



Department of Graduate Public Health



ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

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COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
Department of Graduate Public Health

September 15, 2021

Dear Dean Ruby Perry and Colleagues,

The conclusion of the 2020-2021 academic year the Department of Graduate Public Health (DGPH) marks its fourth year of operations while navigating the new normal established by mitigation efforts as we continue to be challenged by the global pandemic of the communicable disease COVID-19. The university's decision to give students the autonomy to engage the learning environment either in a face-to-face, hybrid or virtual only modality, led to most classes being offered online with some face-to-face opportunities for laboratory instruction. Faculty development and sharing of best practices during our monthly meetings helped to assist faculty to accommodate this change with minimal challenges. The pandemic also required a new approach to recruitment and advisement. It is my pleasure to share with you an overview of some of the major accomplishments and activities reached during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Admissions for the 2020-21 academic year saw a sharp decline in applications and admissions of students to the Graduate Public Health Program (GPHP). A new pipeline program with the College of Agriculture, the Environment and Nutritional Sciences (CAENS) has been developed to address the recruitment and retention concerns. The GPHP also cleared another hurdle in the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) accreditation process by submitting the second draft of the self-study which was amended with the guidance of the external advisory committee to address comments received by the CEPH staff. Members of the external advisory board met with me monthly from August to January with three full board meetings to report progress and get added input to assist in the reviewed of the critical areas in the self-study which were identified for improvement in the consultation process. Thank you again for your leadership and dedication to the program through your service on the accreditation committee which met weekly for two months prior to the submission date in June of 2021 with a focus on assessments of strengths, weaknesses and plans for improvement of the program under each CEPH criterion.

Assessment of evaluation data collected from students, alumni, and community stakeholders, led to an increased focus on sharing the successes and activities of the DGPH through social media outlets and a new spotlight on DGPH alumni successes on our website. We also utilized evaluation data to identify and execute changes in competency assessments and well as faculty development gaps.

In conjunction with the work to complete the tasks described above, we also continued to serve the University community and the local area communities by: 1) serving on committees; 2) delivering

presentations at local, national and international venues; 3) publishing articles in peer reviewed journals; and 4) providing applied practice experiences for students in a participatory manner with community partners.

During the 2020-2021 academic year the DGPH put on several successful events for the purpose of community engagement, student enrichment, advocacy, and health promotion. The Rural Health Lecture Series held the 2nd annual Dr. William “Bill” Jenkins lecture which was delivered in the month of April virtually due to restrictions to large gatherings pursuant to the campus mitigation plan. The Dr. William “Bill” Jenkins lecture had over 122 participants for the live session and featured Dr. Laurie Elam-Evans a former student of Dr. Jenkins, former Epidemic Investigative Service Officer, and career Centers for Disease Control & Prevention employee. The third annual Dr. Kenneth Olden Lecture was delivered during the One Health Symposium by Dr. Joy St John, Director of Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA). The fifth annual pinning ceremony was held in January 2021 with a student challenge delivered by Dr. Rueben Warren, Director National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care. Faculty members also delivered workshops regionally and nationally, gave poster and keynote presentations at local and national conferences and participated in invited lecturer opportunities on campus as well.

Several community partnerships were established to include pipeline development relationships with undergraduate programs in public health. These programs were designed to enrich our research and service-learning opportunities as well as to continue to recruit quality students into the GPH. The department also enrolled the second PhD, MPH student in the program and the first in collaboration with the Interdisciplinary Pathobiology Program.

Included in this annual report is a list of community partners and engagement opportunities that were enhanced and initiated. Lastly during the 2020-2021 academic year the DGPH engaged in the recruitment process for new faculty and administrative support which are currently ongoing.

Thank you for your continued support and attention to the newest department in the College of Veterinary Medicine. We welcome any suggestions you may have that will enhance the opportunities for the DGPH to further its growth while staying focused on our overall mission to prepare the next generation of diverse leadership through research, innovation, advocacy and community engagement.

Best,

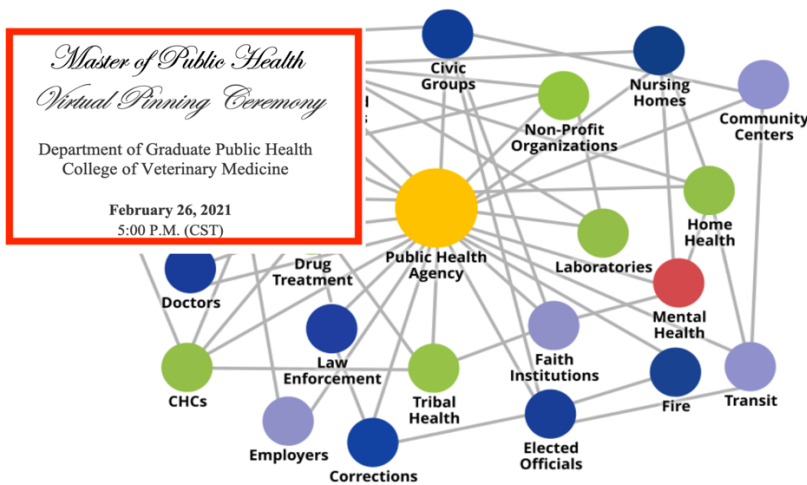


Crystal M. James, JD, MPH
Special Assistant to the President for COVID-19 Recovery
Head, Department Graduate Public Health
Director, Graduate Public Health Program
Associate Professor of Graduate Public Health

DGPH VISION & MISSION

The vision of the Department of Graduate Public Health (DGPH), College of Veterinary Medicine and Tuskegee University is to promote and sustain population health and well-being for the global community

Building upon the legacy of Tuskegee University, the mission of the GPHP is to prepare the next generation of diverse leadership through research, innovation, advocacy and community engagement.



COVID-19 Reminds us that it is the collective effort of community partnerships that will slow the spread of communicable diseases.

As Dr. Frederick Patterson third President (1935-1955) of Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University), Founder of the United Negro College Fund (1944), recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1987) from President Ronald Reagan and the founder of Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine (TUCVM) stated:

“Change agents are critical links to enable a community to grow, be healthy and make a positive contribution to America. Their road is often rocky, but they are sustained by their training and commitment to make the world a better place in which to live.” (Source: Speech, 1944 New York)

L-RISE GOALS

Our program goals are focused on leadership, research, innovative teaching, service learning and ethics (L-RISE) which reflect the belief of Dr. Patterson. Methods for collection and review of the data for continuous quality improvement of these goals and the program have been developed and implemented. The program's L-RISE goals with defined evaluated measures are listed below.

Goal #1: Excellence in Leadership - Train, educate and equip public health graduates for leadership roles through effective management, policy analysis, health planning and competence in community education and engagement.

Goal #2: Excellence in Research - Utilizing collaborative partnerships to foster Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) strategies for improving community/population health and well-being.

Goal #3: Excellence in Innovative Teaching - Nurture critical thinking and innovative teaching strategies to excel on the highest academic platforms.

Goal #4: Excellence in Service Learning - Establish strong community partnerships for an effective/efficient delivery of a timely evidenced based service learning, with respect, integrity and inclusion of community stake holders.

Goal #5: Excellence in Public Health Ethics - Train and prepare public health graduates in the essential aspects of public health ethics, for the workforce and for community advancement.



DGPH PROGRAMS & INTERVENTIONS

Pinning Ceremony

The annual pinning ceremony is held at the beginning of each Spring semester. Students who have successfully completed a minimum of 30 credit hours and received the recommendation from their academic advisor will receive the Graduate Public Health Program (GPHP) pin. This prestigious pin signifies their readiness to complete the final stages of their professional training, with the competencies and skills necessary for the public health work force. This pin was designed by the Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Ruby Perry and Program Director Attorney Crystal M. James. Also, during this ceremony the students who have successfully completed at least one academic semester of course work and identified their area of focus for experiential learning and community engagement receives the GPHP blazer which signifies that they are prepared to engage in practical experience in the field of public health and represent the mission of the GPHP.

Challenge Speaker: Dr. Rueben Warren


Community Engagement, Service and Advocacy

Save the Date


Friday, February 26, 2021
5:00 p.m. CST
Open to the Public
Via Zoom:

<https://us.zoom.us/j/91572830651?pwd=ZlRmblk4dHlnMjRkdzYyZWVudDZkdz09>

5th Annual Graduate Public Health Pinning Ceremony




Open Program



Challenge Speaker


Ruben C. Warren, D.D.S., M.P.H., Dr. P.H., M. DIV
 Executive Director,
 National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care

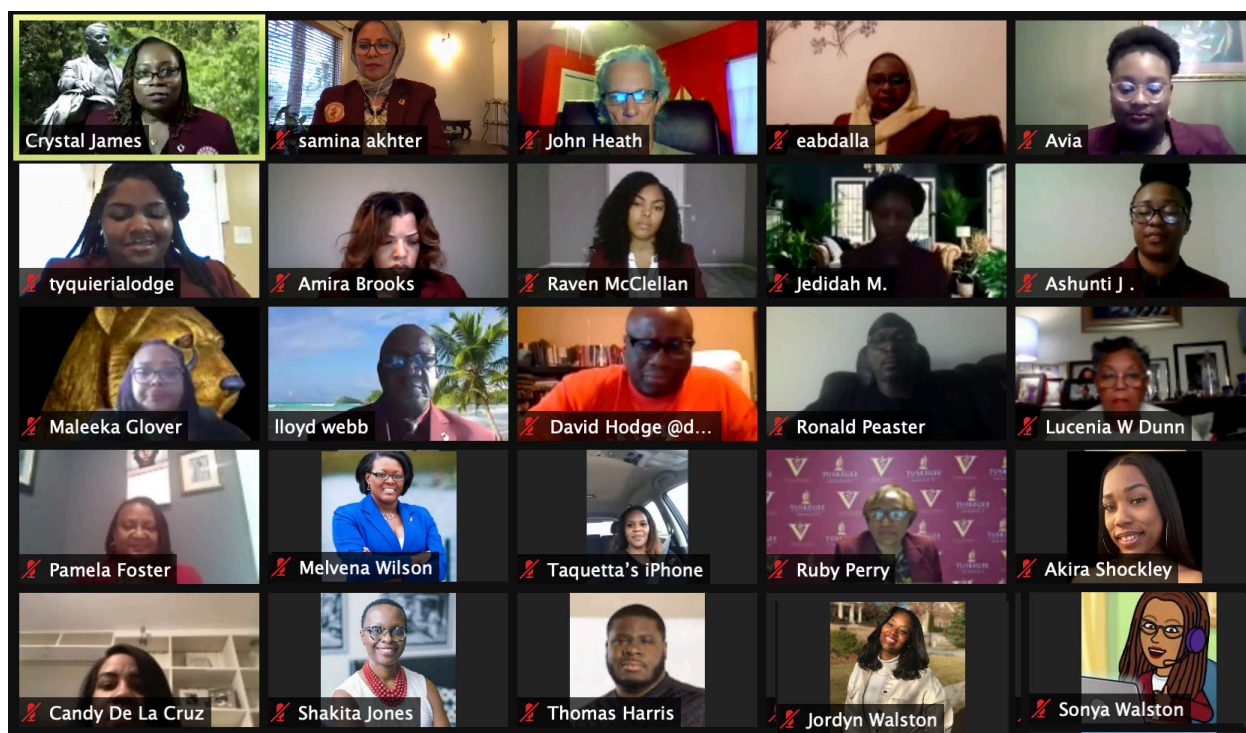
The annual pinning is held to mark the beginning of our student's community engagement by receiving the departmental jacket that is to be worn when presenting in professional and community settings. It is also serving to acknowledge the completion of the basic requirements for the masters of public health degree and progress toward the final requirement of the thesis/practicum for second year students.



