in taking part in these groups, to get in closer touch with the School and also to network with other alumni in their region. We encourage more alumni to participate in these groups – we moderate to ensure posts are appropriate and professionally-oriented. If you are interested in joining these groups, send me an email to reutkra@savion.huji.ac.il and I will send you a link to your local group.



We will soon welcome the class of 2019 to our Alumni Social Platform. They will be added to the platform as students in order to get a glimpse of our alumni program, and start connecting with senior alumni, as the new graduates get ready for their career post-IMPH. We are confident that you will welcome them to our IMPH family with your good advice and willingness to network with your brand-new colleagues. We would like to wish them success and good luck in the final stages of their studies here as they approach the end of their second semester, final exams and work on their Masters paper or thesis.

We are looking forward to welcoming our alumni who will attend the 7th International Jerusalem Conference on Health Policy, 15-17 September 2019. We were very pleased that so many of our alumni have submitted an abstract to this conference. As always, we encourage you to take a more active part in our alumni program and suggested academic activities. Keep us updated about your career progress and achievements!

Warmest regards,

Reut

IMPH Alumni Communications Coordinator

West Africa IMPH Alumni Meeting, Ghana 2019

Conference Program



Braun School of Public Health
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Braun School of Public Health & Community Medicine

25-28 February 2019

Elmina Beach Resort Hotel, Cape Coast, Ghana

STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEMS: INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

Sunday 24 February	
14:00	Transport from Accra-Kotoka International Airport to Elmina Beach Hotel, Cape Coast
17:00-18:00	Check-in at Hotel
18:00-18:30	Conference Registration
18:30-19:30	Dinner at Hotel
Monday 25 February	
7:30-8:30	Breakfast
8:30-9:00	<p><u>Welcome & Conference Opening</u></p> <p>Yehuda Neumark, Director, Braun School Ronit Calderon-Margalit, Director, IMPH Program Maureen Malowany, IMPH Alumni Academic Coordinator Hon. Kwaku Agyemang-Manu, Minister of Health of Ghana Shmuel Micha, Chargé d'affaires & Dana Chocron, Development, Academic & Military Affairs Officer, Embassy of Israel to Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone</p>
	<p><u>SESSION I - Universal Health Coverage and Health Systems</u></p> <p>Chair: Ronit Calderon-Margalit</p>
9:00-9:30	<p><u>Keynote Address</u></p> <p><i>Leave No One Behind: Strengthening Health Systems for UHC and the SDGs in Africa</i> Dr. Delanyo Dovo, former Director of Health Systems and Services, WHO Regional Office for Africa (AFRO)</p>
9:30-10:10	<p>Alumni Presentations:</p> <p>Philip Bassey (Ghana) <i>Strengthening health systems through equitable health system financing: a cross-national sub-Saharan African comparative study</i> Selassi Amah D'Almeida (Ghana) <i>UHC through health systems strengthening – case study West Africa</i></p>
10:10-10:30	Discussion
10:30-11:00	Coffee/Tea Break

Monday 25 February cont'd	
11:00-12:45	Alumni Presentations: Grace Miheso (Kenya) <i>Regional inter-governational organisation leadership in harmonising health systems agendas</i> Mariamama Murray (Sierra Leone) <i>Health system strengthening: building capacity</i> Dolf Kofi Badu Sutherland (Ghana) <i>Post-disaster management of a health system</i> Eta Mbong Ngole (Cameroon) <i>Challenges strengthening health systems in protracted complex crises settings: case study of Northern Mali - promoting malnutrition management resilience through CMAM Surge Approach</i>
12:45-13:45	Lunch
	<u>SESSION II - Health Systems, Double Burdens and Health Professionals (1)</u> Chair: Maureen Malowany
13:45-14:15	<u>Session Opening Address</u> <i>Health systems underpin successful malaria control/elimination: a case study of Ghana</i> Prof. Fred Binka (Ghana)
14:15-15:30	Alumni Presentations: Uwem Effiong Inyang (Nigeria) <i>Mixed methods for assessing malaria program interventions</i> Malick Yissibe Kone (Mali) <i>Ebola 2014 outbreak in Mali: short and long-term challenges</i> Oluwafunke Olufemi Ilesanmi (Nigeria) <i>The role of data in communicable disease programming</i>
15:30-16:00	Coffee/Tea Break
	<u>SESSION II - Health Systems, Double Burdens and Health Professionals (2)</u>
16:00-17:00	Alumni Presentations: Kandyang Modi Dumo Jansuk (South Sudan) <i>HIV treatment task shifting - The South Sudan experience</i> Ulo Benson (Kenya) <i>Recruiting, training and retaining community health workers: experiences of Kenya's Strategy for Community Health</i> Segun Afolabi (Nigeria) <i>Suicidal behavior among doctors practicing in a semi-urban community in Southwest Nigeria</i>
17:00-17:30	Discussion
17:30-18:30	Networking
18:30-19:30	Dinner



