Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the new 2020 fiscal and academic year for our department. With this new year, I am pleased to announce a few changes in our leadership within the department. We are grateful for our leaders who have started new and exciting initiatives in their leadership capacities, and who are now leaving a legacy for others to continue. Please join me in thanking all of the leaders who are transitioning out of roles that have continued to help our department expand the possibilities of health and welcome those leaders that are taking the helm to continue our journey for new possibilities.

As many of you know, Dr. Susan Terry officially retired June 28, 2019. We are excited for the next chapter in her life in Florida. Prior to joining our department in 2017, Dr. Terry served as Executive Medical Director of University Health Care Community Physician Group and oversaw all primary care providers. Please join us in thanking Dr. Terry for her service and wishing her good fortune in this next chapter.

After an in-depth search for our next Vice Chair of Clinical with many experienced candidates, Dr. David Owen has accepted the position. Dr. Owen is a family medicine physician and Medical Director of Primary Care at the South Jordan Health Center. Dr. Owen’s experience with provider and patient satisfaction, as well as team based care, will bring a unique perspective and opportunities to our clinical operations.

In addition to the role of Vice Chair of Clinical for the department, Dr. Owen will also act as the Chair for the department Clinical Mission Committee. This means Dr. Bernadette Kiraly will be stepping out of her role as chair of the Clinical Committee. Dr. Kiraly has provided extraordinary leadership to the Clinical Mission Committee for the last two years. We are thankful for Dr. Kiraly and her leadership with this committee. We also would like to wish Dr. Kiraly congratulations in her new role as Medical Director of Primary Care for the new Sugar House Clinic that is slated to open in October 2019.

As we make many leadership transitions with this new fiscal year, we are also changing some of leadership roles. The Vice Chair of Research and Education role will be split into two roles. The two new roles will be Vice Chair of Research and Vice Chair of Education. With this role division, we are pleased to announce that Dr. Joseph Stanford will serve in the role of Vice Chair for Research. Dr. Stanford will continue in the roles of Chair of the Department Research and Innovation Committee as well as department Decision Action Committee (DAC).

With the splitting of the Vice Chair of Research and Education role into two roles, I offer heartfelt thanks to Dr. Rod Handy for stepping up to serve in the interim combined role earlier this year. Dr. Handy will be stepping out of that interim role and the Chair of the Department of Education Committee in this new academic year. Please join me in thanking Dr. Handy for his service to our department in these roles. At this time the role of Vice Chair of Education will remain vacant. In the near future we will begin an open search to fill the role.

We are excited to welcome Dr. Darrah Sleeth to the role of Chair of the Education Committee. Dr. Sleeth brings a wealth of knowledge to the committee with her vast research experience as well as teaching experience in the industrial hygiene program. Thank you Dr. Sleeth for taking on this important department role.

We would also like to thank Dr. Kim Shoaf for her service on the Department Community Service Committee. Thank you to Dr. Shoaf for all of her work to highlight our community engagement efforts. We are delighted to have Drs. Lisa Gren and Ivette Lopez step into co-chair positions for the Community Engagement Mission Committee. Drs. Gren and Lopez both bring a wealth of knowledge to the committee with their works with multiple community populations as part of their research interests.

I know this is a long list of transitions, but I want to say thank you to each of these individuals for helping our department continue to expand the possibilities of health through our many missions. Our department continues to grow and shine with such talented people. A special thank you to those stepping down from their roles. You have set a foundation for the future of our department. Thank you to those willing to take the next steps to grow the foundation in your new leadership roles. Please join me in saying thank you to all those who are stepping down from leadership positions and welcome aboard to those stepping in to continue on a path of possibilities.

Sincerely,

Kola Okuyemi

Kola Okuyemi
We extend a warm welcome to our readers of the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine newsletter. The Department of Family and Preventive Medicine was founded in 1970, making it one of the oldest and most established family medicine departments in the country.

The department houses the Divisions of Family Medicine, Physician Assistant Studies, Public Health, and Occupational and Environmental Health, each of which upholds the department’s values and mission of improving health in communities across the world.