Dept. Graduate Public Health
College of Veterinary Medicine
Tuskegee University

For More Information Contact:
MWilson2@tuskegee.edu or
Cjames@tuskegee.edu





2021 Annual Pinning Ceremony Year-2 Presentations on Research Foci

Jakeiia Bedgood

Major Professor: Atty. Crystal James

Thesis Topic: *Does acetaminophen have the ability to stop the growth of the parasite, toxoplasma Gondii?*

Raven McClellan

Major Professor: Dr. John Heath

Thesis Topic: *The Impact of COVID-19 on Mental Health Perceptions of African Americans*

Jedidah Murray

Major Professor: Atty. Crystal James

Thesis Topic: *Effects of COVID-19 on Maternal Mortality and Mask Wearing Mitigation*

Atiya Shahid

Major Professor: Dr. Ehsan Abdalla

Thesis Topic: *The Relation of Age on HIV-Positive women's Cluster of Differentiation 4, Antiretroviral Therapy, Papanicolaou test, Human Papillomavirus test and Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid*

Rural Health Lecture Series

To inform the translation of core research and laboratory findings, a newly established Rural Public Health Lecture Series has been initiated to raise awareness of public health issues in rural America. This Lecture series will also support academic advancement of the faculty relative to emerging issues in public health practice.

Dr. William “Bill” Jenkins lecture series



The Dr. William “Bill” Jenkins lecture is designed to remind students and practitioners of the importance of the public health pipeline and the development of servant leaders. Dr. Jenkins stated “It is the development of servant leaders that will make an impact on health disparities and provide social justice in health care, public health, and health research. It is they who will care more about people than publication. They will ask the hard questions. They will speak for those who are unable to speak for themselves”.

The 2nd annual Dr. William “Bill” Jenkins lecture was delivered virtually by Dr. Laurie Elam-Evans. The Dr. Elam-Evans discussed “Increasing the Public Health Pipeline to Increase Health Equity”.



Laurie Dianne Elam-Evans, PhD, MPH

Dr. Laurie Elam-Evans has worked as an Epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for nearly thirty years in various capacities. She is currently the Lead Health Scientist and Team Leader for the National Immunization Survey Team in the Immunization Services Division (ISD) in the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. This team monitors vaccination coverage among children 19-35 months (NIS-Child) and among adolescents 13-17 years (NIS-Teen) in the 50 states, DC, select local areas and territories.

Prior to that position in vaccination coverage, she was the Team Leader for State Support for the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). She also served as one of CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Officers in the Division of Reproductive Health (DRH), where she monitored trends in prenatal care initiation and preterm delivery. She later served as Team Leader for Reproductive Health Surveillance and as the Surveillance Coordinator for the Division. Dr. Elam-Evans spent two years in HIV/AIDS Surveillance (DHAP-SE), where she provided technical assistance to state and local health departments. Additionally, Dr. Elam-Evans worked in the Division of Adult and Community Health (DACH) for seven years and served as the Deputy Associate Director for Science, as the Acting Associate Director for Science, and as the Acting Chief for the Emerging Investigations and Analytic Methods Branch.

Dr. Elam-Evans received her bachelor's degree (BS) in Natural Science with a concentration in Health Science from Spelman College, her master's degree (MPH) in Epidemiology from Emory University and a Doctoral degree (PhD) in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

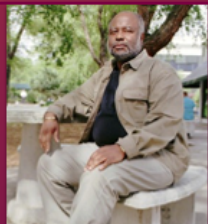
APRIL 8th, 2021 - 1:00P CDT /2:00P EDT

2ND ANNUAL WILLIAM "BILL" JENKINS LECTURE

Tuskegee University - College of Veterinary Medicine
Graduate Public Health Program

"It is the development of servant leaders which will make an impact on health disparities and provide social justice in health care, public health and health research. It is they who will care more about people than publication. They will ask the hard questions. They will speak for those who are unable to speak for themselves."

Dr. William Jenkins (1945 -2019)

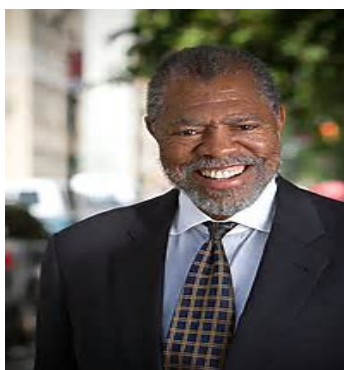


Panel Discussion:

Increasing the Public Health Pipeline to Address Health Equity

Introduction of Speaker: Dr. Diane Rowley
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Laurie Elam-Evans, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Click to Join Zoom Meeting
<https://tuskegee.zoom.us/j/94788197402?pwd=QFB6MihQcTcxK0Q3VEpPL3oxL2M3Zz09>



Dr. Kenneth Olden Lecture

The third annual Kenneth Olden Lecture as a part of the Rural Health Lecture Series established by the Department of Graduate Public Health (DGPH) in the College of Veterinary Medicine was delivered during the reporting period. This lecture is held annually by the DGPH and will highlight a scholar and/or advocate in Environmental Health Sciences that has or is currently conducting research and/or advocating for advances that will help to decrease health disparities in rural and other marginalized communities. This lecture series will provide a platform for national, regional, and local trailblazers in the field of Environmental Health to share and display new findings, advocacy, and leadership in the aspect of the One Health Triad that has implications for both human and animal health outcomes. We welcomed, Dr. Kenneth Olden, who delivered the first lecture in the series in September 2018 and agreed to continue to work with the DGPH to identify and secure future trail blazers for the lectures to come.

Dr. Kenneth Olden recently retired from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency where he served as Director of the National Center for Environmental Assessment from 2012-2016. He leaves a strong legacy of promoting excellence in environmental health research and chemical risk assessment. Ken started his distinguished career in medical research as a postdoctoral fellow from 1970-1974 in physiology and

biochemistry at the Harvard School of Medicine in Boston, MA. He then moved to the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health as a Senior Staff Fellow in the Laboratory of Molecular Biology. In 1977, Ken was promoted to the Rank of Tenured Independent Investigator; becoming the first African American to achieve such a rank in the National Institutes of Health. In 1979, Dr. Olden was appointed Professor in the Department of Oncology and Scientific Center at the Howard University Hospital in Washington, DC. Six years later (1985), he was promoted to the position of Director of the Cancer Center and Chair



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From 1991-2005, Dr. Olden was Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Toxicology Program (NTP) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He was the first African American to become Director of one of the NIH Institutes. In 2005, Ken resigned as Director so he could devote full time to his research and position as Chief of the Metastasis Group in the Laboratory of Molecular Carcinogenesis at the NIEHS. He also held the position of Yerby Visiting Professor at the Harvard School of Public Health for the academic year 2006-2007 and was Founding Dean of the School of Public Health at the City University of New York from 2008-2012. From 2012-2016, Ken served as Director of the National Center for Environmental Assessment in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

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International Challenges: COVID-19 Recovery

Dr. Joy St John, Director of Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA)

Dr. Joy St. John is dedicated and reliable, with a track record of achievements in public health systems management and development and health diplomacy. Her firm but fair style has assured her a place in networks of practice across the world.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR of CARPHA from July 2019. The Executive Director provides leadership and Direction to CARPHA in executing the functions laid out in the Inter-Governmental Agreement. Along with the CARPHA team, Dr St John has led the public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the CARICOM region.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL of the World Health Organization from October 2017 to April 2019, with direct responsibility at the World Health Organization for Climate and other Determinants of Health (CED) (first Barbadian to be Assistant Director General)

Former Chief Medical Officer of Barbados (first Barbadian to hold that office) for over 12 years-Top Public Health Advisor to the Minister of Health and responsible for the oversight of the management of the Health Sector. Chairman of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (first Caribbean person to do so) from 2012 -2013.

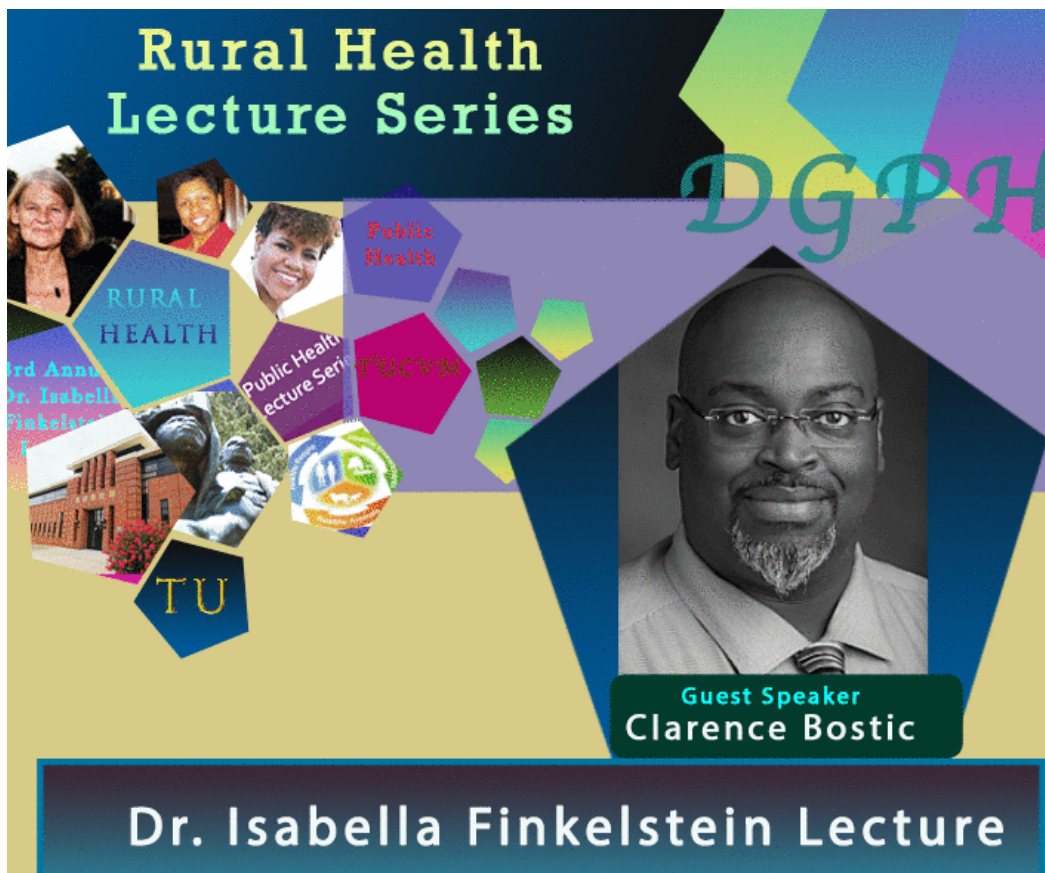


Dr. Isabella Jenkins Lecture

The Dr. Isabella Finkelstein lecture is intended to motivate students to use their time, talents, and resources to ensure that the most vulnerable and underserved populations have access to culturally competent health messages and the innovative scientific discoveries necessary to improve their health status. The 3rd Annual Finkelstein lecture was given by Mr. Clarence Bostic a former student of Dr. Finkelstein.



Clarence Bostic is a Technology Portfolio Manager in the Office of Strategic Analysis, Communication, and Business Development at NASA Langley Research Center. In his 14 years associated with NASA, and 6 years with the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA), he has held multiple positions across four NASA centers. Most recently as an Education Specialist, where he managed several university-focused initiatives. Mr. Bostic has also served as a POIC safety engineer at the Payload Operations and Integration Center (POIC) at Marshall Space Flight Center. He has also worked as a NASA Explorer Schools Coordinator at Kennedy Space Center teaching schools how to align their curricula to NASA resources, where he earned KSC certificates of appreciation and Group awards for his work with schools in that region. At NASA Headquarters he presented NASA themed math and science principles to teachers across the nation through the Urban and Rural Community Enrichment NASA Aerospace Education Services Program. Mr. Bostic has also worked at the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) as the chief of science, health and physical education, where he developed policy, budget requirements, responded to congressional requests, led curricula design/acquisition for PK-16 grades in all areas of science, health education and physical education programs for military dependent schools. As the DoDEA headquarters Instructional Systems Specialist for science, he aligned the focus of the science program with the schedule, cost, and developed appropriate milestones and associated deliverables, and later completed a two-year sabbatical teaching US military dependent children in Japan. Before his federal service, Mr. Bostic has worked as a research chemist, as a pharmaceutical biochemist, and taught college-level courses. Mr. Bostic has earned a B.S. in Biology, from Clark Atlanta University and received his Master of Science degree in Natural and Applied Sciences from Oklahoma State University.