Tuesday 26 February	
7:30-8:30	Breakfast
8:30-9:15	Ronit Calderon-Margalit <i>Quality measurement in healthcare</i>
	<u>SESSION III - International Perspectives</u> Chair: Yehuda Neumark
9:15-10:30	Alumni Presentations: Belgin Ünal (Turkey) <i>Impact of NCD policies on NCD risk factors, morbidity and mortality trends in Europe, 2000-2014</i> Kirill Danishevskiy (Russia) <i>Tobacco and alcohol control in Russia: lessons learned</i> Anna Schmitt (USA) <i>The Development & Reclamation of the American Indian Healthcare System</i>
10:30-10:45	Coffee/Tea Break
10:45- 11:45	Vincent Batwala (Uganda) <i>Integrated Community Case Management (ICCM) of fever, pneumonia and diarrhea using Village Health Teams</i> Sola Oresanya (Nigeria) <i>Assessing the feasibility of management of severe acute malnutrition by low-literacy community health workers using a simplified protocol</i> Gbenga Adebayo (Nigeria) <i>High blood pressure and its association with obesity in Laspotech, Nigeria</i>
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13:00-16:30	Getting Out & About Option 1: Excursion to Elmina Fort Option 2: Kakum Canopy Walk
18:30-19:30	Dinner & Activity TBA

Wednesday 27 February	
7:30-8:30	Breakfast
8:30-9:00	IMPH Alumni Workforce - Strengthening health systems together
	<u>SESSION IV - Sexual & Reproductive Health</u> Chair: Ronit Calderon-Margalit
9:00-10:00	Alumni Presentations: Arthur Kouamé (Côte d'Ivoire) <i>Maternal mortality issues in Côte d'Ivoire</i> Luchuo Engelbert Bain (Cameroon) <i>Decision-making in adolescent pregnancies in Jamestown, Accra, Ghana</i> Bayo Owwoeye (Nigeria) <i>Human Papilloma Virus & vaccination in Nigeria</i>
10:00-10:30	Coffee/Tea Break
10:30-11:45	Dennis Addo (Ghana) <i>Using public health to achieve the social agenda: perspective from the private sector</i> Comfort Kunak Ogar (Nigeria) <i>Direct patient reporting of adverse drug reactions</i> Jane Osindo (Kenya) <i>Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Partnerships in urban informal settlements, Kenya</i>
11:45-12:15	Discussion
12:30-13:30	Lunch
Wednesday 27 February cont'd	
13:30-14:30	Ayelet Levin-Karp , Head of Trade and Economic Mission to Ghana, Embassy of Israel to Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone
	<u>SESSION V - Pears Seed Grant Alumni Presentations</u> Chair: Maureen Malowany
14:30-15:15	Emmanuel Ogum (Nigeria) <i>Rural-urban comparison in the willingness to pay for health benefit package under a risk pooling system in Osun State, Nigeria</i> Claudette Amuzu (Sierra Leone) <i>Long-term sequelae of Ebola child survivors in Sierra Leone</i>
15:15-15:45	Alumni Activity Updates & Feedback - Maureen Malowany
15:45-16:15	Coffee/Tea Break
16:15-16:30	Conference Evaluation
16:30-17:30	Conference Closing (certificates, photos)
17:30-18:30	Hotel Checkout
18:30-19:30	Dinner
Thursday 28 February	
06:00	Departure to Accra-Kotoka International Airport (boxed breakfasts will be provided)