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DEPARTMENT VISION

Expanding the Possibilities of Health
The Department of Family and Preventive Medicine

EDUCATE
Discovering and addressing what optimizes health

DISCOVER
Increasing evidence based practice

INCREASE
Improving access to care and prevention

IMPROVE
Promoting wellness as the foundation of health

PROMOTE

Educating health professionals from every community
Welcome!

We would like to welcome all of those who joined the department during April - June 2019. We are excited to continue to get to know you and have you as part of our team. Welcome!

Ashley is a recent graduate of the certified nurse midwife program from Bethel University in Minnesota. She is employed in the Department of Family and Preventative Medicine and is working with Dr. Joseph Stanford. Together they utilize a restorative reproductive approach to infertility, miscarriage and other women’s health issues.

An Idaho native, Ashley moved to Utah with her husband Bryce, an attorney, and her 1-year-old daughter, Annalise. She enjoys cake decorating, sewing, and other crafting hobbies in her free time, as well as being with her family making memories.

Diane is pleased to contribute her expertise to support the efforts of Occupational and Environmental Health. Her extensive experience in curriculum and instruction, large scale academic operations, and hybrid course delivery models will help OEH meet its goals.

Dr. Johnson’s research interests include protective factors that influence student retention, the impact of industry demand for micro-credentials on current post-secondary education models, and multiple-measures in assessment of competency in the workplace.

Oreta M. Tupola is the new Community Health Worker for the department. She was born and raised in Laie, Hawaii and moved to Orem in 2015. Oreta has 25 years of experience in community outreach, advocacy and health working with underserved communities.

She received her Bachelors in Social Work at BYU after being in the field of community work for 10 years. She returned to BYU Hawaii to get her degree, played softball for the Lady Seasiders then went straight into completing her master’s program at the University of Hawaii Manoa in the field of Social Work with a health concentration.

Jiqiang Wu is a Biostatistician I at Department of Family and Preventive Medicine.

He received a Bachelor’s degree in Statistics and a Master’s degree in Biostatistics from University of Utah.

Currently, he is working with two projects: MAP (Motherhood and Pelvic Health) and NRMN (National Research Mentoring Network).

Meng Yang is a recently graduated from the University of Utah in May 2019. She received her master’s degree from the Division of Public Health, Biostatistics track.

During her study period at the U. Meng worked with Dr.Egger as a research assistant for Motherhood and Pelvic Health Study.

After graduating from her master’s program, Meng is working as a Biostatistician I at the Division of Public Health for MAP study with Dr.Egger. Her research interests are clinical trial design and data analysis for medical researches.
We want to extend a big thank you to everyone that, in any way, contributed to and helped with latest issue of the department newsletter!

Congratulations!

We extend congratulations to the many department members who successfully submitted grants during the last grant cycle.

We also want to thank our department pre-award team for all the hard work they have been doing the last few months to meet funding submission deadlines.

Thank you to everyone who has played a role in this submission cycle. We are lucky to have such a dedicated team and amazing department members. The department is excited to see the results of this hard work.
The end of the school year brings a bittersweetness to our midst as we celebrate the graduation of many of our students. While we are sad to see them go, we are excited for their future plans and prospects.

At the department we house four divisions, each of which have many students in a variety of disciplines.

We are proud of our 2019 graduates and thank the many family members and friends who have supported our department members throughout the last year.

Congratulations, 2019 graduates!
OCCUPATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Division of Occupational and Environmental Health held a banquet in honor of their graduating students at the end of the academic year on May 16 at This is the Place Heritage Park.

Students received awards, individuals were recognized for their contributions to the division, and more. Congratulations to our Occupational and Environmental Health graduates. We know you will go out and do amazing things.

FAMILY MEDICINE

The Division of Family Medicine celebrated their 13 graduating residents on June 28 at the Cottonwood Country Club.

The evening was full of comradery, a wonderful dinner, and a program to acknowledge the many accomplishments of the residents, faculty, and staff.
Recognitions

The Department of Family and Preventive Medicine includes highly motivated faculty, staff, and students.

