Outreach Conference to Increase Diversity in Mathematical Modeling and Public Health participants listen to scientific talks from infectious disease researchers.
New Faces in Epi

Tia Hira started at the Center for Communicable Disease Dynamics in the Department of Epidemiology in February 2017. She attended Royal Holloway University of London where she earned her Bachelor's degree in English. After graduating she moved from England in 2013 to run her own business as a franchise. Prior to coming to the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, she was a Development Assistant in Foundation Relations at MIT and before this she worked at a law firm in downtown Boston. Tia currently manages the ID Epi Spring Seminar Series for the Center, she also works closely with staff, faculty and postdocs to assist with various projects and events, manages all publications related to the Center, coordinates domestic and international travel, assists with maintaining the Center's social media presence and is responsible for other administrative tasks for the center. She is particularly interested in event planning, communications and human resources work.

Jake Powers is a Program Coordinator in the Department of Epidemiology for Dr. Karestan Koenen. Prior to coming to the Harvard Chan School he was the Lead Clinical Administrative Support Specialist at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, where he supervised a team of administrators and assisted the Practice Manager and Nursing Director. Jake grew up in Los Altos, California and moved to New England to attend the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a specialization in Management. Currently, Jake attends Emmanuel College in Boston and will graduate in May 2018 with a Master's of Science in Management.
Department Updates

FLASHBACK! Epi students at the Women’s Day March in DC, January 2017!

Elise Robinson, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, received an honorable mention for the 2017 Freedman Prize for Exceptional Basic Research from the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation.

Tyler VanderWeele was awarded the 2017 President’s Award by the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS). This Presidential Award is highly distinguished and is given to a “young member of the statistical community in recognition of outstanding contributions to the profession of statistics”. In addition, he was also the recipient of the John Snow Award from the Epidemiology Section of American Public Health Association. One of the oldest awards in the field is given “in recognition of enduring contributions to public health through epidemiologic methods and practice”.

Marc Weisskopf received tenure as professor in the Department of Environmental Health, he also holds a secondary appointment in the Department of Epidemiology.

Donna Spiegelman provided the Deans Special Lecture at Durban University of Technology in Durban, South Africa. The lecture was titled “The case for the promotion of healthy workplace environments in the battle against the global cardiometabolic diseases epidemic”.

Sonia Hernandez-Diaz received the Poulsøn Award from the Norwegian Society of Pharmacology and Toxicology.

Alkes Price received the 2017 Harvard T.H. Chan Outstanding Postdoctoral Mentor Award.

Drs. Hans-Olov Adami, David J. Hunter, Pagona Lagiou, and Lorelei Mucci published the third edition of the “Textbook of Cancer Epidemiology”.

Pagona Lagiou, an esteemed adjunct professor of Epidemiology at the Harvard Chan School was named Chair of the Department of Hygiene, Epidemiology and Medical Statistics (DHEMS) at the Athens Medical School. DHEMS is the first epidemiology department established in the context of a Medical School in Greece. It thrived and expanded its international collaborations under the leadership of Prof. Dimitrios Trichopoulos and is currently one of the most prolific epidemiology departments in Europe.

Young investigators are a unique reservoir of new ideas, innovation, energy and genius in cancer research. Thus, a half-day symposium was organized to showcase the young talent at the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center (DF/HCC) who are producing key research in several areas of population science, including epidemiology, biostatistics, outcomes, diversity and survivorship. PhD Candidate Barbra Dickerman won best poster at the event.

Assistant Professor Sari Reisner was awarded a grant by Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) to assemble and follow a cohort of 4,500 transgender adults to investigate the effect of medical gender affirmation on HIV-related health.