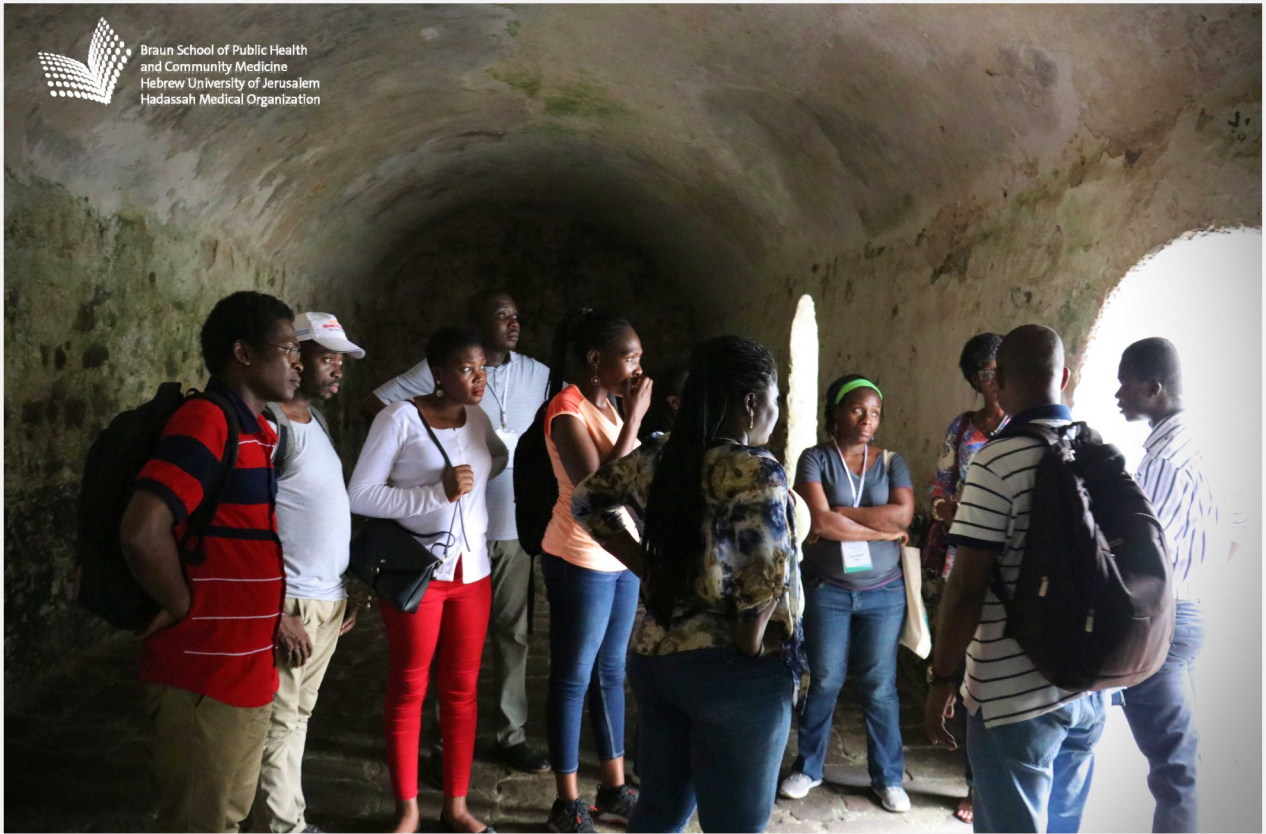
Pictures from the West Africa IMPH Alumni Meeting: Ghana 2019







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We thank Dr. Gbanga Adebayo (Nigeria | IMPH 2015) for taking and editing these lovely pictures!

Braun School News

Mazal Tov and Congratulations to Prof. Ora Paltiel upon being awarded the 2019 Nefesh B'Nefesh Bonei Zion Prize in Science & Medicine. The Bonei Zion (Builders of Zion) prize is awarded each year to immigrants to Israel who have made outstanding contributions to Israeli society in the areas of Science & Medicine; Education, Community & Non-Profit; Culture, Art & Sports; and Israel Advocacy.



Dr. Yael Bar-Zeev, Braun School Faculty, was re-elected as Director of the Israeli Medical Association for Smoking Cessation and Prevention. Dr. Bar-Zeev is also one of the association's founders. In the past year, the Israeli Medical Association for Smoking Cessation and Prevention took part in some remarkable achievements in the smoking cessation and prevention field through successfully lobbying for new and amended legislation to provide support for smoking cessation. We are very pleased to officially welcome Yael as Braun School Faculty member.



Congratulations to Dr. Shai, Carmi, Braun School Faculty, as his article, "Identity inference of genomic data using long-range familial searches", was selected as one of the leading articles in *Science*, 2018.

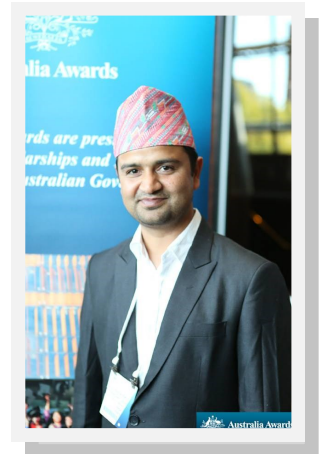


Congratulations to Dr. Raanan Raz, Braun School Faculty, whose article "Live-Birth Bias and Observed Associations between Air Pollution and Autism" was selected as one of the most important articles for 2018, *American Journal of Epidemiology*.