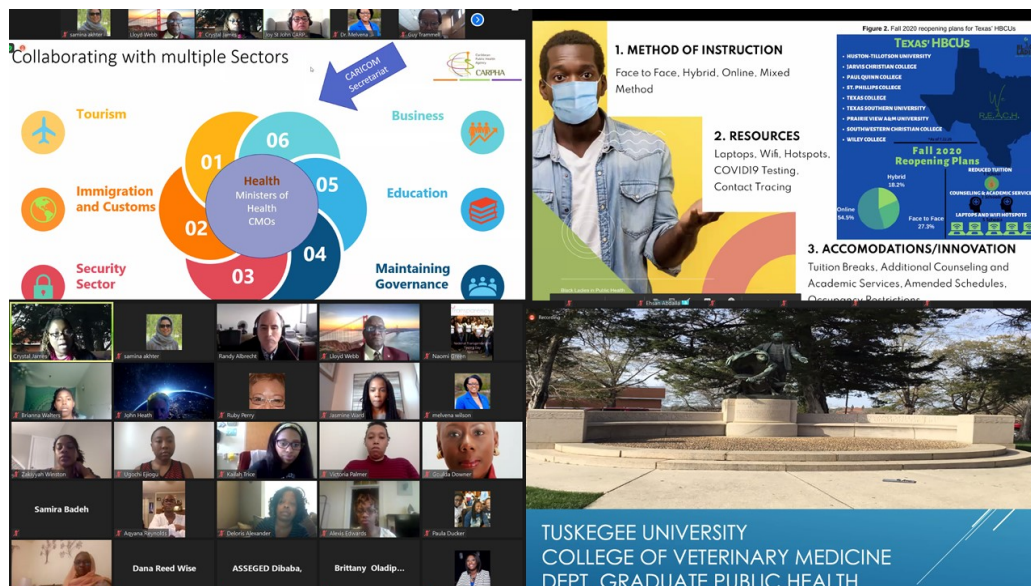


Primary Prevention & Data Collection

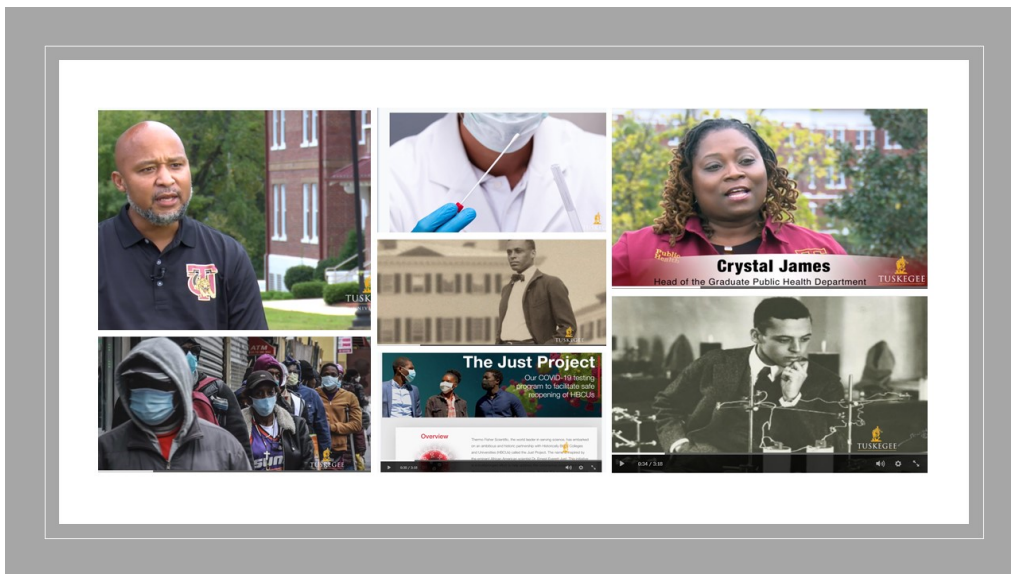
Our primary prevention focuses on raising community awareness and promoting healthy lifestyles to our stake holders. Each year the DGPH plays a pivotal role in the planning and implementation of the Annual One Health Symposium. The One Health Symposium provides the entire university community the opportunity to learn and engage one health strategies to decreasing health disparities through interaction with leading professionals in environmental health, animal health and human health.



The 21st Annual One Health Symposium was opened with a welcome from the University President, Dr. Lilly McNair and Dean Ruby Perry followed by the introduction of the morning panel discussion entitled: **“Social Justice and Health Security: Environmental Backdrop for dual pandemics** by Dr. Melvena Wilson.



In addition to continuing the funded research by the National Science Foundation to understand the sources of trusted health messages in the Black community and how Blacks attend to these messages to decrease disease burden related to pandemic COVID-19 disease Attorney James became the Co-Director of the Tuskegee Health Disparities Diagnostic Center (THDDC). The THDDC received initial resources via donation of equipment and reagents from ThermoFisher via the “Just Project” their social justice response to COVID-19.



The DGPH also furthered its collaboration with the University to create and implement a COVID-19 mitigation plan. Faculty led several informational sessions, seminars and served on panels to inform and train students, staff, and faculty on the university COVID-19 policies and procedures. The DGPH also provided training and technical assistance to the City of Tuskegee, Macon County, and other black belt counties within Alabama through virtual informational sessions.

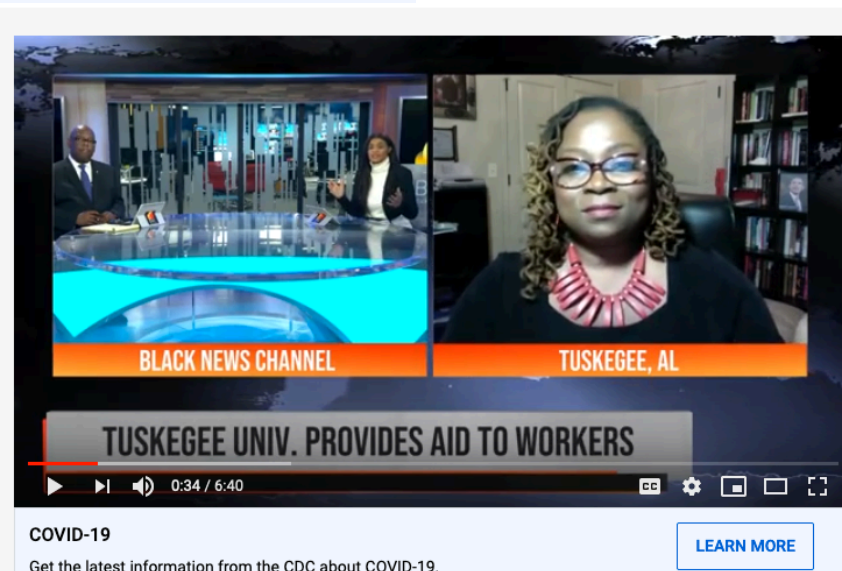




COVID-19

Get the latest information from the CDC about COVID-19.

[LEARN MORE](#)



COVID-19

Get the latest information from the CDC about COVID-19.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Advocacy

Service Learning and Policy Advocacy

The DGPB requires that all students to complete an applied proactive experience (APEX) that originates from a current community need as articulated by the community. During this reporting period students completed practicum experiences with community-based organizations, the extension program and other community partnerships. **Ashanti-Ali Davis** was a part of the Graduate Public Health Program 2018-2020 cohort. His research was named "Risk Factors for Type II Diabetes Among Children and Adolescents Living in a Food Desert". In collaboration with the Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care.

Thesis Translated to Intervention Strategies

The GHPH requires students selecting the thesis option to not only thoroughly investigate and defend a novel research question but also translate and deliver findings in a community setting wherein the learnings are immediately available to the communities that may benefit from the research findings.

- **Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: Disparities and Demographics between Blacks and Whites in the United States** (Ronald Peaster, MPH Student)

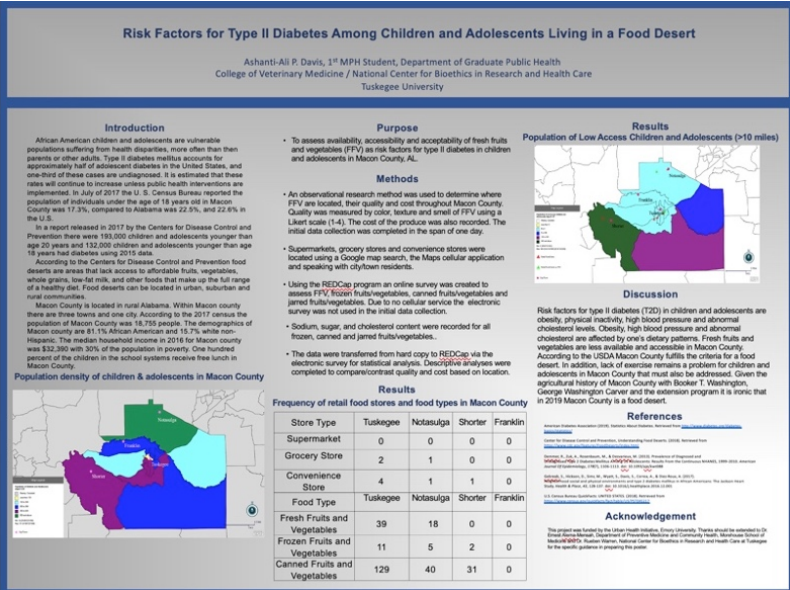
Partnerships with Community Organizations

To operationalize the vision, mission and goals listed above the DGPH has leveraged several community partnerships to collaborate towards decreasing health disparities. Listed below is a brief description of each collaborative partner.

Macon County Community Taskforce

When leaders in recognized that were working in 19 issues, they in the greater good community and one umbrella. This Macon County Task Force, a involving several

The Macon County Task Force meets mornings via ZOOM



Macon County multiple organizations silos to address COVID-made a decision to act of the entire come together under was the impetus for the Community Partners consolidation of efforts local entities.

Community Partners
weekly on Saturday

technology. Management of each meeting is rotated among four community leaders who are responsible for efficient administration of the meetings, which typically attract about 25 individuals representing municipalities, businesses, educational institutions, churches, nonprofits, grass roots organizations and concerned citizens. This is a time to share ideas, resources, and information vital to eradicating COVID-19 in Macon County.

Work conducted by the Macon County Community Partners Task Force involves four strategic goals that model successful efforts utilized by other counties, states and parts of the world engaged in combatting the coronavirus pandemic. The strategic goals are centered on these overarching needs:

- A Comprehensive Healthcare Response
- A Unified Coronavirus Public Policy
- An Efficient Management and Distribution of Resources
- A Centralized and Multi Layered Communication System

The task force has been effective at creating an infrastructure for long-term sustainability. Committees are working on their specific areas and significant cross-pollination is occurring. For example, the public policy committee researched various ordinances and resolutions in jurisdictions within the county. This information was submitted to the task force communications committee for posting on www.maconcares.org, a dedicated website that is a hub for COVID-19 related resources.

The communications committee also has developed collateral materials to push out safety messages concerning COVID-19.





