

SPH hosts lunchtime webinars

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You can learn about happenings at the school, participate in discussions on public health topics of the day or reconnect with former classmates and favorite faculty members through the school's Facebook page, and follow UCLASPH on Twitter for important updates.

In addition, alumni are invited to join the UCLA School of Public Health Alumni Network on the professional networking site LinkedIn.



Starting in October, the School of Public Health began hosting a monthly series of lunchtime webinars. These lunchtime discussions, available through the school's website, present a valuable opportunity to hear from faculty experts about some of today's most critical public health issues. Among other things, webinar participants will learn what they can do to create healthier environments in the face of disease and environmental challenges; receive a virtual tour of the new Global Bio Lab at UCLA, a state-of-the-art facility that will vastly increase the rate at which infectious agents are submitted, tested and analyzed; hear how food marketing has vastly altered the culture of food and eating, leading to the current obesity epidemic; and see the role and impact that population health surveys have on implementing health care reform. For a schedule of upcoming webinars and to view previous webinars, please visit <http://ph.ucla.edu/>.

curbing teen suicide motivates SPH students

Ashley Roberts and Anne Sutkowi, second-year students at the School of Public Health, are working with students at Olympic High School in Santa Monica as part of a health promotion and suicide prevention program they created called STRIDES. The program, inspired by research linking suicide rates and emotional health, promotes physical, mental and emotional well being through physical activity, stress relief and development of a positive self-image.

During the 10-week project, Roberts and Sutkowi are working at the continuation high school with students who have faced great challenges in their home life and those who know someone who has thought about suicide or committed suicide. Twice a week they lead students in stretches and jogs on campus, hoping to help the students integrate running into their daily lives, since it is an activity that is both an individual and a team sport. Says Roberts: "We encourage them to encourage one another, but it's a solitary thing that they can do by themselves for stress relief." The project culminates in the STRIDES 5K Run/Walk at Dockweiler Beach in November. The program was made possible by support from the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship, which assists leaders addressing the needs of underserved communities.



new associate dean for global health



Dr. Onyebuchi Arah, an associate professor in the Department of Epidemiology, has been appointed the school's first associate dean for global health. Arah will help implement one of the school's strategic goals: building a world-class global health presence. Arah brings a unique perspective in both his training and his experience. A native Nigerian, he received much of his advanced academic education in Holland. As a pediatrician trained in public health, health services research, health policy and epidemiologic methods, Arah studies issues such as the role of health systems in global health and performance assessment in health care. He has been a member of the school's faculty since 2006.

special edition of alumni directory

A special anniversary edition of the Alumni Directory will be produced to celebrate the School of Public Health's 50th Anniversary in 2011. The directory will feature contact information, photos and essays from five decades of distinguished alumni. All alumni will be soon contacted by the vendor Harris Connect to gather directory information. You may also visit www.ucla.edu/sphalumni to ensure the school has up-to-date information about you so that you will be able to reconnect with fellow alumni.



school turning 50

On the eve of the school's 50th anniversary, preparations are underway for a year of celebrating five decades of innovative and high-impact research, teaching and community service. Beginning with a gala on the evening of February 2, 2011 (more details on the back cover), the school will be hosting numerous events and activities throughout the year to enable all friends and supporters to participate in the celebration. Those not in Los Angeles can join in one of the lunchtime webinars (see previous page). The school will also hold a special celebration for alumni at the annual American Public Health Association meeting to be held in San Francisco in November 2011.

UCLA's School of Public Health didn't start out as a graduate school. From 1946 to 1983, UCLA provided undergraduate instruction leading to an advanced degree in public health, which was offered beginning in 1957. It wasn't until 1961 that the University of California Regents created an independent School of Public Health on the Westwood campus. Join us in celebrating the myriad accomplishments of alumni, students and faculty during the past 50 years, and help the school continue on the same trajectory for the next 50.

DID YOU KNOW...

You are a lifetime member of the
UCLA School of Public Health
Alumni Association if you are a graduate
of the UCLA School of Public Health
and its executive programs.
If you would like more information
about the activities
of the Public Health Alumni Association,
please call (310) 825-6464 or e-mail
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