The dedication and accomplishments of many individuals are recognized in the awarding of a grant.

We have highlighted a few of their accomplishments and congratulate everyone.

Utah PA Program awarded PA HRSA Grant

Congratulations to Dr. Virginia Valentin and the PA program on their award of the PA HRSA Grant! Utah is one of six PA programs awarded $1.6 million in new primary care training and enhancement (PCTE) grants. The grant began July 1 and will last for five years.

The PCTE grant program, a long-standing advocacy priority for PAEA, is designed to provide support to PA programs, teaching hospitals, and medical schools to support the training of students and residents with the goal of bolstering the primary care workforce in rural and underserved areas.

To read more about this grant and opportunity for our PA program, click HERE.

Former PA Student Receives Humanitarian of the Year award

Wagma Mohmand, a physician assistant studies student who graduated in 2013 as part of PA Class 42, received the Physician Assistant Humanitarian of the Year award in St. George in April 2019. The award was presented to her by last year’s award recipient and University of Utah Physician Assistant preceptor, Tim McCreary.

Dr. Mohmand currently practices at the University of Utah Redwood Clinic, working primarily with women and children who are refugees. We congratulate her on this prestigious award and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

American Society of Addiction Medicine Scholarship Recipient

We extend our congratulations to Rachel Caspar, a recent Family Medicine Residency graduate, for receiving the prestigious Ruth Fox Scholarship from the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM). The Ruth Fox Addiction Medicine Scholarship program represents ASAM’s dedication to increasing opportunities for residents to learn about the diagnosis and treatment of substance use disorders.

We congratulate Dr. Caspar on this award. To learn more about the award and the other recipients, click HERE.

Congratulations to Nadia Cobb and Christy Porucznik for Election onto the Academic Senate Committees

We also congratulate Drs. Mia Hashibe and Nadia Cobb for completing their three year terms on the Academic Senate, as well as serving on the Academic Senate Executive Committee. Thank you to both of them for representing School of Medicine and our department in these prestigious roles.

Dr. Porucznik will start a three year term during the 2019-2020 academic year on the Academic Senate and was just voted onto the Academic Senate Executive Committee. Congratulations, Dr. Christy Porucznik.

Dr. Bernadette Kiraly Accepts New Directors Position

Our very own Dr. Bernadette Kiraly has accepted the position of Primary Care Medical Director at Sugar House Health Center. Dr. Kiraly brings to this role experience, vision, and enthusiasm that will benefit patients, providers, and staff at SHHC. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Kiraly on this new and exciting position.

Physician Assistant Program is Outstanding Partner for 2019

Congratulations to our Physician Assistant Studies program on their award from Family Healthcare (the local Federally Qualified Health Center) as the “Outstanding Partner for 2019.”

This was awarded through their work with clinics and dedication to serving the underserved in Washington County. They worked with Family Healthcare on various projects within their clinics as well as the Hildale Health Fair.
Publications & Presentations

We are proud to be part of a department where many of our faculty, staff, and students are involved in a variety of research projects.

The list of publications and presentations dating back to January 2018 is available for viewing on both the

DEPARTMENT INTRANET
and
DEPARTMENT WEBSITE

We want to thank those who invested time and effort in gathering and organizing the presentations; we look forward to seeing more.

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Industrial Hygiene Program ranks #3 in the Nation

MPHOnline recently released their list of the 20 best Industrial Hygiene programs in the nations. The department’s Industrial Hygiene program ranked #3 in the nation, following closely behind the University of Michigan and the University of Minnesota.

The ranking is determined by regional accreditation as well as CEPH and ABET accreditation and included criteria such as alumni salary, cost, and reputation.

We congratulate our faculty, staff, and students who made this ranking possible. We also extend our congratulations to those in the IH programs at the Universities of Michigan and Minnesota.

To learn more about this ranking, click [HERE].

Dr. Susan Terry Retired at End of June

A special thank you to Dr. Susan Terry for her contributions to our department in her role as Vice Chair of Clinical. She retired from the University of Utah on June 28, 2019 to start the next exciting chapter in her life in Florida.