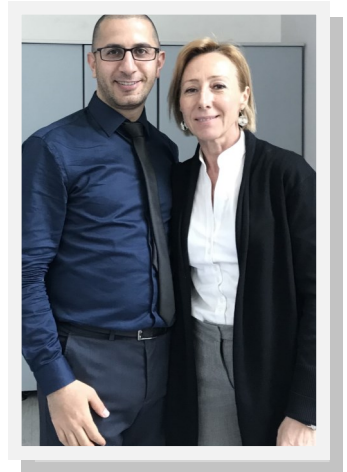


Alumni News

Congratulations to IAjay Acharya (Nepal | IMPH 2016) who has received the Ward Cates Emerging Scientific Leader Award for 2018, a fellowship to support research in the natural and social sciences. Ajay's research project is titled "Using qualitative formative research and quantitative monitoring data to inform design of M-nutrition interventions aimed at improving coverage and reach of health mothers groups" with the objective to identify the opportunities and risk of using mobile phone and SMS improve the coverage and quality of the HMG.



Congratulations to Prof. Sibel Sakarya (Turkey | IMPH 1998) and Dr. Tevfik Bayram (Turkey | IMPH 2016) upon receiving the Turkish Neurosurgical Society Scientific Research of the Year Award, with their team, for research titled: "A clinical scoring system to predict the development of intraventricular hemorrhage (IVH) in premature infants".



Congratulations to Katherine Bleiberg (USA | IMPH 2018) upon being awarded a Professor Karl Y. & Irina Guggenheim Memorial Scholarship for her thesis research titled: "Trends in palm oil production and changes in food security: a country level analysis from 2000-2015", and to Ms. Deena Schwartz (current International MPH student) upon being awarded a Chester & Taube Hurwitz Foundation Scholarship (via the Hadassah Women's Zionist Organization of America)!



Congratulations also to the 20+ Israeli Masters and Doctoral students who received scholarships and prizes at the ceremony which took place on December 26th, 2018.

Congratulations!

Mazal tov to Netanela Weiss-Faratci (USA | IMPH 2014) on the safe arrival of baby Roe! Wishing you and your family a lifetime of joy and good health!



A heartfelt mazal tov upon recent marriage to:



Dr. Claudette Amuzu (Sierra Leone | IMPH 2016)



Dr. Mohamed Boie Jalloh (Sierra Leone | IMPH 2017)



Karamchand Patil (India | IMPH 2018)



Dr. Obichi Obiajunwa (Nigeria | IMPH 2015)

Wishing all happy couples a lifetime of joy and happiness together in good health!

Condolences

The entire IMPH family extends sincere condolences to:

Dr. Gbenga Adebayo (Nigeria | IMPH 2016), on the recent passing of his father

Dr. Ilesanmi Oluwafunke's (Nigeria | IMPH 2012), on the recent passing of her father

Dr. Desmond Nicholson (Guyana | IMPH 2018), on the recent passing of his mother

May you and your families know no further sorrow.



Visits to the School

Dr. Andrea Wershof Schwartz (Canada | IMPH 2009) visited the school and presented a great talk to our International MPH students titled:

“Aging, Frailty and Public Health: Clinical Perspectives and Epidemiological Challenges”.



We had the pleasure of welcoming Dr. Antonina Dorokhina (Ukraine | IMPH 2018) as she visited the Braun School. Although the visit was brief, it was great to meet again and catch up!



We are pleased to welcome Prof. Segun Afolabi (Nigeria | IMPH 2005), certified M&E instructor and senior faculty member in the Department of Community Health, Faculty of Clinical Sciences, Obafemi Awolowo University (Ile Ife, Nigeria), who is currently (29/05/2019) visiting the Braun School to teach an intensive 4-day M&E workshop to our International MPH class within the framework of the Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) Workshop taught by Prof. Yehuda Neumark and Dr. Yael Bar-Zeev. This intensive workshop became a tradition in our International MPH program, and we are delighted to have our alumnus teaching this course to the class.



Alumni write to the School

The IMPH Alumni Program Connection Power

Dr. Sergey Zhivin (Russia | IMPH 2011): *"Thanks to a strong network of IMPH alumni, Siyu Zhang (China | IMPH 2018) and myself have recently developed a Horizon 2020 proposal titled "Risk-based and Integrated Approach to Improve Food Safety in Europe-China" that has been submitted to the European Commission under the flagship EU-China program SFS-37-2019 "Integrated Approaches to Food Safety Controls across the Food Chain"."*

Siyu Zhang (China | IMPH 2018) adds: *"We both hope that we could have more opportunities to collaborate with alumni from other countries. We should all be willing to make IMPH alumni more connected".*



Sergey and Siyu meeting in Beijing, May 2019

