Human Microbiome Project identifies microbes that play role in health

New studies led by HSPH researchers have helped identify and analyze the vast human "microbiome" -- the more than five million microbial genes that exist inside the human body. Scientists estimate that each person carries about 100 times as many microbial genes as human genes, and they want to learn more about the role that microbes play in normal bodily functions as well as in disease. Read more

"100% Club" celebrates with carnival-themed party

Departments that completed 100% of their performance reviews enjoyed a carnival-themed celebration on June 7. See photos and list of departments

Around the School

Traffic safety campaign piloted at LMA

In an effort to improve traffic safety in the area, new signs encourage drivers to follow the law prohibiting vehicles from entering a signalized intersection until it is clear they can travel to the other side. Police enforcement will begin in early July. Motorists who do not obey the law may be subject to fines.

Planning to travel overseas on Harvard business?

University policy requires that all Harvard-owned laptops be encrypted. Please call the Helpdesk (432-Help) to arrange your laptop encryption. Learn more about traveling securely with an encrypted laptop or device. And be sure to register your travel itinerary.

Poll: Eight of ten Mass. patients find health care costs a serious problem (WBUR)

Social media campaign could help stop teen drivers from texting (Boston Globe)
**Dean Frenk honored by University of Alberta**

Dean Julio Frenk received an honorary degree from Canada's University of Alberta and delivered a speech to the graduates during its June 8 convocation. Frenk urged them to use the "seeds of ideas and ideals your teachers planted in your minds and in your souls."

**HSPH alumna elected to Harvard Board of Overseers**

Swati Piramal MPH '92, director of Piramal Healthcare, has been elected to serve a six-year term on Harvard's Board of Overseers. Watch a video of Piramal speaking to HSPH students as part of the Decision-Making: Voices From the Field speaker series.

**Course focuses on malaria eradication**

More than 60 mid-career officials from a wide array of organizations attended a 12-day leadership development course on eradicating malaria that was organized by HSPH malaria expert Dyann Wirth, Richard Pearson Strong Professor of Infectious Diseases. It was held at Harvard Business School in early June.

**Selenium-rich diet may lower type 2 diabetes risk**

(Reuters)

**Economists urge less focus on health care jobs, more on cost-effectiveness**

(New England Journal of Medicine)