The taskforce activities are facilitated by Dr. Charlotte Morris, President Tuskegee University, Dr. Lucenia Dunn, Former Mayor of Tuskegee and CEO TMCCF, Rev. Domecia Emmanuel, Chair Macon Ministerial Alliance, and Ms. Bernice Frazier, Chair Macon County Health Care Authority. The weekly meetings have representation from all partner agencies listed below:



Students for Education and Economic Development (SEED) The idea for Students for Education and Economic Development was born out of a tragedy in 1985 when high school basketball star Ben Wilson was murdered in the streets of Chicago.

The late Rev. James Bevel and his colleagues prayed about a solution to the increasing violence among young people and determined that proper education and economic development opportunities were the missing element in these children's lives. These are the roots of the first SEED organization.

The second generation of SEED Inc was incorporated by Scott and Erica Muhammad in Alabama in 2010; they currently serve as co-directors of the organization. They have run organic agriculture camps for children since 2001 in Illinois and Alabama.

Mission: We are committed to making man (male and female) in the image and likeness of God by teaching students how to become economically independent and institutionally sovereign. To that end, we dedicate our resources to:

- Delivering high-quality, project-based service learning, beginning with agriculture and industry;
- Providing innovative economic opportunities for participants, with a focus on low-income communities;
- Partnering with others in the community to improve educational and economic opportunities;
- Advancing the scientific education of children at the public policy level

Tuskegee Macon County Community Foundation, Inc. (TMCCF) was founded in October 2002 and reorganized in June 2012 with the new mission of enhancing the quality of life in disadvantaged communities in rural and urban areas through the reduction of health disparities and advancing health equity. It is a 501 (c)(3) public charity and is one of the few community foundations serving a predominately rural area.

Currently, a particular focus is on health equity in a rural area region. It sees as its major goals to develop appropriate partnerships that address critical issues and challenges in disadvantage communities and build and sustain philanthropic capital. Consistent with its mission, TMCCF plays an integral role in marshalling resources, both people and financial, to address a community's needs such as the reduction of health disparities.

As a community foundation, TMCCF leverages its expertise and relationships with local, state, and national stakeholders to convene and engage key decision makers in dialogue and action-oriented planning focused on capacity-building, impacts, and outcomes. TMCCF also engages in outreach to diverse stakeholders to collaborate on the development of a strategic agenda for community and economic development particularly in rural and urban poor communities. To meet the goal of cost-effective health and human service delivery in Tuskegee Macon County, TMCCF, Inc. engaged Westat, Inc. and A2D, Inc. as critical partners in meeting the healthcare challenges of the Tuskegee Macon County region that evolved into the Telehealth EcoSystem™ model. In April 2017, TMCCF organized the first Health Roundtable that resulted in health organizations convening on a regular basis to become more acquainted with programs and leadership to better serve Macon County.

The Movement 46 (TM46)-Springing forth from the momentum of the community galvanization around the T-100 competition, TM46 recognized the legacy that Tuskegee/Macon County has which can be critical to the revitalization and mobilization of the community in coordination with public officials. Borrowing

from the name of an organization that had been previously developed by one of the organizers, the group settled on “The Movement” which is indicative of action, collaboration, and growth. The number 46 is the state vehicle number for Macon County and denotes the geographical parameters in which the group would focus their efforts. TM46 meets weekly to discuss, plan, educate and collaborate for the uplift of the community.

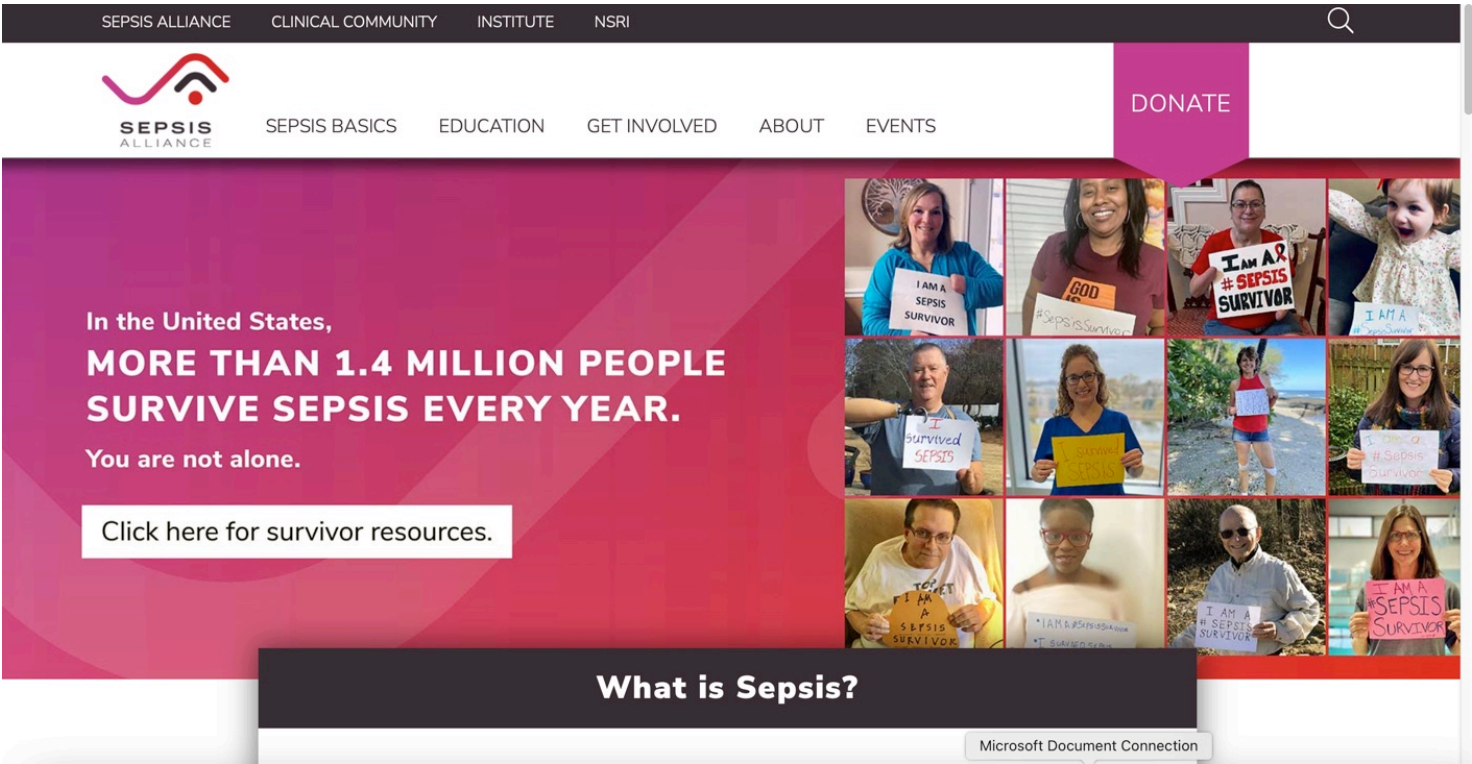
EDUCATION & SCHOLARSHIP

Student Advising & Experiential learning

COVID-19 has challenged the recruitment process and student retention for the DGPH. Four new students were enrolled for the 2020-2021 academic year with the average grade point average at acceptance being 3.1. According to the university COVID19 policies and procedures each student selected the modality in which they would engage the curriculum with most students selecting hybrid or virtual only. Remote learning for the didactic lectures and applied practice experiences have been instituted with many community partners allowing engagement in a virtual only format per their COVID-19 mitigation strategies. The table below shows the number of new students entering over the past two academic years, retention and graduation rates.

2019-20	# Students continuing at beginning of this school year (or # entering for newest cohort)	4	6	
	# Students withdrew, dropped, etc.	0	2	
	# Students graduated	3	0	
	Cumulative graduation rate	75%	0%	
2020-21	# Students continuing at beginning of this school year (or # entering for newest cohort)	1	4	4
	# Students withdrew, dropped, etc.	0	0	0
	# Students graduated	1	0	1
	Cumulative graduation rate	100%	0%	0%

Experiential Learning Opportunities are sought out and cultivated by faculty and staff of the DGPB to assist in translating the mission and vision of the program to public health practice. Each student is required, as delineated in the DGPB student handbook¹ to complete an experiential learning experience as well as a practicum or thesis. These experiential learning opportunities are not possible without community partnerships with governmental and non-governmental community organizations that provide mentorship and hands on experience for our developing professionals. A mentoring program has been developed and is shared with each potential community mentor, to ensure that the experiences our students receive have the necessary rigor and engagement to meet the expectations of the program.² The Sepsis Alliance is one of the new community partners that provided an APEx experience to one our students.



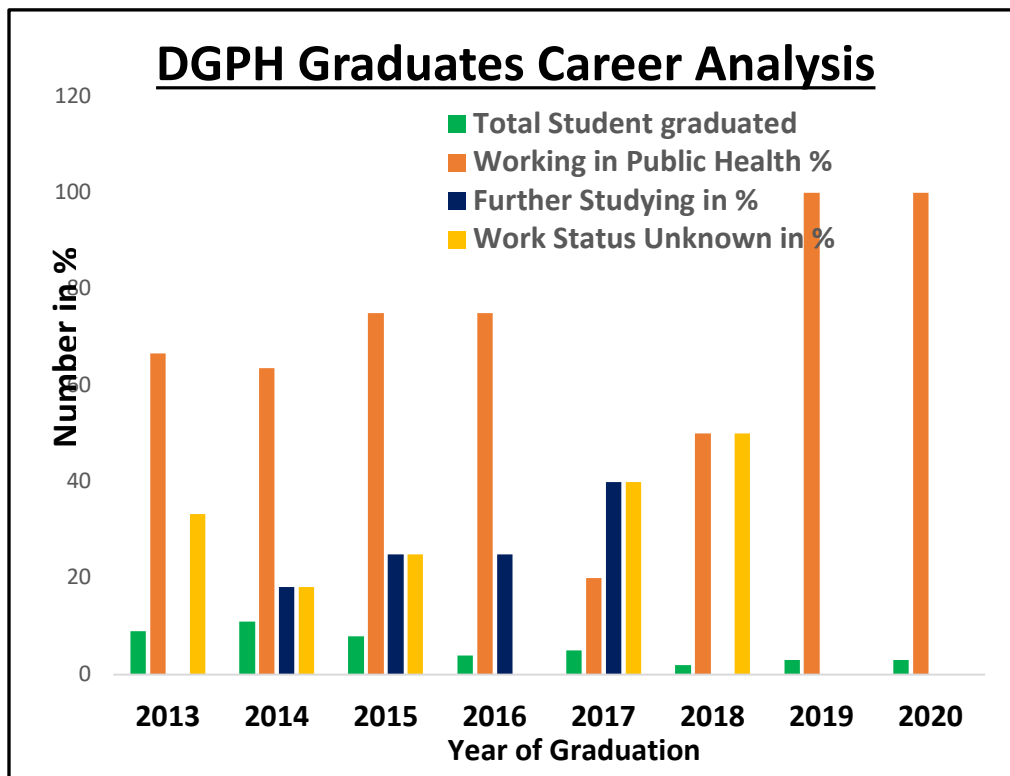
We continue to collect data on student outcomes to ensure that the program is developing workforce ready graduates that are ready to enter the public health workforce. The following tables and chart reflect the most recent data on post-graduation outcomes.

