

Benjamin T. Crookston, MPH  
E-mail. benjamin.crookston@gmail.com

## **Education**

Currently enrolled in Public Health Doctoral Program at the University of Utah

MPH, Global Health Promotion, April, 2006  
Brigham Young University  
Project – Buddhist Nuns on the Move: An Innovative Approach to Improving Breastfeeding Practices in Cambodia

BS, Zoology (major) and Psychology (minor), August, 2003  
Brigham Young University

## **Data Skills**

Data collection, management and analysis (SAS, STATA, SPSS, Epi Info, Excel)

## **Professional Experience**

2006–Present                    *Research Associate, Associate Director of the Office of Global Health*  
Department of Family & Preventive Medicine, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

### *Teaching*

Class Title: Health Programs Planning and Implementation, FPMD 6550 (3 credits)

Class summary: Developing, implementing and evaluating health programs among disparate populations using various program planning and implementation methods, theories, and skills, including needs assessment, priority setting, program development, evaluation, and budgeting.

Class Title: Global Health, FPMD 6530 (3 credits)

Class summary: Identifying disease patterns in "developing" countries, exploring the social and cultural context of health, and reviewing behavior change strategies for improving well-being.

Class Title: Public Health: A Global Perspective, FPMD 4500 (3 credits)

Class summary: Introducing public health within a global perspective on disease and wellness at a population level. Content includes infectious disease, chronic disease and injury, environmental health, nutrition, mental health, global public health organizations, economics, and public health in special populations.

### *Research*

Serves as associate director of the Office of Global Health working with researchers, students and community volunteers to promote health among disparate populations. Collaborates with researchers from the University of Utah's School of Medicine to address a variety of health related research questions. Determines and applies appropriate statistical methods for the correct analysis of data. Communicates technical problems/solutions to investigators or research directors by reducing complex statistical results to non-technical language so they can be understood. Assists with the proper interpretation and presentation of results in various media, including articles for publications and seminar presentations. Areas of research include: malaria, poverty and child neglect, asthma, cancer screening, tonsillectomy procedures, and institutional capacity.

2006–Present                    *Part-Time Faculty*

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Department of Health Science, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, USA

*Teaching*

Class Title: Survey and Research Methods, HS 618 (3 credits)

Class summary: Designing, administering, and analyzing data collection instruments for research and evaluation in public health. Quantitative and qualitative methods.

Class Title: International Health, HS 480 (3 credits)

Class summary: Identifying disease patterns in "developing" countries, exploring the social and cultural context of health, and reviewing behavior change strategies for improving well-being.

*Research*

Addresses global health challenges through collaborative research, student mentoring, and teaching. Conducts quantitative research on behavior change related to maternal and child health, breastfeeding, complementary feeding, HIV/AIDS, malaria, and adolescent health.

2005–Present

*Consultant*

Freedom from Hunger, Ghana Field Office & Davis, CA

Provides technical assistance on the evaluation of microcredit with education interventions. Works as a team member of the research design and evaluation team for community randomized study to evaluate the impact of health and financial education on adolescent girls in India. As a team member, contributes to the generation of sample size calculations, development randomization schedule and survey instrument. Evaluated the impact of Freedom from Hunger's malaria modules on women's knowledge, attitudes and practices. Provided analytical and technical assistance for microcredit with malaria education research in Ghana. Conducted focus groups and collected follow-up impact data in rural Ghana villages. Analyzed data and assisted in development of impact report for dissemination of results to donors in addition to paper for publication.

2006–Present

*Consultant*

Cape Town Hygiene Promotion Partnership, Cape Town, South Africa

Provides technical assistance on hygiene promotion study in townships of Cape Town, South Africa. Oversees and monitors data collection in the field and data entry in the office. Conducts statistical analyses on burden of disease data and analyzes efficacy of hygiene education intervention. Generates necessary reports, statistics, and results for dissemination to project personnel and sponsor.

2004–Present

*Consultant (pro bono)*

The Reproductive and Child Health Alliance, Cambodia

Evaluated the impact of Buddhist nuns and wat (pagoda) grannies on early and exclusive breastfeeding. Conducted qualitative and quantitative data analysis of breastfeeding program in rural areas. Trained Cambodian peers in data analysis. Provided technical input into data collection, management and analysis. Analyzed data and wrote reports for various health projects, including birth spacing, breastfeeding, and post-abortion care.

2004–2006

*Research Assistant*

Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, USA

Addressed global health challenges through collaborative research, student mentoring, and fundraising. Coordinated and supervised efforts of 12 graduate and undergraduate students in various research projects. Researched health issues among populations in Cambodia, Bolivia, and Ghana.

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2006                      *Consultant (pro bono)*  
Mamta Health Institute for Mother and Child, India

Secured grant to travel to India to work with the Mamta Health Institute. Analyzed survey of Indian NGOs to identify needs and strengths of members of maternal and child health network. Designed and produced reporting method for disseminating results to NGO network members.

2005                      *Intern*  
Indian Health Service, Whiteriver, Arizona, USA

Worked as member of multi-agency team responding to outbreak of Rocky Mountain spotted fever among members of the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Worked with Epidemic Intelligence Service personnel from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state epidemiologists to conduct tick trappings with accompanying data collection, entry and analysis. Alongside tribal members, created and distributed health education materials. Under the supervision of Indian Health Service, coordinated reservation-wide clean-up effort.