Prior to joining our department in 2017, Dr. Terry served as Executive Medical Director of University Health Care Community Physician Group and oversaw all primary care providers. We were excited to have her join our department with all of her clinical expertise. Please join us in thanking Dr. Terry for her service and wishing her good fortune in this next chapter.
Did we miss an important event? Would you like to feature your awards, research, and more?

Please email Elizabeth Rabon at elizabeth.rabon@hsc.utah.edu for future newsletter submissions.
The department’s four divisions include individuals who create opportunities to connect us all. We are highlighting some of the events and projects that department members have been involved with over the past few months.

The Inaugural Education, Research, and Community Engagement Poster Summit
April 15, 2019

Occupational and Environmental Health presented their findings and research to all of the department, university, and community members who came to the open house. This not only served as a great event for the department, but an opportunity for students.

Research presented ranged from topics on diabetes to cervical cancer and air pollution to work safety. Beyond students presenting their research, attendees had the opportunity to vote for several awards including the Clinician Choice Award, Faculty Choice Award, and more. Six students were chosen for these awards for their outstanding research and as a great representation of the department.

This inaugural session served as an opportunity to bring divisions together and celebrate research and success as a whole. Now that the inaugural session is complete, the department is looking forward to what future sessions will bring.

OEH Scholarship Luncheon
April 18, 2019

WCF Insurance Dr. Paul S. Richards Safe Workplace Scholarship Luncheon was held in mid-April. Many OEH students were able to present on their various projects and journeys through their schooling.

We have amazing students and are proud of the amazing work they put forth on a daily basis to represent themselves, their research, and our department.

2019 Stethoscope Ceremony
May 8, 2019

On May 8, the Physician Assistant Studies Program welcomed Class 50 to the PA program with their inaugural Stethoscope Ceremony, which was held at the Health Sciences Education Building. After a warm introduction by Wayne Samuelson, the Vice Dean of Education in the School of Medicine, the keynote speaker, John Barrett, MD, the Executive Medical Director of the Community Physician Group, welcomed the new PA class and reminded them that it was a great time to be in health care. He reminded the new class to relish in their joys and in getting up in the morning to do what they do. The new class was then given their new stethoscopes as they began their new journey.

Giving New Meaning to Rural Health Care
By: Jennifer Coombs, PhD, MPAS, PA-C

“You are never fully prepared to hike in the Annapurna region of Nepal.” Those were the words of the University of Utah PA program’s (UPAP’s) medical director andPokhara site coordinator Richard Backman, MD, as he prepared our group, comprised primarily of University of Utah PA students, for our Nepal International Elective. We had been meeting for pre-trip planning at his home in the mountains of Emigration Canyon outside Salt Lake City, hiking with snowshoes on the steep slopes during the middle of winter in an effort to get in shape for our upcoming adventure. Pre-trip advice included this inauspicious email: “Fitness: Start hiking now – plan on doing at least one hour of aerobics 3–4 times per week for one month or more before your arrival in Nepal. Speed is not the goal; stamina, confidence, and continuity are. Rather than gradually ascending trails, most Himalayan trails point almost directly up, close to a 90-degree angle, requiring a lot more effort — and especially when descending, a lot more concentration.”

UPAP completed its 6th Annual International Elective to Nepal on the day of the anniversary of the 2015 earthquake. Students and faculty had just made it through the trekking portion to the small town of Ghandruk to set up health camps with the Nepalese PA analogues. We brought medicine and medical supplies and, alongside Nepalese health assistants and translators, saw a large variety of medical conditions.

To read the complete article, click HERE.
Upcoming Events

Physician Assistant Studies Class 48 Graduation Ceremony
August 2, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Rice Eccles Tower Scholarship Room

Trail Clean-Up Event
September 7, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
391 Chipeta Way
*Meet in the parking lot

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Public Health & Disasters Conference
September 23 - 24
Viridian Center
West Jordan, UT

AHEC Primary Care Summit
October 18, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Cultural Celebration Center
West Valley, UT

Do you have an upcoming event you would like highlighted in the newsletter? Please send the details to elizabeth.rabon@hsc.utah.edu.
This quarter’s software is Adobe Creative Cloud. This is free for faculty and staff in the Office Software Licensing store at software.utah.edu.