Post-Graduation Outcomes	2019 Number and percentage	2020 Number and percentage	2021 Number and percentage

¹ Appendix G: DGPB Student handbook updated August 2019

² Appendix H: DGPB Mentoring Plan

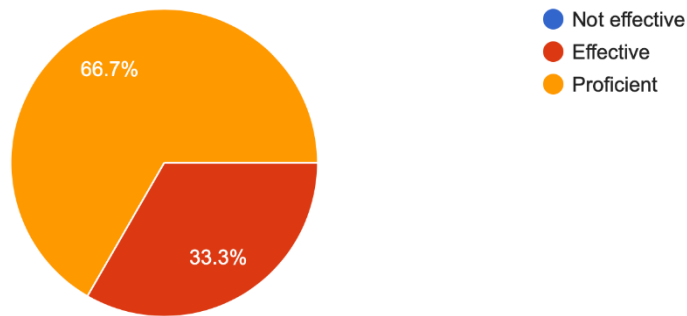
Employed	2 (67%)	1 (33%)	0
Continuing education/training (not employed)	1 (33%)	2 (67%)	1(100%)
Not seeking employment or not seeking additional education by choice	0	0	0
Actively seeking employment or enrollment in further education	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0
Total graduates (known + unknown)	3 (100%)	3 (100%)	1(100%)



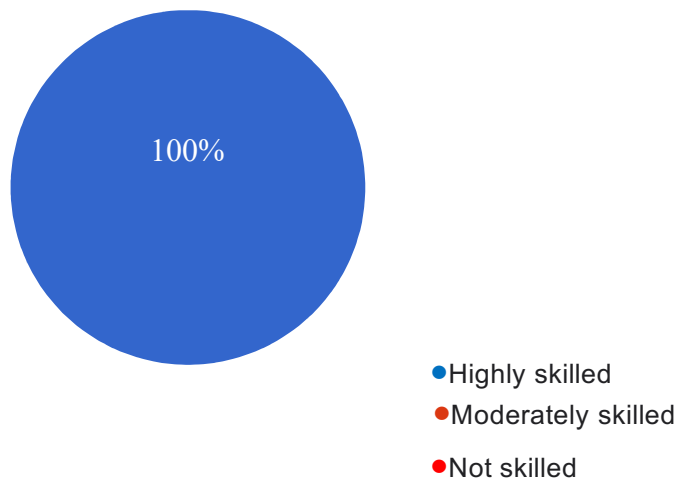
Another key indicator for program success is alumni perceptions of readiness to meet the expectations of the workforce. This data is used as a part of our continuous quality improvement efforts. Because the small cohorts in the most recent year we utilized structured interviews to minimize group think and a questionnaire to focus questions to the domains in which the students entered. All three graduates in Spring 2020 entered the workforce after graduation. Two graduates expressed interest in entering a doctoral program in public health. Below are select charts that reflect student responses in 2020.

To what degree are you able to effectively integrate the findings from quantitative and qualitative data into research or applied practical experience settings?

3 responses



Do you believe that you have developed skills necessary to communicate, and apply system thinking strategies such as (active listening, conflict resolution, negotiation, risk communication, adapted teaching methods) in interaction with individuals and community groups through your core curriculum competencies?

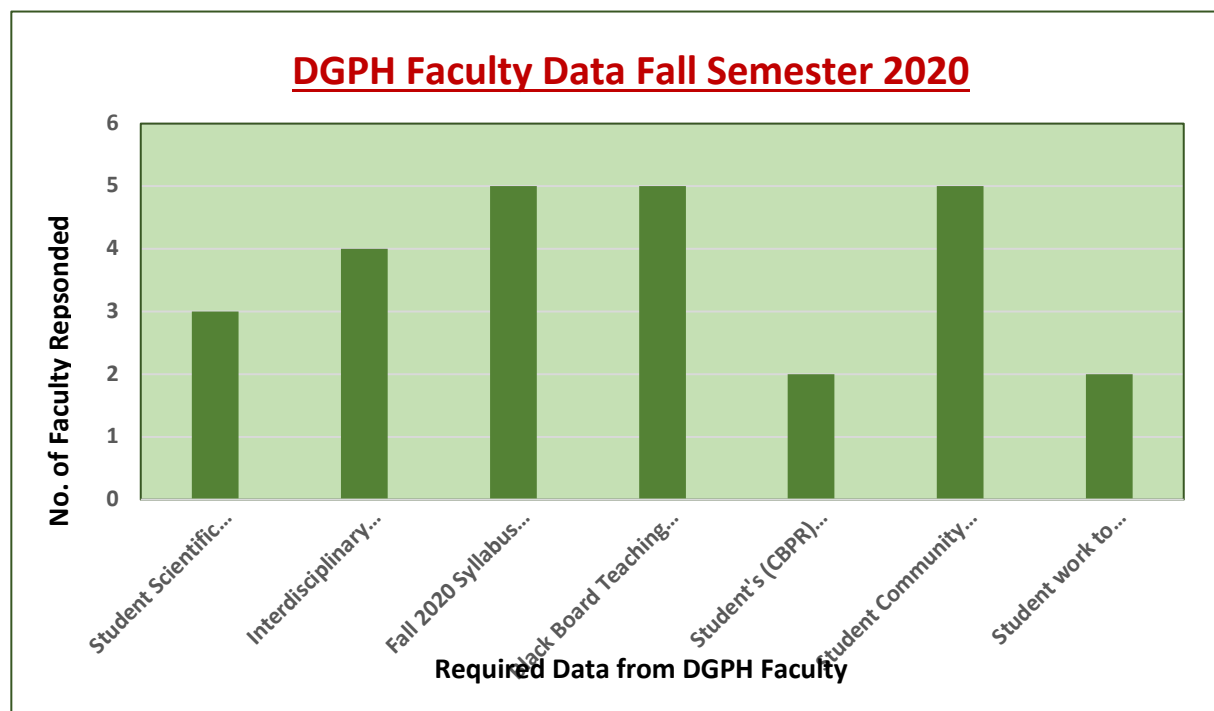


APEX/Practicum & Research/Thesis Workforce Preparation Indicators

Approximately 60% of respondents in 2019 felt the APEX or Practicum experience was extremely effective or very effective in preparing them for the workforce, whereas in 2020 there was an increase to 76.5%.

Program Activities & Professional Services

Evaluation data on faculty achievement of goals and objectives set in collaboration with the external advisory board is used to ensure students have access to faculty mentored student led research as well as have the opportunity for co-authorship in peer reviewed journals. This data is collected at the end of each semester and used in the annual evaluation process.



The Department of Graduate Public Health in the News and on social media:

The DGPH launched its social media presence with FaceBook, Twitter, and LinkedIn pages to highlight news of activities and programs in the department and to stay connected with our alumni. Social media is also a key aspect of the new recruitment strategies being employed to address the low applicant rates.

Fears, Facts, Future: Tuskegee forum interviews

Published: Mar. 11, 2021 at 3:54 PM CST

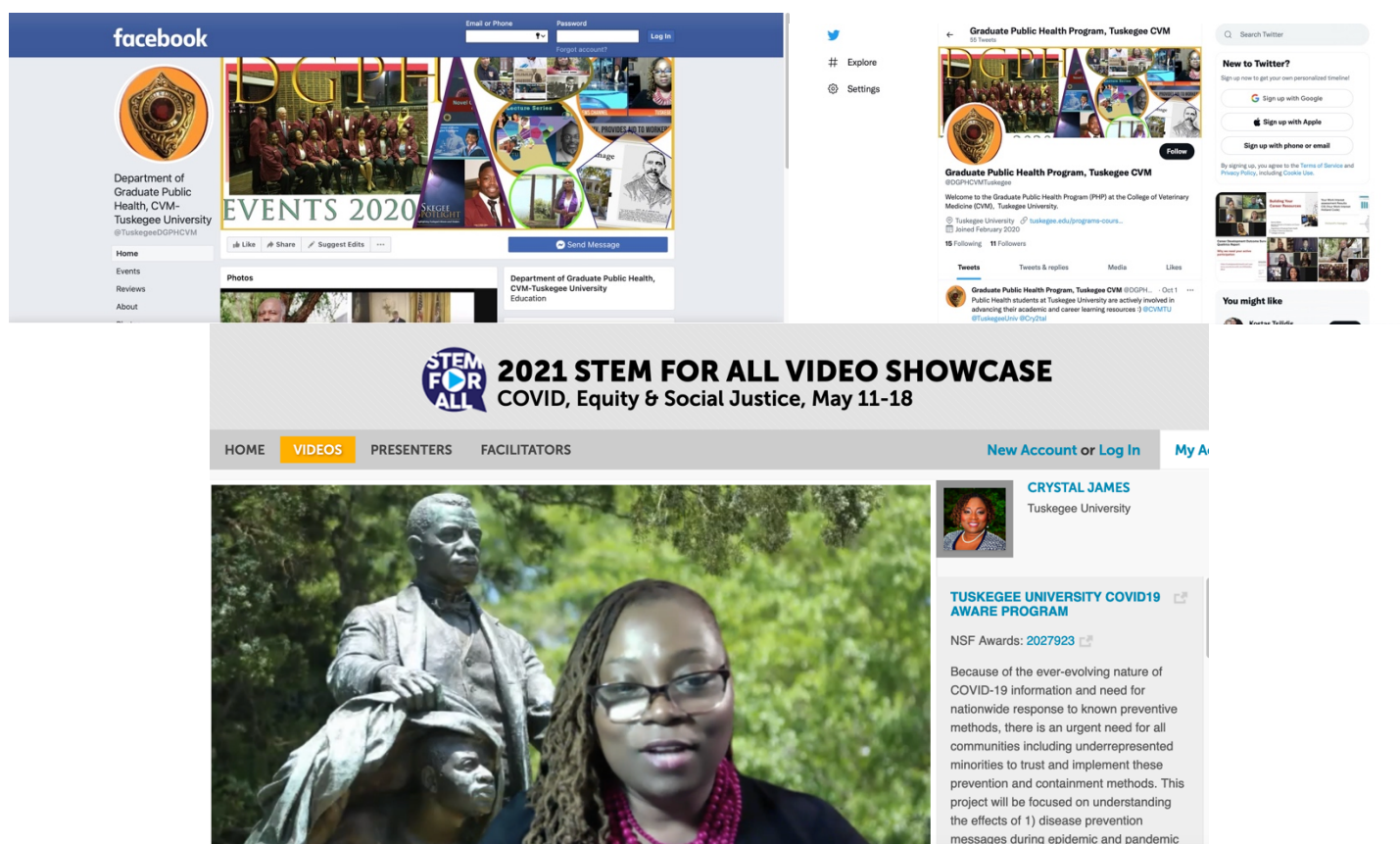
<https://www.wsfa.com/video/2021/03/11/fears-facts-future-tuskegee-forum-interviews/>

Tuskegee University limits football game attendance, citing COVID-19 rise

<https://www.wsfa.com/2021/09/08/tuskegee-university-limits-football-game-attendance-citing-covid-rise/>

The Department of Graduate Public Health's NSF COVID Aware Program was accepted in the 2021 STEM for all video showcase

<https://stemforall2021.videohall.com/presentations/2118>



Original Peer-Reviewed Publications

Warren, R. C. (2020). Enhancing The Health Of African Americans Using A Public Health Ethics Lens. *American Journal of Health Studies*, Vol. 35(2) p164-173, April 6, 2020.

Warren, R. C., Forrow, L., Hodge Sr, D. A., & Truog, R. D. (2020). Trustworthiness before Trust—Covid-19 Vaccine Trials and the Black Community. *New England Journal of Medicine*, October 16, 2020.

Warren, R. C. (2021). Healthcare as a Right for the Human Trafficked. Springer Nature Switzerland, M. Chisolm-Straker & K. Chon (EDs.) *The Historical Roots of Human Trafficking: Informing Primary Prevention of Commercialized Violence* Springer. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-70675-3>, May 26, 2021.

Bogale Dibaba, Asseged, Kriek, Nick P. J., Thoen, Charles O. (Editors). Tuberculosis in Animals: An African Perspective. Springer Nature, Switzerland AG.