FIELD EXPERIENCE in Cambodia, Fort Apache Indian Reservation, Ghana, India, South Africa

### Peer-Reviewed Publications

1. Asche A, McAdam-Marx C, Seal B, **Crookston BT**, Mullins CD (2008). Treatment costs associated with community acquired pneumonia by community level of antimicrobial resistance. Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, 61, -.
2. **Crookston BT**, Dearden KA, Chan K, Chan T, Stoker D. (2007). Buddhist Nuns on the Move: An Innovative Approach to Improving Breastfeeding Practices in Cambodia. Maternal and Child Nutrition, 3, 10-24.
3. Dearden KA, **Crookston BT**, De La Cruz NG, Lindsay GB, Bowden A, Carlston L, Gardner P. (2007). Teens in Trouble: Untangling the Relationship between Risky Behaviors and Cigarette Use in Bolivia. Pan American Journal of Public Health, 22, 160-168.
4. Alder SC, Simonsen SE, Duncan M, Shaver J, DeWitt J, **Crookston BT**. (2007). Perspectives on Efforts to Address HIV/AIDS of Religious Clergy Serving African American and Hispanic Communities in Utah. Open Aids Journal, 1, 1-4.
5. Shaeffer Z, Dearden KA, De La Cruz NG, **Crookston BT**, Jensen JD, Rees C, Quigley S. (2007). Youth at risk: Identifying correlates of Violence in Bolivia. International Journal of Adolescent Health and Medicine. 19(4), 473-483.
6. Novilla ML, Dearden KA, **Crookston BT**, De La Cruz NG, Hill SC, Torres S. (2006). Adolescents engaging in risky sexual behavior: sexual activity and associated behavioral risk factors in Bolivian adolescents. The International Electronic Journal of Health Education, 9, 42-55.
7. De La Cruz NG, **Crookston BT**, Dearden KA, Gray B, Ivins N, Alder S, Davis R. (2006). Who sleeps under bednets in Ghana? A doer/non-doer analysis of malaria prevention behaviours. Malaria Journal, 5, 61.
8. Dearden KA, De La Cruz NG, **Crookston BT**, Novilla MLB, Clark M. (2005). Adolescents at risk: depression, low academic performance, violence, and alcohol increase Bolivian teenagers' risk of attempted suicide. International Electronic Journal of Health Education, 8, 104-119.

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9. Dearden KA, Ross JS, Burkhalter BR, **Crookston BT**, Torres S, Peterson N. (Accepted for publication). Estimating the impact of sub-optimal feeding and mother-to-child transmission of HIV on infant survival in developing countries. Journal of Human Lactation.

### **Presentations**

1. Cole E, **Crookston B**, Rubino J, McCue K, Hawkley M, Dixon J. 2008. Comprehensive family hygiene promotion in peri-urban Cape Town: Reduction of respiratory illness in children under five. International Congress on Infectious Diseases Annual Meeting. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
2. Cole E, Hawkley M, Rubino J, McCue K, **Crookston B**, Dixon J. 2008. Comprehensive family hygiene promotion in peri-urban Cape Town: Gastrointestinal and skin disease reduction in children under five. International Congress on Infectious Diseases Annual Meeting. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
3. Larsen S, Alder S, Ansong D, Akoto O, Gyampomah T, Beck C, Boakye I, **Crookston B**, Hale D. 2008. Schistosomiasis Prevalence, Detection, and Distribution in Barekuma, Ghana. Sacramento, CA.
4. Musolino G, **Crookston B**, Babitz M, Harris R, Torres Burkhalter S, Ward RS, Chase-Cantarini S. 2007. Evaluation of three years of mutual respect in healthcare: assessing cultural competence for the Interdisciplinary Health Sciences at the University of Utah. American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting, Nashville, TN.
5. Prunuske J, **Crookston B**, Alder S, Mervis A, Burt R, Magill M. 2007. Factors Associated With Colorectal Cancer Screening and Refusal of Colonoscopy. North American Primary Care Research Group Annual Meeting, Vancouver, British Columbia.
6. Asche C, McAdam-Marx C, **Crookston B**, Svejda R, Mullins C, Seal B. 2007. Treatment Costs Associated with Community Acquired Pneumonia by Community Level of Antimicrobial Resistance. International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research Annual European Congress, Dublin, Ireland.
7. Chan K, Chan T, Dearden K, Stoker D, **Crookston B**. 2005. How effective are Buddhist nuns and wat grannies in improving breastfeeding practices in Cambodia? American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

### **Research Awards**

Secured more than \$50,000 from various grants for research on risk behaviors among Bolivian adolescents, HIV/AIDS research in Uganda, malaria prevention in Ghana, NGO capacity building in India, evaluation of obstetric and neo-natal care in Tibet, and malnutrition research in Peru.

### **Professional and Academic Awards**

James Reading Biostat Scholarship Recipient, University of Utah Public Health Program, 2007

Member of task force that received the Minority Health Community Leader Award given by the Office of Minority Health, United States Department of Health and Human Services, 2006

Brigham Young University Public Health Spirit Award, 2006

Health Education Advocacy Summit Fellow, 2005, Washington DC