Adobe Creative Cloud is a set of applications and services from Adobe Systems that gives subscribers access to a collection of software used for graphic design, video editing, web development, photography, along with a set of mobile applications and also some optional cloud services.

Visit software.utah.edu for more information and to download today.

Contact the department IT Team today!
Hotline: 801.581.7144 Email: dfpm-it@lists.utah.edu

Need additional IT Support?
Visit the Computer Support page on the Department Intranet Page

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Software of the Quarter

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University Anniversaries

Congratulations to our faculty and staff members for their continued service to the University of Utah. The following department members celebrated service anniversaries with the university during the months of April to June. Thank you to each of you for all that you do to make the department an amazing place.

APRIL 2019
Marlana Li Morrison – 5 years
Charles White – 5 years

MAY 2019
Lisa Gren – 31 years
Richard Bennett – 2 years

JUNE 2019
Leon Pahler – 14 yrs
Steve Urquhart – 3 yrs
Sandra Stennett – 3 yrs
Charles Rogers – 1 yr
Susan Cochella – 23 yrs
Bernadette Kiraly – 23 yrs
Karly Pippitt – 13 yrs

Scott Benson – 13 yrs
Brian Vukelic – 4 yrs
Kyle Jones – 10 yrs
Erika Sullivan – 8 yrs
Erik McAdams – 4 yrs
Martene Egger – 40 yrs
Amanda Moloney - 10 yrs

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Brian Vukelic – 4 yrs
Kyle Jones – 10 yrs
Erika Sullivan – 8 yrs
Erik McAdams – 4 yrs
Martene Egger – 40 yrs
Amanda Moloney - 10 yrs

Thank you to each of you for all that you do to make the department an amazing place.
“I cannot say enough fantastic things about Malea Satterwhite, PA-C. She is always on time, always treats me like a fellow human being, and always leaves me happier when I leave than when I came. She manages to make a routine physical an enjoyable experience. I never feel like any concern or issue I bring up is silly or a waste of her time. Her follow up questions are thoughtful and insightful. I’m lucky to have her as my PCP. I routinely recommend Sugar House Family Medicine as a clinic for patients. This well-oiled team functions almost like a family in caring for patients. It is clear that the staff know each other and care about each other, and that same sentiment extends to the way they care for patients. This is not something I commonly see as a patient. The entire team knows their patients and treats them as a human, not as a number or even as a patient. I hope this vibe isn’t lost when they move to the new and larger clinic.”

- Patient comment from Sugarhouse Health

“Frances Johnson’s (Frances Johnson, APRN, MSN) PA, Maurie Moline, conducted the majority of the exam and discussion with me. The methodical completeness of Maurie’s investigation, her friendliness, and her genuine concern were absolutely superb. This was actually the most thorough annual checkup I’ve ever had, thanks to Maurie’s well-organized approach, careful listening, and excellent diagnostic knowledge. She seemed to communicate well with Frances too. I left feeling deeply impressed by the whole experience.”

- Patient comment from Madsen Family Health Center

“Dr. Sullivan (Erika Sullivan, MD) is hands down the most caring provider I have ever had. She shakes my hand sincerely and with meaning. She looks me in the eye and really makes me feel genuinely cared for. As a transgender patient this is hard to come by. Not having to worry about the element of judgement really helps us both be up front and honest.”

- Patient comment from Sugar House Health Center

“Dr. Pohl (Susan Pohl, MD) was the most amazing doctor I have ever seen! I have been so sick and getting frustrated with other providers I have been seeing, feeling like I was just part of their daily routine that they just had to get through. However, Dr. Pohl made me feel like my illness was her concern. She has a no nonsense attitude about getting things taken care of and finding a resolution to the problem. I honestly cannot speak high enough about her and the help and care she has given me.”