Dibaba, B. Asseged, C. J. Daborn (2019). Epidemiology of Bovine Tuberculosis in Africa. In Dibaba et al. (eds.). *Tuberculosis in Animals: An African Perspective*. Springer Nature, Switzerland AG. pp 89-126.
Muthuma, Evans, Dibaba, B. Asseged (2019). The risk of introduction of swine vesicular disease virus into Kenya via natural sausage casings imported from Italy. *Preventive Veterinary Medicine*. Volume 169. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.prevetmed.2019.104703>.

Webb, L. James, C., Abdalla, E., Sodeke, S., Alexander, A., Elhussain, I., Lee, C. “Evaluating Tuskegee University’s Ongoing Response Strategy to Mitigate Direct and Indirect Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic by using an Integrative Framework Analysis” *Journal of Healthcare, Science and The Humanities*. Accepted (June 2020)

Warren, R.C, Shedlin, M.G., Alama-Mensah, E., Obasaju, C., Hodge, D. Clinical Trials Participation Among African Americans and the Ethics of Trust: Leadership Perspectives. *Journal of Ethics Medicine and Public Health*, Accepted

Gallagher, A., **Warren, R. C.**, Hodge, D. Reparation, Bill Jenkins and a Legacy of Courage. *Nursing Ethics An International Journal For Health Care Professionals*, Accepted.

Ramos, S. R., **Warren, R.**, Shedlin, M., Melkus, G., Kershaw, T., Vorderstrasse, A. A Framework for Using eHealth Interventions to Overcome Medical Mistrust Among Sexual Minority Men of Color Living with Chronic Conditions. *Behavioral Medicine*, 45:2, 166-17, <https://doi.org/10.1080/08964289.2019.1570074>.

Warren, R. C. Clare, C. A., Villanueva, and Pinn, V.W. (2020) In the Interest of Science or Humanity: J. Marion Sims Was Wrong Then and Now! **Journal of the National Medical Association**. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jnma.2020.01.002>. February 27, 2020.

Braithwaite, R., & Warren, R. (2020). The African American Petri Dish. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*.

Opinion Editorials and Commentaries

James, C., Dunn, L., "Are We Serious About Widespread Testing for COVID-19?" (Published by Women of Color Advancing Peace, Security, and Conflict Transformation)

https://issuu.com/wcapsnet/docs/op_ed_covid19.04262020.final

James, C., Robinson, E., "Redefining Normal during COVID-19: Attending to the Threat of Backlash" (Published by Women of Color Advancing Peace, Security and Conflict Transformation)

https://issuu.com/wcapsnet/docs/crystal_article_aug_14/2

DEPARTMENT OF GRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH TEAM



Many Disciplines...One Mission



Crystal M. James, JD, MPH

Attorney James' teaching philosophy is based upon the Socratic method aimed at elucidating the underlying beliefs and/or biases that inform and shape the position the student is choosing to champion. This time-tested method of dialog between student and teacher integrated with the use of technology and current events allows the student to critically evaluate their position and apply it to multiple changing variables while allowing the teacher to evaluate the student's ability to understand public health policy, law, and administration and their application at origination and today. Her goal as a professor is to not only ensure understanding of the rule of law but also its application across the time continuum and societal influence; utilizing hermeneutics and ethical constructs of society to lead students to develop a full understanding of the genesis and application of the law, policy and administration of public health programs.

Student development of intended skills will be assessed by class participation, demonstrated ability to respond to multilayered questions on topics relevant to the subject matter delivered, and written assessments.

Attorney James is from Broxton, GA and the only African American attorney from her hometown. She has two siblings and is the mother to one daughter, Zora S. James who is a Junior in high school.

Research Interests & Foci:

- Sources of trusted health messages for COVID-19 among African Americans
- Legal Intervention's impact on the health of minority populations
- Defining health security in the United States
- Law and policy impact on the culture of health in black belt states

Public Health Media Coverage and National Panel Discussions:

Tuskegee University's Public Health Response to the Coronavirus Pandemic (Aired on Black News Channel April 28, 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Dn1FhIYC-g&t=64s>

Rural Health Lecture Series: 1st Annual William "Bill" Jenkins Lecture (April 22, 2020)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnl45YXUk7E&feature=youtu.be>

Virtual Community Meeting: Decoding COVID19 Race Data (April 16, 2020)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EbhFchx_B7M&feature=youtu.be

- Head, Department Graduate Public Health
- Special Assist. to Pres. For COVID-19
- Director, Graduate Public Health Program
- Member, Executive Leadership Council College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM)
- Academic Advisor for all GPH students
- Co-Chair One Health Symposium 2020
- Member, CVM Safety Committee
- Member, CVM Diversity Committee
- Board Member, Women of Color Advancing Peace, Security, and Conflict Transformation
- Assistant to President & General Counsel, HBCU Law Enforcement Executives Association

Education/Practice

- Earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Clark Atlanta University in 1994
- Earned a Master of Public Health degree from Emory University in 1996
- Earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from University of Houston in 1998
- Passed Georgia Bar Examination 1998
- Admitted to practice before Georgia Court of Appeals 1998
- Admitted to practice in the US District Court Northern District of Georgia in 2002
- Admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the State of Georgia in 2012
- Established Chrysalis International Consulting, LLC in 2012

Lloyd A.W. Webb, DVM, MPH

Dr. Lloyd Webb is a Professor of Public Health with 24 years of experience working in the field of public health. Early in his veterinary career, he embraced the One-Health concept that is inextricably linked to the human, animal, and environment. The convergence of human, animal and the environment is complex and requires the input of biological, physical, social, chemical and other factors with which all public health graduate students must become familiar as they seek to become change makers to underserved communities in a dynamic national and global environment. As a Public Health Epidemiologist and One-Health expert, he has been committed to serve in national, regional and international administrative, technical, regulatory, policy, and advisory capacities. His goal is to equip graduate public health students with knowledge and skills through mentoring and teaching them on the applications of the essential public health functions that are ethically linked to international health, food security (food safety, availability, accessibility, and affordability), zoonoses, and environmental health issues, using his vast international exposure and experience in public health, having served the Pan American Health Organization/World Health organization for eleven years (2000 - 2011) as the Regional Advisor in Veterinary Public Health for the English-speaking Caribbean countries and Latin America.. He continues to apply his experience and achievements to be a trusted partner in teaching, research, and service to all our graduate students through team partnerships and experiential exposure.



Dr. Lloyd Webb is from Trinidad and Tobago and a proud husband, father, and grandfather of four.

Education/Practice/Award

- Earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science from Tuskegee University in 1976
- Earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree from Tuskegee University in 1978
- Earned a Master of Public Health degree from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in 1984
- Received a Diploma in Helminthology from the Commonwealth Institute of Parasitology in St. Albans, UK in 1990
- Certified in Food Safety Risk Communication and Food Safety Risk Management by the University of Maryland in 2011
- Practiced clinical veterinary medicine as a Small Animal Clinician and as a Large Animal Veterinary field practitioner in the Ministry of Agriculture in his native country (1978 - 1985)
- Continued to practice part-time as a Small Animal Clinician until 2000.

Research Interests & Foci:

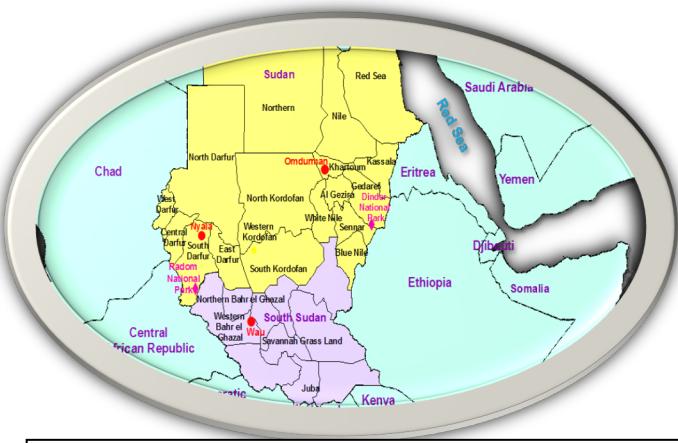
- Food Safety and Zoonoses
- Health Disparities related to Environmental Health and Alzheimer's disease
- One Health Research

- Director, Veterinary Public Health Unit, Ministry of Health (1985 - 1994)
- Professor in Public Health at the School of Veterinary Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago
- Commissioning Director of the Graduate Public Health Program(2011)
- Professor of Public Health, Department of Graduate Public Health
- Mentor and Academic Advisor for Graduate Public Health students
- Member, Advisory Board, African-American Brain Health Initiative at Rutgers University, Newark

Ehsan Abdalla, DVM, MSc, PHD

Her career goal is to reduce and/or eliminate cervical cancer disparities in underserved communities, especially the Black Belt Counties (BBC) of Alabama. To do this, she identified potential selection biases and definitions of vulnerable groups when detecting disparities. Her aim is to identify multilevel determinants of health disparities, including individual beliefs and preferences, effective patient-provider communication, and the organizational culture of the health care system. She encourages interventions that yield generalizable data on their effectiveness and that promote further engagement of communities, providers, and policymakers to ultimately enhance the application and the impact of health disparities research. Dr. Abdalla is a Research Centers in Minority Institutions International's member (RCMI), serving as a community liaison on Cervical Cancer in the BBC of Alabama. She is also working on HIV/AIDS with various health departments (Medical Advocacy Outreach). From 2010-2016, Dr. Abdalla was a winner of 6 awards in elimination of health disparities through translational research. More recently she was awarded a one-year Pilot Project Grant (April 2018-April 2019) by Tuskegee University Center for Biomedical Research/Research Centers in Minority Institutions (TU CBR/RCMI) Program at the National Institute of Health.

Populations to be served: women aged 18 years and older who are living in Macon County, Alabama, US.



This map was created by Dr. Ehsan Abdalla and can be accessed from her Book Chapter publication: Abdalla Ehsan and Nganwa D. (2014). Factors Contributing to the Transmission of Bovine Tuberculosis Caused by *Mycobacterium bovis* and its Control Status in Sudan. In: Zoonotic Tuberculosis *Mycobacterium bovis* and Other Pathogenic *Mycobacteria*. (eds Charles O. Thoen, James H. Steele & John B. Kaneene), 3rd edn. pp. 159-174. Wiley-Blackwell, 2121 State Avenue, Ames, IA 50014.

Ehsan Abdalla is from Sudan, and a US citizen. She has six siblings

Education/Practice

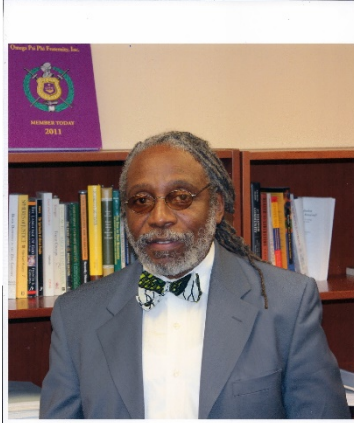
- Earned a DVM degree in Veterinary Science from Faisal Abad Agriculture University, School of Veterinary Medicine, Pakistan, in 1993
- Earned a Master of Veterinary Science degree (Field of Study: Veterinary Pathology) from Faisal Abad Agriculture University, School of Veterinary Medicine, Pakistan in 1995
- Earned a Master of Veterinary Science (Field of study: Epidemiology and Risk Analysis) from the Department of Pathobiology, Tuskegee University, USA, in 2011
- Earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Veterinary Science (Field of study: Epidemiology and Risk Analysis) from the Department of Pathobiology, Tuskegee University, USA, in 2017
- Licensure to practice veterinary medicine in Sudan and Pakistan in 1993

Research Interests & Foci:

- Identification of factors associated with the cervical cancer mortality disparities among Blacks living in the BBC of Alabama. These factors will need to be addressed in a systemic way at the levels of patients, providers, facilities, and health care systems.
- Identification of factors associated with cervical cancer screening among HIV-infected African American women in the BBC of Alabama.
- Combining tool related technologies in computational epidemiologic modeling, Risk Analysis and Geographic Information Systems. These tools could play in the advancement of the understanding disease processes and the identification of specific interventions and with the potential to impact and save lives of underserved women.

