Let Us Each Invest In Fostering Our Own Health And Wellbeing

As we begin a new semester, we continue to adapt to a pandemic that seems to never want to go away. I want to express my profound gratitude and appreciation to our students, staff and faculty for going the extra mile as we have attempted to navigate the many challenges triggered by the pandemic. The SBS department is committed to doing all we can to reduce the stress that our community is facing, and I encourage our students, staff and faculty that if you can think of ways in which we can be more supportive, please let me know. We believe in the importance of prioritizing the health and well-being of every member of our community, and I have every confidence that we will successfully navigate this chapter of the pandemic and continue to do the important work that we do every day.

Signs abound indicating how desperately the world needs the talents and expertise that we have to offer. For example, a recent NYT column by David Brooks outlines multiple troubling trends in American society since the Covid-19 pandemic began. The list includes increases in murders, drug overdoses, alcohol use, firearm purchases, disruptive behavior in schools and on airlines, and traffic fatalities despite declining miles driven. In addition, increases are also evident in hostility, hate crimes, polarization, fear and anger that co-occur with elevated rates of depression, suicide and loneliness. Moreover, declines in donations to charitable organizations suggest that we are less caring for one another. Given the enormous opportunities for public health to make a difference at this time, let us each invest in fostering our own health and wellbeing so that we will be prepared to effectively use all our knowledge and skills to improve population health domestically and globally.

David R. Williams

Faculty Spotlight

Christy Denckla (she/her) joined the SBS Department in July 2021 as an Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences and a licensed clinical psychologist. Her work, supported by an early career K23 award from National Institute of Mental Health, aims to understand how adversity affects mental health and well-being across the lifespan, with a particular focus on bereavement and adaptive processes.

"Most broadly, my research aims to understand the impact of adversity on human potential and well-being. To this end, I focus on understanding both the risk and resilience mechanisms associated with posttraumatic psychopathology, as well as factors associated with well-being and adaptation."
Bereavement is a particular interest of mine because it is one of the most common traumatic exposures wherein the acute and severely disruptive experience of loss and grief is expected to remit over time as loss is integrated. Studying this recovery process at the population health level, as well as the factors that increase risk for a prolonged clinical course, can hopefully inform our broader understanding of adaptation and recovery in population mental health. To advance this line of work, I use both my experience in clinical psychology and training in epidemiology to describe the complex interplay between structural factors, neurocognition, and biological processes (i.e. genetic risk) that influence mental health outcomes after trauma exposure.

Learn more about Christy Denckla.

Giving Day

Join us on March 2, 2022 for the third annual Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Giving Day, a School-wide fundraising event! Make a gift between February 1st and midnight on March 2nd to support enhanced services and programs for the exceptional students in our department.

To give, visit this page.

Career Updates

In December 2021, Melia Dunbar was promoted to Communications Coordinator at the Lee Kum Sheung Center for Health and Happiness.

Karen Emmons served on the National Academy of Science, Engineering, and Medicine study on Respiratory Protection for the Public and Workers without Respiratory Protection Programs at their Workplaces.

This semester, Laura Kubzansky began an appointment as Visiting Professor at the Department of Behavioural Science and Health at University College London.

Awards and Honors

Nancy Krieger was awarded the 2021 Brearley School Frances Riker Davis Award. The annual award recognizes Brearley alumnae for ongoing, dedicated service to the public good, as demonstrated professionally and/or through volunteerism.

Mariama Tejan is a finalist for the Presidential Management Fellowship (PMF). Bearing the Presidential moniker, the PMF Program is a flagship leadership development program at the entry level for advanced degree candidates.

Presentations

Acosta V, McQuilkin L, Gabovitch E, Benison A
Prioritizing Youth & Family-Professional Partnerships in Creating a Statewide Title V Health Transition Toolkit for Youth and Young Adults with Special Health Needs
2022 AMCHP Annual Conference
Presentation | Washington, DC | Mar 5-8, 2022
Emmons K
Responding To The COVID-19 Pandemic With Health Policy D&I Strategies
*University of California San Diego Atman Clinical and Translational Research Institute*
Panel Presentation | Online | Jan 28, 2022

Emmons K
Policy Implementation Science
*University of Washington*
Presentation | Online | Mar 15, 2022

Quit Intentions and Use of Cessation Resources among Residents of Low-Income Housing who Smoke
*2022 Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Annual Meeting*
Poster Presentation | Baltimore, MD | Mar 15-18, 2022

Measuring Dual-vaping of Nicotine and Cannabis among Adolescents in Five New England States
*2022 Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Annual Meeting*
Poster Presentation | Baltimore, MD | Mar 15-18, 2022

Krieger N
Interdisciplinary dialogue with Nancy Krieger about “Ecosocial Theory, Embodied Truths, and The People’s Health” (Oxford University Press, 2021)
*International Epidemiological Association*
Panel Presentation | Online | Feb 23, 2022

Krieger N
State of the Public Health Union
*American Journal of Public Health*
Panel Presentation | Online | Jan 20, 2022

