

dean's message

AS PUBLIC HEALTH CONTINUES to receive unprecedented media attention, we are reminded that our field doesn't recognize borders or boundaries. From recent headlines, people are learning what we've always known – an infectious disease identified in one person can reach a global audience over

the course of a few short hours through the ease of air travel. We also know that the reason we are forced to follow the international flight path of one person infected with drug-resistant tuberculosis and all those he encountered is that somewhere along the way, health policies broke down.

Our work in the field of public health has never been more vital – or had such a far reach. As public health's focus becomes more global, our role as educators of the next public health workforce must broaden to encompass a global landscape.

The School of Public Health has made great strides over the past several years recruiting infectious disease and global health policy experts to join our faculty. You'll read of two new hires in our new-faculty section and get a closer look at one through our faculty profile on page 12. We continue to focus energy and resources into recruiting top-notch faculty because we understand the importance of providing our students with access to the best and brightest scientists in the ever-evolving field of public health.

Securing funding to recruit new faculty and support our students is an important role for the school. As you'll see in the accompanying chart, we continue to be successful in our endeavors. As of early June, this year's total receipt of contracts and grants exceeds \$71 million. This jump in funding reflects the momentum of an exciting new project the school is undertaking.

The U.S. Department of Defense has awarded \$12 million to date and we have also received a \$9 million grant from California's Office of Homeland Security to build the first high speed, high volume infectious disease laboratory network of its kind. This is a major undertaking that will enable real-time surveillance of infectious diseases on a global scale. We have tapped many of our nation's experts on infectious diseases and laboratory science to serve on a Scientific Advisory Board, helping to ensure that we create a facility that



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will be a key national and international resource. To that end, we were honored when the NIH recently named the school a Center of Excellence for Influenza Research.

My message is focused on our global work, but that doesn't diminish the importance of the work we are doing to serve our local communities. In this issue you will also read about the work our new Center to Eliminate Health Disparities is doing to not only understand why health disparities exist, but find real solutions to level the playing field.

When I think about all the work of our faculty and students and the global reach of public health I'm reminded that public health really isn't about the public at all – it is about you, it is about me, it is about all of us.



Linda Rosenstock, M.D., M.P.H.
Dean

CONTRACT & GRANT AWARDS