- Patient comment from Madsen Family Health Center
Instructor Comments

“I enjoyed how he had us present and then ask questions of the other presenters when they went. It helped prepare for possible future presentations as well as learn how to take constructive criticism. His real world experience is a great asset in his teaching the content of this course. He has great and entertaining stories to tell us about many of the topics covered during this course. Dr. Benson is one of the best professors I’ve ever had in a collegiate setting and hope to have more courses with him.”
- Student comment regarding Scott Benson, MD, PhD, MPH

“Dr. Benson is very effective instructor, he motivates students to participate in all activities. I never saw in my life such active and effective instructor who welcomed every point from students. The way of teaching and delivering the presentation was awesome, I like the style of teaching. Also he gives good support. He has strong knowledge of the global health subject and he is very good in class engagement, getting opinions and active participation collectively.”
- Student comment regarding Scott Benson, MD, PhD, MPH

“At the beginning of class, Dr. Gren made it comfortable to not know biostats and now, I am so proud that I can apply the knowledge because of the way it was taught. Dr. Gren was always willing and available to answer questions and help. She provided ample extra material to assist in the learning process. Dr. Gren was very passionate about Biostats and fueled the desire of the class to learn more.”
- Student comment regarding Lisa Gren, PhD

“Dr. Godin was by far the most supportive professor I have had to date. He truly wants you to succeed in the course and will help you do so by understanding the tools you have and using his knowledge and skills as well. He is very understanding of both communications and public health and merges the two areas well. Dr. Godin did a good job of encouraging interaction. He was very involved in responding to nearly all comments on discussion boards.”
- Student comment regarding Steve Godin, PhD, MPH

“Dr. Porucznik knows so much and has so much great experience to contribute. You can tell she is passionate about the content and wants students to get excited about Epi, too which makes the class more fun. Dr. P’s practical approach and experience on the ground with epidemiology helps set students on a solid foundation within the field.”
- Student comment regarding Christy Porucznik, PhD, MSPH

“Excellent professor. Had relatable and practical examples to enhance learning. Want to take another course from her. Dr. Porucznik was an awesome instructor and an even better human being! Adored her. I wish she taught all of my classes. Instructor was excited and passionate about subject matter which makes the class one that I look forward to going to. Instructor was also always available to meet and answered emails promptly. Her lectures were amazing and her excitement about the subject was contagious.”
- Student comment regarding Christy Porucznik, PhD, MSPH

“Dr. Hashibe was very organized and responsive to emails. She is a clear communicator and helps you in any way she can.”
- Student comment regarding Mia Hashibe, PhD

“Dr. Talboys was really great at being invested in everybody’s program. She always gave great constructive feedback that was really helpful. Along with that, for each assignment she provided comments and track changes to assist in the final editing of our program plan. I thought that was extremely helpful! Dr Talboys was a great and approachable instructor.”
- Student comment regarding Sharon Talboys, PhD, MPH

“The way Dr. Lopez made us all be engaged in the lectures was incredible. I had never learned so much from my peers and participated in so much conversation during a class. She made us gain a better respect and understanding to each other. Dr. Lopez is an amazing instructor. She is very knowledgeable and makes the material relatable so it is easier to understand. She has a very warm, welcoming demeanor which sets a great environment for discussions and makes sure everyone is included. She is one of the best professors I’ve had at the University of Utah.”
- Student comment regarding Ivette Lopez, PhD, MPH

“Dr. Shoaf is a FANTASTIC professor. She is knowledgeable in a wide array of subjects, an incredible lecturer, patient enough to listen and answer every question asked, and clearly has a strong and continuous impact on her students and colleagues. I have no criticisms about Dr. Shoaf and I hope to work with her or take another one of her classes in the future. In all honesty, the division is lucky to have her. I really appreciate how willing Dr. Shoaf is to teach the material in an interesting and engaging way. She is always willing to teach according to our interest and questions while still focusing on the required material. This class was very enjoyable and I highly recommend it as an elective!”
- Student comment regarding Kimberley Shoaf, DrPH, MPH