Krieger N
Structural racism, cancer & the people’s health: history and context matter
*University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center*
Presentation | Online | Mar 4, 2022

Nagler, EM
Scaling up tobacco control in India
*National Cancer Institute DCCPS International Interest Group Quarterly Meeting*
Presentation | Rockville, MD (Online) | Jan 11, 2022

Nagler, EM, Pednekar M, Gundersen D, Sorensen G, Gupta P
Scaling up tobacco control in India: Comparing smartphone to in-person training for implementing an evidence-based intervention to reduce tobacco use among schoolteachers: Study overview
*9th Annual DF/HCC Celebration of Early Investigators in Cancer Research Symposium*
Poster Presentation | Boston, MA (Online) | Jan 19, 2022

Nagler, EM, Pednekar M, Gundersen D, Sorensen G, Gupta P
Scaling up tobacco control in India: Comparing smartphone to in-person training for implementing an evidence-based intervention to reduce tobacco use among schoolteachers: Study overview
*10th Annual Symposium on Global Cancer Research*
Presentation | Rockville, MD (Online) | Mar 23-24, 2022

Cadet T, Bhatia R, Davis C, Rosenfeld L, Schonberg M
The audacity to say people have low literacy skills when materials are poorly designed: An assessment of a modified mammography screening decision aid
*2022 Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Work Research*
Poster Presentation | Washington, DC | Jan 16, 2022

Shiba K
Causal inference in social epidemiology: history and future directions
32nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Japan Epidemiological Association
Panel Presentation | Online | Jan 26, 2022

Shiba K
Long-Term Impacts of a Major Disaster on Health and Well-Being of Survivors: Lessons from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami
Boston University School of Public Health
Oral Presentation | Online | Jan 24, 2022

Viswanath K
Class, Communication, and Well-Being: Analyses from a Cross-Sectional Study of Youth from Lower Socioeconomic Groups in India
Lee Kum Sheung Center for Health and Happiness
Seminar | Online | Jan 26, 2022

Publications

Dhawan D, Bekalu M, Pinnamaneni R, McCloud R, Viswanath K
COVID-19 News and Misinformation: Do They Matter for Public Health Prevention
J Health Commun | Vol. 26(11), 799-808 | Nov 22, 2021

Nethery R, Chen JT, Krieger N, Waterman PD, Peterson E, Waller LA, Coull BA.
Statistical implications of endogeneity induced by residential segregation in small-area modeling of health inequities
Am Stat | Jan 4, 2022, online ahead of print

Perez CL, Moran A, Headrick G, McCarthy J, Cradock AL, Pollack Porter KM
State and Local Healthy Kids’ Meal Laws in the United States: A Review and Content Analysis
J Acad Nutr Diet | Dec 8, 2021, online ahead of print

Bhadelia A, Oldfield LE, Cruz JL, Singh R, Finkelstein EA
Identifying Core Domains to Assess the “Quality of Death”: A Scoping Review
J Pain Symptom Manage | Dec 8, 2021, online ahead of print

Farhart CE, Douglas-Durham E, Lunz Trujillo K, Vitriol J
Vax Attacks: How Conspiracy Theory Belief Undermines Vaccine Support
Prog Mol Biol Transl Sci | In press

Emmons KM, Chambers D, Abazeed A
Embracing Policy Implementation Science to Ensure Translation of Evidence to Cancer Control Policy
Transl Behav Med | Vol. 11(11), 1972-1979 | Nov 30, 2021

Is more, better? Relationships of multiple psychological well-being facets with cardiometabolic disease
Health Psychol | Vol. 41(1), 32-42 | Jan 2021

Jhe GB, Mereish EH, Gordon A, Woulfe JM, Katz-Wise SL
Associations between anti-bisexual minority stress and body esteem and emotional eating among bi+ individuals: The protective role of individual- and community-level factors
Eat Behav | Vol. 43, 101575 | Dec 2021

Associations between school-related factors and mental health among transgender and nonbinary youth
J Sch Psychol | In press

Katz-Wise SL, Galman SC, Friedman LE, Kidd KM
Ramanadhan S, Donaldson S T, Siqueira C E, ..., Viswanath K
Connecting Implementation Science, Community-Engaged Research, and Health Promotion to Address Cancer Inequities in Massachusetts: The UMB/DF-HCC U54 Outreach Core
*Am J Health Promot* | Dec 23, 2021, online ahead of print

Shelton RC, Philbin MM, Ramanadhan S
Qualitative Research Methods in Chronic Disease: Introduction and Opportunities to Promote Health Equity
*Annu Rev Public Health* | Vol. 43 | Dec 22, 2021, online ahead of print

Mueller NM, Hsieh A, Ramanadhan S, Lee RM, Emmons KM
The Prevalence of Dissemination and Implementation Research and Training Grants at National Cancer Institute–Designated Cancer Centers
*JNCI Cancer Spectr* | Dec 15, 2021, online ahead of print