- Director of Analytics, Department Graduate Public Health
- Member: American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
- Member of American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)
- Member of Research Centers in Minority Institutions International's member (RCMI)
- Chair the 1st Annual Cervical Cancer Awareness Workshop, 2018
- Member, CVM Diversity Committee

Rueben C. Warren, D.D.S., MPH, DrPh, M.Div



Rueben C. Warren approaches the teaching and learning process by assuring that students develop a life-long learning philosophy. Graduate public health education is an academic process that demands evidence-based strategies to prevent diseases, adverse health conditions and promote health. New knowledge, particularly in health, evolves at a rate that demands the constant interchange of theory and practice. Public health is an applied science that requires a trans-disciplinary approach to population health. The lecture format to teaching public health has limited utility, particularly when knowledge, while important, does not drive health behavior. The process of being an effective public health graduate student is different from the undergraduate experience because graduate public health education demands continuous collective critical thinking and proactive behaviors on the part of students. Students must challenge current public health practices by understanding the science that undergirds those practices and create

new theories and practice based on basic and applied research. **Research** is developing new knowledge.

Education is the process of acquiring, internalizing, facilitating and using knowledge. **Service** or, more generally, Community Engagement is translating, evidence-based findings into individual, group and community behaviors to improve the human condition. People educated in various disciplines of public health should know the basic principles of applied research, understand, and interpret the findings to improve population health.

Dr. Rueben C. Warren was born in San Antonio, Texas. He grew up in Southcentral Los Angeles, California. He has lived in both Northern and Southern California. He also has lived in Nashville, Tennessee; Boston, MA; Lagos, Nigeria; Hartford CT; Jackson, MS; Atlanta GA and Tuskegee AL.

Education/Practice

- Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from San Francisco State University-1968
- Doctor of Dental Surgery from Meharry Medical College-1972
- Masters of Public Health Harvard School of Public Health-1973
- Teaching Fellow Harvard School of Public Health-1974
- Clinical Certificate in Dental Public Health, Harvard School of Dental Medicine-1973-75
- Doctor of Public Health, Harvard School of Public Health- (Concentration in Health Service Research, Health Education and Dental Public Health)- 1975
- 1976-77 Instructor, Harvard School of Dental Medicine
- 1977-1980 Assistant Professor, Department of Behavior Science and Community Health, School of Dental Medicine, University of Connecticut Health Center
- 1977-1979-Assistant Professor Department of Behavioral Science and Community Health School of Dental Medicine University of Connecticut Health Center Farmington, CT
- Board Certified in Dental Public Health (Specialty Board)-1986
- Master of Divinity (Concentration in Theology and Ethics)- Interdenominational Theological Center-2007
- Instructor, Department of Dental Ecology, Harvard School of Dental Medicine 1975-76
- Dental Director, State of Mississippi-1980-83
- Dean of the School of Dentistry, Meharry Medical College- 1983-88
- Associate Director for Minority Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry 1988-1997
- Associate Director for Urban Affairs, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry 1997-2007
- Associate Director of Environment Justice Centers for Disease Control and Prevention- 2008-2009
- Certificate in Bioethics Georgetown University-2009
- Licensed to practice dentistry in MA, CT, TN.

- Professor of Bioethics and Director National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care, Tuskegee University
- Adjunct Professor: Morehouse School of Medicine, Meharry Medical College Schools of Dentistry and School of Graduate Study and Research, Emory School of Public Health (Past), Professor of Medicine, Ethics and Public Health, Interdenominational Medicine
- Distinguished Alumni Award, Harvard School of Dental Medicine
- Honorary Doctor of Medicine Meharry Medical College
- Dean Emeritus, Meharry Medical College, Honorary Doctor of Medical Science
- Doctor of Humane Letters, Meharry Medicine College
- Chairman of the Board of HEALing Community Governing Board (Federally Funded Community Health Center in Atlanta GA)
- Chair of the Advisory Board of the MSPH Program Meharry Medical College
- Chair of the Advisory Board of MPH Program Morehouse School of Medicine

Research Interest and Foci:

- Health Service Research
- Public Health
- Oral Health
- Faith/Health
- Ethics

Andrew Zekeri, PH.D



Dr. Andrew A. Zekeri is professor of sociology and Graduate Faculty in the Department of Psychology and Sociology at Tuskegee University. His research focuses on rural poverty, family well-being, food insecurity and

Office: 44-325 John Kenney Hall. Phone:334-727-8086. Email:azekeri@tuskegee.edu

nutrition, and conspiracy theories about HIV/AIDS and food insecurity among HIV-positive patients. Dr. Zekeri also studies social and behavioral sciences perspective on rural health issues, community, and economic development in the rural South. He has published articles in several international refereed scholarly journals. In 2015, Dr. Zekeri's book, "Issues and Challenges of the American Rural South," was published by Cognella Academic Publishing. He teaches the following graduate level classes (SOCI 541 Socio-Cultural Problems of the South, MSPH 610 Psychosocial Determinants of Health, [BSC-0710 Integrated Biosciences Lit Review](#), IPPD 0611 Social Issues & Pub Policy History; IPPD 0617 Race, Ethnicity and Public Policy. He holds a PhD in rural sociology from Pennsylvania State University.

John C Heath BS. MS. PhD.

Dr. John Heath is an Experimental Psychologist who has been involved in research for many years bridging psychological concepts of behavior to taxonomic and thematic relational responding, aggression, domestic violence, but particularly environmental insult. One of his major areas of research is the effects of chronic exposure to inorganic and organic mercury, on the fertility rates of males and females. Also, the effects during pubescent development and the motor and cognitive deficits that can occur in the adult and the offspring. Part of this research is looking at the ameliorating effects of a Selenium enhanced diet on mercury toxicity. He developed an operant conditioning procedure for testing the visual system in rodents. This allows us to follow the progression of certain visual functions over the lifetime of the animal without introducing any possible contravening variables. The insult from environmental pollutants is a large public health issue which affects minority populations to a greater degree than majority populations. The environmental injustice that occurs throughout the country produces health risks in minority populations at a greater rate than the general population. Dr. Heath has also been researching Environmental injustice in minority communities. Looking into the effects of possible pollution from a local landfill on a minority population. Dr. Heath regularly works with graduate students as their major professor or as member of a thesis or dissertation committee. He also mentors students and help in areas where they may be having difficulties. Dr. Heath also has research interest in gun ownership and suicide rates in Alabama. He practices a philosophy that says most people are able to achieve at the level they choose. However, none of us are superwomen or supermen and at times need help and assistance. Being able to recognize when we need that assistance and being able to ask for it is not a weakness but an admirable strength.

Dr. Heath has presented his research 47 times at State, National and international conferences as well as being invited to present at both US and UK universities. He has 22 publications in peer reviewed journals

Dr. Heath loves to sail in his 25 ft sailboat. He is also an avid listener of classical music. Together with his wife Yvonne he owns a small company that produces wooden

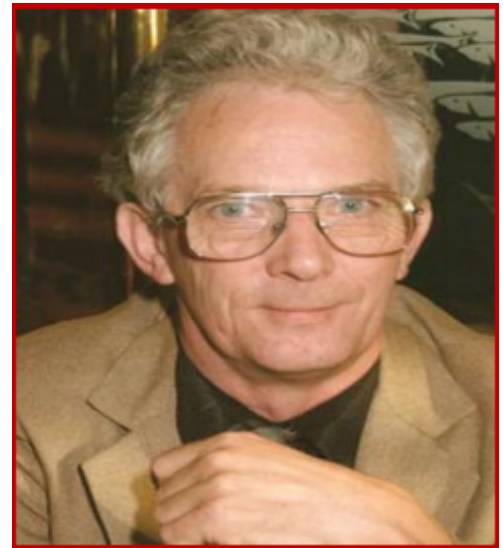


Dr. Heath earned an HNC in mechanical engineering in 1972 He received a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from Utah State University in 2001

Received his Master of Science degree from Auburn University in experimental psychology in 2003

Was awarded a PhD in experimental psychology with an emphasis on behavioral toxicology in 2008 from Auburn University.

Dr. Heath also has a minor in developmental psychology.



Dr. John Heath was born in the Town of Southend-on-Sea in the county of Essex in the UK. He moved to the United States in 1977 where he worked as a product design engineer for 25 years. He went back to school in 1996 and earned a BS, MS and A PhD in experimental Psychology. In 1965 his family moved to the Isle of Man which is not part of the United Kingdom or European Union, but has the status of a crown dependency. It has the oldest continuous government in the world dating back to 979ad. He has two sons Paul and Jason and two daughters Dianne and Vanessa.

Melvenia Wilson, DrPH



Overview:

It has been my pleasure to join the faculty in the Department of Graduate Public Health this academic year. I have worked hard to learn the culture and move the goals and mission of the GPHP forward since being added to this diverse team. I look forward to building new alliances on campus and within the College to ensure that our application for accreditation of this vital program is successful.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Public Health –
12/2009
Florida A & M University
Behavioral Science and Health
Education

Master of Public Health -
5/2002
University of Florida
Community Health Education

Certificate of Global Health 5-
2019
University of Alabama –
Birmingham

RESEARCH INTEREST

- Health Disparities and Inequity

A Georgia Peach, raised in the Florida Sunshine, I call Fort Walton Beach, FL my home. And enjoy spending time with my family and friends hanging out at the beach and providing community service with my Sorority.

Teaching
Courses coordinated and/or lectured in this

academic year:

- Public Health - Coordinator
- Multivariate Methods - Coordinator
- Seminar II: Special Topics Environmental Law-Co-Lead
- Program Planning and Evaluation – Co-Lead

- Health Education and Communication – Coordinator
- Health Disparities
- Psychosocial Determinants of Health
- Thesis Research

Research & Presentations

Articles Published, Creation of New Courses, Grant Applications:

- Submission of NSF RAPID COVID 19 grant as Co-PI - FUNDED
- Submission of HRSA SDS grant as contributing author
- Creation of new Seminar course: contributing author
- Submission of Truth Grant – PI
- Submission ADPH Mental Health Grant - FUNDED

Presentations:

- Co-Presenter COVID 19 Virtual Community Meeting series

Service

- *Chair, GPHP Grants committee*
- *Member, GPHP Admissions Committee*
- *Chair, GPHP Recruitment Committee*
- *Academic Advisor, Christian Parker (2019 cohort)*

Other Activities

- Participated in annual pinning ceremony for GPHP students
- Created promotional material for program
- Co-Editor for special issue of Frontier of Public Health Journal
- APHA activities including Section Secretary-elect CHHPD, PHEPH member, Annual Conference reviewer and moderator.

Samina Akhter MPH, MSc (Hons), BSc, CS Cert.

Samina Akhter is an Assistant Director of Analytics and Career Placement at the Department of Graduate Public Health, Tuskegee University joined in May 2020. She has been working as a System Analyst & Database Manager at the College of Veterinary Medicine since last twenty years at Tuskegee University. Samina Akhter has a strong diversified experience in Information Technology, public health, data infrastructure on environmental hazards that affect distressed and under-served communities with people of color in Alabama, and graduate public health engagement and educational preparation for research, the generation of data on environmental pollutants in rural settings, and benefits of finding to help the community members as stakeholders. Participation in a framework of One Health in which there is a critical link between humans, animals and the environment. This intricate linkage often affects all aspects of human well-being, whether in communities of practice, children's health, and the overall health of the population.

Graduate Research Topic: Framing an Environmental Risk Analysis Pathway For Cancer Health Disparities in Black Belt Counties of Alabama.



