HSPH grads told that career flexibility key to personal, professional growth

Commencement speaker Gerald Chan and others urged HSPH graduates to be flexible in their careers at the School's May 24th Commencement Ceremony in the Kresge courtyard. Degrees were awarded to 515. Read more

Jamie Oliver wins Healthy Cup Award

Television personality, food activist, and internationally acclaimed chef Jamie Oliver received HSPH's Healthy Cup Award on May 22, 2012 at a packed ceremony at the Joseph B. Martin Conference Center in Boston. More than 500 people came to see Oliver, star of TV series such as Naked Chef and Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution, receive the award. "We need a food revolution," Oliver told the audience. Read more

Toxic mercury, accumulating in the Arctic, springs from a hidden source

Environmental scientists at Harvard have discovered that the Arctic accumulation of mercury, a toxic element, is caused by both atmospheric forces and the flow of circumpolar rivers that carry the element north into the Arctic Ocean. While the atmospheric source was previously recognized, it now appears that twice as much mercury actually comes from the rivers. The revelation implies that concentrations of the toxin may further increase as climate change continues to modify the region's hydrological cycle and release mercury from warming Arctic soils. Read more
Many sick Americans report financial problems, dissatisfaction with care

Many Americans who have experienced a serious illness or injury within the past 12 months are concerned about the financial costs of medical care, and struggle to ensure that their care is appropriate, according to a new poll by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, NPR, and Harvard School of Public Health. Read more

Around the School

Harvard recreation memberships on sale next week
Memberships to Harvard's recreation facilities for the year (June 1-May 31) or the summer (June 1-August 31) will go on sale May 29. Purchase online or at the Murr Center.

Women and Health Initiative Book Club
May's book: The Cleft: A Novel by Doris Lessing
Meeting: May 31, 2012 from 5:15-6:45 PM
The Squealing Pig
For more information: whi@hsph.harvard.edu

Faculty promotions
Joshua Salomon, professor of global health
George Seage, professor of epidemiology

SHDH student to receive Julius B. Richmond Fellowship from Center on the Developing Child
Madeleine deBlois, a doctoral student in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health at HSPH, is one of three Harvard graduate students receiving this year's Julius B. Richmond Fellowships from the Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University. Her research focuses on the diverse and interactive ways that communities, neighborhoods, families, schools, and out-of-school-time programs contribute to child well-being. Her doctoral research examines children's self-regulation from a social-epidemiological perspective.

The Richmond Fellowships honor the career of the late Julius B. Richmond, who was the founding director of Head Start, a former U.S. surgeon general and assistant secretary for health in the Carter administration, and professor of health policy, emeritus, at Harvard Medical School. Richmond died in 2008 at the age of 91.

MPH candidate and Serbian physician Predrag Stojicic talks about how his work on HIV/AIDS prevention in his home country led him to pursue a degree in public health.

Research news and interviews
Modeling gene-gene and gene-environment interaction may not substantially improve disease risk prediction (HSPH release)

Burma: A Central Battleground for Malaria Control (Wall Street Journal)