The Center for Communicable Disease Dynamics welcomed Ayesha Mahmud as a postdoc in the group. Ayesha Mahmud recently completed her PhD in Demography from Princeton University, where she was a member of the Metcalf and Grenfell labs. Ayesha is broadly interested in the interplay between human demography and infectious disease dynamics. Her dissertation research examined the social, demographic, and environmental drivers of the transmission dynamics and mortality of common childhood infections. As a 2017-2019 Rockefeller Foundation Planetary Health Fellow, Ayesha will study the interaction between climatic changes and demographic shifts, and the consequences for the transmission of infectious diseases.
The Center for Communicable Disease Dynamics hosted its 6th annual Outreach Conference to Increase Diversity in Mathematical Modeling and Public Health on November 6th and 7th in Boston. The conference is specifically geared to support undergraduate students from underrepresented groups who have an interest in public health and mathematical modeling, and are studying quantitative disciplines at their home institutions. CCDD welcomed 52 undergraduate students from around the country for the two-day event. Students listened to scientific talks about infectious disease epidemiology and modeling, interacted in professional development sessions and a networking dinner, and engaged in a hands-on computer epidemic prevention activity. Speakers included Harvard Chan researchers, Admissions and Office of Diversity and Inclusion staff, as well as faculty and researchers from the larger Models of Infectious Disease Agent Study (MIDAS) network.

A special thank you to the fall 2017 seminar speakers:

- David S. Jones, M.D., Ph.D
  Harvard University - FAS
- Julie Palmer, ScD, MPH
  Boston University
- Cornelia van Duijn, PhD
  Erasmus University MC
- Monique M.B. Breteler, MD, PhD
  German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases
- Tyler VanderWeele, PhD
  Harvard Chan School
- Edward Giovannucci, MD, ScD
  Harvard Chan School
- Sudha Seshadri, MD
  Boston University
- David Celentano, ScD, MHS
  John Hopkins University
- Lee Goldman, MD, MPH
  Colombia University MC
- Robert A. Hiatt, MD, PhD
  University of California, San Francisco

A full list of past seminar recordings are available here.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Presenter and Title</th>
<th>Title and Affiliation</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 7, 2018</td>
<td><strong>Caroline Buckee, D.Phil, M.Res, B.Sc</strong></td>
<td>Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Department of Epidemiology, Harvard Chan School, Associate Director of the Center for Communicable Disease Dynamics, Harvard Chan School</td>
<td>1:00-1:50pm</td>
<td>Kresge Building Room 502</td>
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<td>February 14, 2018</td>
<td><strong>David A. Bennett, MD</strong></td>
<td>Robert C. Borwell Professor of Neurological Science, Department of Neurological Sciences, Rush Medical College, Director, Rush Alzheimer’s Disease Center</td>
<td>1:00-1:50pm</td>
<td>Kresge Building Room 502</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 7, 2018</td>
<td><strong>Miguel Hernán, MD, DrPH</strong></td>
<td>Kolokotrones Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Harvard Chan School</td>
<td>1:00-1:50pm</td>
<td>Kresge Building Room 502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21, 2018</td>
<td><strong>Graham A. Colditz, DrPH, MD, MPH</strong></td>
<td>Deputy Director, Institute for Public Health; Chief of the Division of Public Health Sciences and Niess-Gain Professor of Surgery, School of Medicine; Washington University in St. Louis</td>
<td>1:00-1:50pm</td>
<td>Kresge Building Room 502</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4, 2018</td>
<td><strong>Paul Avillach, MD, PhD</strong></td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Biomedical Informatics, HMS, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Boston Children’s Hospital, Assistant Professor in the Department of Epidemiology, Harvard Chan School</td>
<td>1:00-1:50pm</td>
<td>Kresge Building Room 502</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11, 2018</td>
<td><strong>Henning Tiemeier, MD, PhD</strong></td>
<td>Sumner and Esther Feldberg Professor of Maternal and Child Health, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Director of Maternal and Child Health Training Grant, Adjunct Professor of Epidemiology, Harvard Chan School</td>
<td>1:00-1:50pm</td>
<td>Kresge Building Room 502</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 25, 2018</td>
<td><strong>Andrew T. Chan, MD, MPH</strong></td>
<td>Chief, Clinical and Translational Epidemiology Unit, Program Director for Gastroenterology Training, MGH; Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School</td>
<td>1:00-1:50pm</td>
<td>Kresge Building Room 502</td>
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