

new public health minor program

For the first time, 25 UCLA undergraduate students are taking courses offered by the school toward a minor in public health.

The Public Health Minor, first offered this fall, will provide opportunities for undergraduates to gain a foundation in public health.

Interest in public health among UCLA undergraduates has grown in recent years, sparked by a popular undergraduate introduction-to-public-health course developed by Drs. Lester Breslow and Ruth Roemer. "In the last five years, we have seen a fairly substantial undergraduate enrollment in our 100-level introductory courses for M.P.H. students," notes Dr. Gerald F. Kominski, professor and associate dean for academic programs at the School of Public Health. "The minor provides these students with an opportunity to receive formal credit for this coursework."

Many of the undergraduates enrolling in the Public Health Minor are interested in pursuing a graduate degree in public health, either alone or in conjunction with a medical degree. "Based on our first group of applicants, we are attracting excellent students," Kominski says.

dr. gail harrison elected to institute of medicine

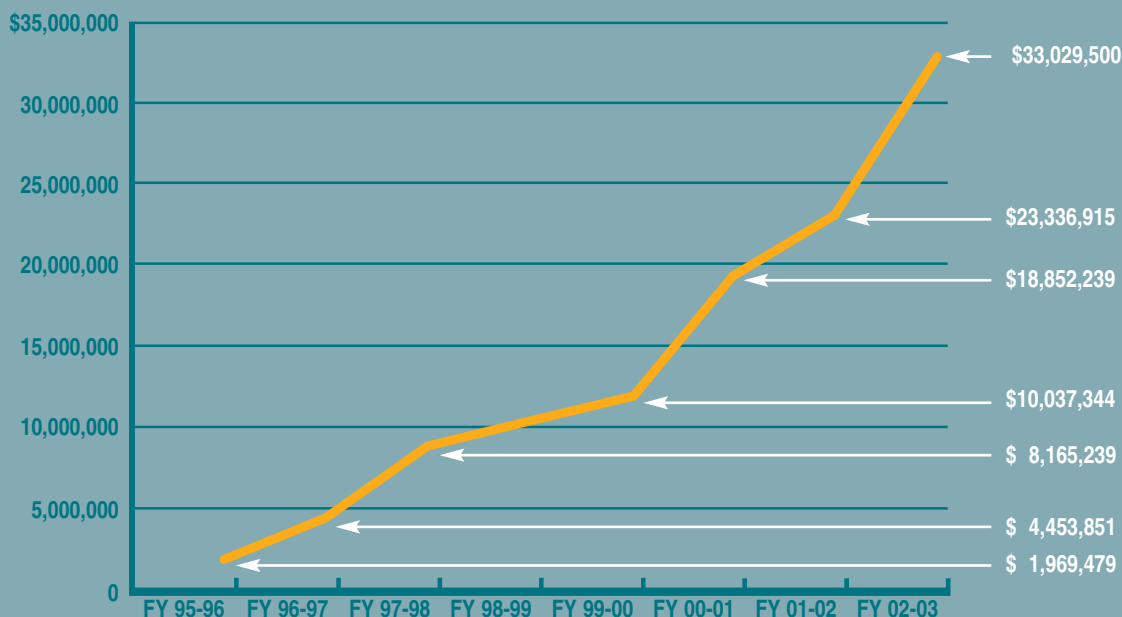


Dr. Gail Harrison, professor and vice-chair of the school's Department of Community Health Sciences, has been elected to membership in the prestigious Institute of Medicine (IOM) for her many contributions to the field of human nutrition and health.

Harrison, who holds graduate degrees in nutritional sciences from Cornell University and in biological anthropology from the University of Arizona, has been a member of the school's faculty since 1992. Her research focuses on functional consequences of malnutrition and food intake, and on dietary and nutritional assessment in various populations. She has conducted field research in the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America, and is past president of the Society for International Nutrition Research. Harrison has served as a consultant to various national and international organizations, including UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the National Institutes of Health. She is a senior scientist in the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research.

The IOM is a unit of the National Academy of Sciences, a federally chartered organization that advises Congress and other government groups about key issues relating to science and health policy. Members are drawn from health professions and other disciplines. Harrison's election brings to seven the number of current UCLA School of Public Health faculty who are IOM members; the others are Drs. Ronald Andersen, Lester Breslow, Robert Brook, Jonathan Fielding and Dean Jamison, along with Dean Linda Rosenstock.

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Cumulative Progress Through Fiscal Year 2002-03



spotlight: public health alumni association

The Public Health Alumni Association seeks to build and strengthen personal and professional connections between the UCLA School of Public Health and its current students and alumni. The association aims to raise the visibility and profile of the school, thereby increasing its reputation, value, and involvement within the public health, health care, and local and international communities. Likewise, the association strives to increase public health awareness in the lay community. To foster these goals, it supports and strengthens alumni participation in programs that promote the school's research, education, and community service. These programs include public health lectures and forums, networking activities, alumni contributions, and student career and mentoring programs.



PHAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS — l. to r., first row: Genus Heidary, David Swanson Hollinger, Katherine Minnium, Maureen Flannery, Joyce Page, Joy Blevins, Ruth Roemer; second row: Marjorie Kagawa-Singer, Tom Cruz, Catharina Wong, Michelle Popowitz, David Krasnow, Christopher Mardesich. Absent from the shot are Clifford Howell, Rosa Pechersky, Kynna Wright.

first-ever SPH alumni directory in the works

The UCLA School of Public Health, working with Harris Publishing Company, the nation's leading publisher of alumni directories, is collecting information that will be used to publish the school's most comprehensive alumni directory to date.

The directory will be a valuable resource containing personal, academic, and business information on all of the school's alumni. It will enable alumni to locate and network with colleagues in their specialty areas, or to find an old study partner.

Information to be included in the directory is being obtained through a questionnaire mailed to all alumni. Alumni who have not returned a directory questionnaire are asked to do so as soon as possible. For more information or if you have not received a questionnaire, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at (310) 825-6464.

NEW ASSISTANT DEAN FOR COMMUNICATIONS



SARAH ANDERSON has joined the school as assistant dean for communications. Anderson has held a variety of key communications positions. Most recently she was at Rogers & Associates, where she led the team designing and implementing media relations strategies for First 5 California, charged with distributing tobacco tax monies to programs targeting children ages 0-5. Anderson also served as communications director for Rep. Elizabeth Furse (OR) and later for Rep. Loretta Sanchez (CA). Earlier work included serving as research director and then communications director for the League of Conservation Voters.

DID YOU KNOW...

You are a lifetime member of the UCLA School of Public Health Alumni Association (PHAA) if you are a graduate of the school and its executive programs.

Activities of the PHAA are growing. For more information, please call Susan Kanowith-Klein at (310) 825-6464, or e-mail phaa@support.ucla.edu.

The SPH ALUMNI e-NEWS brings information on events and people of special interest to alumni three times a year. If you are not already receiving this newsletter and would like to get it, please send your e-mail address with your name and current home and business addresses to publichealth@support.ucla.edu.