Samina Akhter is originally from Pakistan. She is US citizen. She has three daughters, Sana, Mehvish and Amber. Sana is graduated from AU in health administration and business minor, Mehvish is industrial engineer with supply chain minor working with US census in DC, and Amber is in AU student in accounting and finance. Samina has been living in State for 30 years and with Mother Tuskegee almost 20 years. Proud to be with Tuskegee.

Education

- Earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology Honors Punjab University in 1987
- Earned a Master of Science in Analytical Chemistry Honors from Punjab University in 1991
- Earned a Computer Programming Associate degree 1998
- Earned Master of Science degree in Public Health from Tuskegee University in 2019

Skills:

- Strong computer knowledge: Windows XP, Windows NT, Macintosh, MS-Office, Internet Explorer, Safari, Firefox, Adobe Dreamweaver CS4,

Adobe Photoshop CS4, Adobe Photoshop 2020, Adobe InDesign 2020, Adobe Fireworks CS4, Adobe Illustrator CS4, Swish Zoon Flash Animations, Visual Studio, XML, C++, C Sharp, Java/Scripts, Visual Basics, COBOL/400, Q-Basics, RPG, Meidasite Editor/Recorder,

- Instructional design using HTML, CSS, Dreamweaver, Fireworks
- Webpage design, content manager
- Administrator social media Facebook, Twitter pages

Hobbies: Cooking, Travelling, Reading



•Data

- extraction using Excel and applied knowledge to the use of Alabama Vital Statistics and many other databases
- SAS 9.4 software and @Risk software used for analysis of infectious disease such as polio and chronic disease such as cancer, and environmental health related to carcinogenic pollutants
- Capable to face challenging tasks
- Exceptional communication and interpersonal ability
- Excellent strategic knowledge
- Capability to perform health related research
- Applied skill for quantitative analysis in Epidemiology (measure of disease frequency), sampling techniques
- GIS: ArcMap 1.6, Extracting data, selection by location, selection by attributes, selection by features, symbology, spatial selection, unique values, normalization, and classification techniques

Academic, Scientific, Research Groups and Community Service:

- High School, on April 25-28, 2019 Tuskegee, Alabama. Gave presentation entitled “Chemicals Found in Common Household Cleaners Can Cause Cancer”. The Conference was hosted by SEED, Inc. and the Jubilee Encores, Tuskegee, Alabama.
- Macon County Diabetic Association at the GreenWood Baptist Church providing support as a partner for making diabetic group interventions.
- Invited Speaker at the War on Murder Begins (WOMB) Conference at Booker T. Washington
- 2019 Alabama was held at the State Capital House in Montgomery Alabama.
- Engagement in Community Outreach by working with the Macon County Diabetic Association at the GreenWood Baptist Church.
- Involvement in working with the Students for Education and Economic Development (SEED Inc.) and presenting a conference paper.

David McKenzie, DVM, MPH, PhD, DACVIM

**Present position, title, or affiliation:**

Professor, Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine

Interim Head, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences

Adjunct Professor, Department of Graduate Public Health:

Teach sections of MSPH 614 Epidemiology: Principles and Applications; MSPH 631 Health Education & Communication; MBIO 661 Advanced Epidemiology

Education:

BS (Animal & Poultry Science), Tuskegee University, 1988

DVM (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine), Tuskegee University, 1990

MS (Master of Science, Veterinary Science), Tuskegee University, 1996

MPH (Master of Public Health, Epidemiology & International Health),
University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2004

PhD (Doctor of Philosophy, Health Education), University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2012

DACVIM (Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine,
Specialty of Large Animal Internal Medicine), 2002

Professional activities:

Taught veterinary medicine to over 1500 veterinary students at Tuskegee University since 1995

Trained over 100 foreign veterinarians from over 25 different countries since 1997

Presently involved in veterinary collaborations in the Caribbean and Africa

Honors, awards:



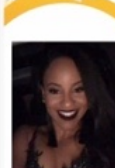






Teaching Recognition Award, Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, April 2021

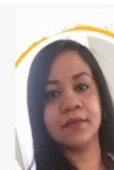
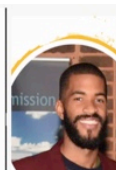





Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award, Teaching Veterinary Medicine in Kumasi, Ghana, 2021-22













Biosketch:

Originally from Kingston, Jamaica, Dr. David McKenzie has lived in the United States for over 30 years and has taught at Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine for 25 years. International veterinary medicine is a special passion. He has worked with colleagues in Antigua, Grenada, Canada, Jamaica, and Ghana. Additionally, he was awarded a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award to teach veterinary medicine in Ghana in 2021-22. In his spare time Dr. McKenzie enjoys watching sports, reading, travelling, and spending time with his wife Veronica and their children Brian and Catherine.

Meet our Alumni- 5th Annual Graduate Public Health Pinning Ceremony- February 26, 2021

 <p>Montake Chavis: (MSPH Graduation Year '18, MEd Student of Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Chemistry)</p> <p>Thesis Topic: Public Health Interventions for Sexual Assault and Rape: A Systematic Review</p> <p>Current work status: MEd Student of Public Health, School of Chemistry</p>	 <p>Seanna Jimmeh: (MSPH Graduation Year '13)</p> <p>Current work status: Educator teacher of Chemistry and Physics at Teach for America, Legal Shield Manager, Lady of 507, The Alabama, Alabama Metropolitan Area</p>	 <p>Leondria Hinds: (MSPH Graduation Year '17)</p> <p>Current work status: In the medical program in Auburn University</p>
 <p>Charli Williams: (MSPH Graduation Year '13)</p> <p>Research interest: Public Health Surveillance</p> <p>Current work status: Regional Liaison Data Manager, Commonwealth of Virginia</p>	 <p>Maegan Ford: (MSPH Graduation Year '14)</p> <p>Research interest: Director within Area 8, Counties on basic public health principles, practices, and strategies. Conducted interviews & utilized risk assessment in outbreak investigation with the Tuberculosis Team.</p> <p>Current work status: Suicide Prevention Coordinator at Alabama Department of Mental Health</p>	 <p>Christina Tressant: (MSPH Graduation Year '13)</p> <p>Thesis Topic: Attitudes of African American towards Brands of Condoms. The overall goal of research project was to reduce Sexually Transmitted Infections by increasing condom use in African American males.</p> <p>Current work status: Clinical Data Specialist at Bioscience Resource Inc. (Johnson & Johnson), Irvine, CA, California, United States</p>
 <p>Elisabeth Foster: (MSPH Graduation Year '14)</p> <p>Current work status: Veterinary Technician, California Vet Hospital</p>	 <p>De'Nissa Goudreau: (MSPH Graduation Year '14)</p> <p>Current work status: Program Director, Dana's Family House</p>	 <p>Delvana Grant: (MSPH Graduation Year '14)</p> <p>Research interest: Epidemiology</p>

 <p>Candy De La Cruz, MD: (MSPH Graduation Year '18)</p> <p>Research interest: The Effect of State Laws on Breastfeeding Practices and Rates.</p> <p>Current work status: Taking time off with Newborn & Husband</p>	 <p>Mylo Howard: (MSPH Graduation Year '19)</p> <p>Practicum: Public Health Ethics MPH Fellow</p> <p>Current work status: UCLA Health FIG-ICU Senior Analyst, Los Angeles Metropolitan Area</p>	 <p>Samina Akhtar, MSc: (MSPH Graduation Year '19)</p> <p>Research interest: Framing an Environmental Risk Analysis Pathway for Cancer Health Disparities in Black Belt Counties of Alabama.</p> <p>Current work status: Assistant Director of Analytics and Career Placement at the Department of Graduate Public Health, Tuskegee University</p>
 <p>Oyoore Egbebor-Akpan, MD: (MSPH Graduation Year '19)</p> <p>Thesis Topic: A Systemic Review: Evaluating the Environmental and Public Health Impacts of Failed Septic Systems in Alabama Blackbelt Counties.</p> <p>Current work status: Psychiatry Resident Doctor at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine</p>	 <p>Kellon Banks: (MSPH Graduation Year '20)</p> <p>Thesis Topic: Knowledge and Awareness About Cervical Cancer and Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Among Women Living in Macon County, Alabama.</p> <p>Current work status: Health Education Coordinator at Tuskegee University</p>	 <p>Deshae Veale: (MSPH Graduation Year '20)</p> <p>Practicum: Fitness Technology and its Behavioral Effects on Physical Activity in African American Students at a Historical Black University.</p> <p>Current work status: During this pandemic, he has created a way to promote access to fresh fruits and vegetables through a mobile phone app and complete picture system. The "Access Farm to Table" App is a resource and tool used to promote availability and accessibility to fresh fruits, vegetables, and products from local farmers and food distributors to communities with limited food access and public health promotion.</p>
 <p>Davis Ali-Ashanti: (MSPH Graduation Year '20)</p> <p>Thesis Topic: Consumption of Meals Served at Tuskegee Institute Middle School.</p> <p>Current work status: Consultant at National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care, Lithonia, Georgia, United States</p>		

	<p>Beatrice Denise King: (MPH Graduation Year '14) Research Interest: Public Health Education, Developed Health Education Curriculum for K-12 Current work status: Epidemiologist at South Central Health District Dublin Georgia.</p>		<p>De'Naye Goudeau-Mitchell: (MSPH Graduation Year '14) Research Interest: Workplace Health and Wellness Incentive Programs through CDC Fellowship Current work status: Masters of Science in Medical Health Sciences graduate student at Tuoro University California</p>		<p>Brittini Allen: (MSPH Graduation Year '14) Current work status: Teacher at Tuskegee Macon County Head start</p>
	<p>Amber (Hailey) Baker: (MPH Graduation Year '15) Research Interest: Epidemiology Current work status: Currently an infant and toddler sleep coach</p>		<p>Rachael E. Gough: (MPH Graduation Year '15) Research Interest: Stroke Prevention & Healthy Food Options for Fast Food Employees Current work status: Plant Health Safeguarding Specialist, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health and Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine, Field Crops - Government Employee (USDA APHIS PPQ)</p>		<p>Keon Blackledge: (MPH Graduation Year '15) Current work status: Lean Sensei, Performance Excellence at Mercy Medical Center, Hartford, Connecticut, United States.</p>
	<p>Lecarde Webb: (MPH Graduation Year '15) Thesis Topic: A Healthcare Clinical Topology Model Developed Through Effective Public Health Engagement Current work status: Planning and Evaluation Manager at Tuskegee University 3rd Year PhD candidate in the Integrative Biosciences Program (Research area for PhD in Cancer Health Disparities Research with a focus on Community Engagement) Department of Biology and Center for Cancer Research Public Health Consultant at Healthy Kinder Inc.</p>		<p>Folashade Adalumo: (MPH Graduation Year '16) Research Interest: Health disparity, breastfeeding education, and maternal health Current work status: PhD Student at the Department of Integrative Public Policy and Development</p>		<p>Jessica M Pettway: (MPH Graduation Year '16) Research Interest: Implemented nutrition and physical activity education curriculum as part of on-going research on integrative approaches for prevention and reduction of overweight and childhood obesity in the Alabama Black Belt by leading and teaching obesity prevention and nutrition lesson plans to approximately 70 adolescents (8 - 15 years) (50% of time). Current work status: Clinical Research Data Analyst at UC San Diego Health</p>
	<p>Davie Armstrong Rickenbacker: (MPH Graduation Year '16) Research Interest: Epidemiology Current work status: Program Analyst for NCEZID, CDC (Contractor)</p>		<p>Alicia Roberts: (MPH Graduation Year '17) Research Interest: Community Outreach/Community Epidemiology Current work status: Public Health Advisor, New Orleans, Louisiana, United States. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)</p>		<p>Nathalia Beras Ramirez, MD: (MPH Graduation Year '18) Practicum: Policy Analysis and Community Empowerment How can Ashurst Bay/Smith community participate in the modification or renewal of Stone's Throw Landfill permit? Current work status: Physician in Dominican Republic and volunteer with NGOs</p>



