

UCLA PUBLIC HEALTH

Albert Carnesale, Ph.D.
Chancellor

Linda Rosenstock, M.D., M.P.H.
Dean, UCLA School of Public Health

Sarah Anderson
Assistant Dean for Communications

Julie Tisdale Pardi, M.A.
Senior Editor

Dan Gordon
Editor and Writer

Martha Widmann
Art Director

EDITORIAL BOARD

Richard Ambrose, Ph.D.
Associate Professor,
Environmental Health Sciences

Thomas R. Belin, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Biostatistics

F. A. Hagigi, Dr.P.H., M.B.A.
Associate Professor, Health Services

William Hinds, Ph.D.
Professor, Environmental Health Sciences

Hal Morgenstern, Ph.D.
Professor, Epidemiology

Michael Prelip, D.P.A.
Assistant Professor,
Community Health Sciences

Susan B. Sorenson, Ph.D.
Professor, Community Health Sciences

Thomas Cruz, Genus Heidary
Co-Presidents, Public Health Student Association

Joyce A. Page, M.S.P.H., J.D.
Past President, Alumni Association

features



4 Forecasting Public Health Trends for California

Model for projecting population health status trends under different scenarios would better inform the policy-making process.



6 Virginia Li: Helping Communities to Blossom

The seeds of a public health career were sown during a childhood in wartime China, where she now returns regularly to consult. Her new book tells the compelling story.

Complementary & Alternative Medicine

8



As CAM's popularity continues to rise, researchers examine the efficacy of the therapies and the reasons patients are turning to solutions outside the doctor's office.



16

Centers for Environmental Quality and Health

Solving environmental threats to health has never been more complex – or more important. The new CEQH is poised to meet the challenge.

Tackling Tough Questions on Pharmaceuticals



19

As the population ages and chronic illness increases, demand for prescription drugs soars. Who will pay for them?

in every issue

22 STUDENTS

24 RESEARCH

Cancer screening disparities...practice structure and physician performance...gaps in children's health and access...willingness to sell handguns illegally...driving risks for teens...quality indicators for county programs.

29 FACULTY

32 NEWS BRIEFS

ON THE COVER

The growing popularity of complementary and alternative medicine in this country has led to unprecedented efforts to learn about the reasons people choose CAM and the effectiveness of the therapies themselves. Cover photo/illustration by Martha Widmann. Images sourced from: 2003 © Getty Images.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Reed Hutchinson / TOC: CAM, Pharmaceuticals; p. 2; pp. 10-12; p. 15; pp. 20-23; p. 31; p. 33: Anderson Yvette Roman / cover and TOC: L; p. 6
 Wendy Hunter / TOC: CEQH; p. 16: L.A. skyline, worker health and safety; p. 18
 Andrea Hricko / p. 16: children and refinery
 Courtesy of Susan Kanowith-Klein / p. 35
 Courtesy of the L.A. County Department of Health Services / p. 4
 Courtesy of the UCLA School of Public Health / p. 5; p. 17
 Getty Images © 2003 / p. 13; p. 19; p. 26
 Photo/illustration for Forecasting feature by Martha Widmann. CA map: Getty Images © 2003

School of Public Health Home Page: www.ph.ucla.edu
 E-mail for Application Requests: app-request@admin.ph.ucla.edu

UCLA Public Health Magazine is published by the UCLA School of Public Health for the alumni, faculty, students, staff and friends of the school. Copyright 2003 by The Regents of the University of California. Permission to reprint any portion must be obtained from the editor. Contact Editor, UCLA Public Health Magazine, Box 951772, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1772. Phone: (310) 825-6381.