Rosenfeld L, Atichson K, Holland N, Robinson L
Organizational Health Literacy in Oral Health: A Multilevel Perspective
*J Calif Dent Assoc* | Vol. 49(12), 739-748 | Dec 2021

Shiba K, Cowden RG, Gonzalez N, et al.
Global Trends of Mean and Inequality in Multidimensional Well-being From 2009 to 2019: Analysis of 1.2 Million Individuals From 162 Countries
*Public Health Front* | Feb, 14 2022

Internet use and subsequent health and well-being in older adults: An outcome-wide analysis
*Comput Hum Behav* | Vol. 130, 107156 | May 2022

Shiba K, Daoud A, Kino S, Nishi D, Kondo K, Kawachi I
Uncovering Heterogeneous Associations of Disaster-related Traumatic Experiences with Subsequent Mental Health Problems: a Machine Learning Approach
*Psychiatry Clin Neurosci* | Dec 22, 2021, online ahead of print

Effects of chronic burden across multiple domains and experiences of daily stressors on negative affect
*Ann Behav Med* | In press

Tang A, Fox NA, Slopen N
Examination of early childhood temperament of shyness and social avoidance with cardiometabolic health in young adulthood
*JAMA Netw Open* | Vol. 5(10, e2144727 | Jan 27, 2022

Collins JE, Boden LI, Gundersen DA, Katz JN, Wagner GR, Sorensen G, Williams JAR
Workplace Integrated Safety and Health Program Uptake in Nursing Homes: Associations with Ownership

Identifying research participation effects through qualitative methods: Feedback from Research Engagement Consultants involved in a pediatric mental health comparative effectiveness trial
*SSM Qual Res Heal* | Vol. 1, 100023 | Nov 20, 2021

The First 1000 Days of Life: Lessons from Social and Behavior Change
Borrell LN, Williams DR
Racism and oral health equity in the United States: Identifying its effects and providing future directions
*J Public Health Dent* | Jan 27, 2022, online ahead of print

Race, geographical location and other risk factors for hypertension: South African National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey 2011/12
*SSM Popul Health* | Vol. 16, 100986 | Dec 2, 2021

Zambrana RE, Williams DR
The Intellectual Roots Of Current Knowledge On Racism And Health: Relevance To Policy And The National Equity Discourse
*Health Aff* | Vol. 41(2), 163-170 | Jan 2022

Wright E, Waterman PD, Testa C, Chen JT, Krieger N
Breast Cancer Incidence, Hormone Receptor Status, Historical Redlining, and Current Neighborhood Characteristics in Massachusetts, 2005-2015
*JNCI Cancer Spectr* | Pkac016 | Feb 18, 2022

McCullough LE
*JNCI Cancer Spectr* | Pkac018 | Feb 18, 2022

Gero K, Yazawa A, Kondo N, Hanazato M, Kondo K, Kawachi I
Comparison of three indices of relative income deprivation in predicting health status

Early childhood adversity and late-life depressive symptoms: unpacking mediation and interaction by adult socioeconomic status
*Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol* | Feb, 1, 2022, online ahead of print

Yazawa A, Aida J, Kondo K, Kawachi I
Gender differences in risk of posttraumatic stress symptoms after disaster among older people: Differential exposure or differential vulnerability?
*J Affect Disord* | Vol. 297, 447-454 | Jan 2022

**Upcoming Events**

Psychological Resilience: Potential Implications for Physical Health
Feb 23 | 1–1:50 pm | Center for Health and Happiness

Ecosocial Theory, Embodied Truths, and the People's Health
Feb 23 | 4–6 pm | International Epidemiological Association

Rising Class Crystallization? Trends in Multidimensional Class Inequality Across Racialized/Ethnic Groups
Feb 24 | 12–1:15 pm | Center for Population and Development Studies

Women, Gender, and Health Working Group Meeting
Mar 2 | 1–1:50 pm | Women, Gender, and Health

At the Intersection of Race, Occupational Class Status, and Middle-Class
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attainment</td>
<td>Mar 3</td>
<td>12–1:15 pm</td>
<td>Center for Population and Development Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Multi-Level Model to Address Cervical Cancer Disparities in Appalachia</td>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>1–1:50 pm</td>
<td>SBS</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHH Seminar Featuring Shekhar Saxena</td>
<td>Mar 22</td>
<td>1–1:50 pm</td>
<td>Center for Health and Happiness</td>
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<td>CPDS Social Demography Seminar Featuring Christina H. Fuller</td>
<td>Mar 24</td>
<td>12–1:15 pm</td>
<td>Center for Population and Development Studies</td>
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<td>CPDS Friday Lunch Seminar Featuring Aashish Gupta</td>
<td>Mar 25</td>
<td>12–1 pm</td>
<td>Center for Population and Development Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPDS Social Demography Seminar Featuring Susan Dynarski</td>
<td>Mar 31</td>
<td>12–1:15 pm</td>
<td>Center for Population and Development Studies</td>
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