

Inside This issue:

FALLing in Love with Public Health !...1
PHSA...2
CHES Study Group!...3
Officially a CHES ...4
TPHA Presentations...5
TPHA Takeaways...6
PHSA Merch...6
APHA Presentations...7
Preparing for Graduate School?...8
Faculty being Fabulous...9

Inspiration + Motivation

“A life is a moment in season.
A life is one snowfall. A life is
one autumn day.”

“It is only the farmer who
faithfully plants seeds in the
Spring, who reaps the harvest
in the Autumn”

“Let your life lightly dance on
the edges of time like the dew
on top of a leaf”

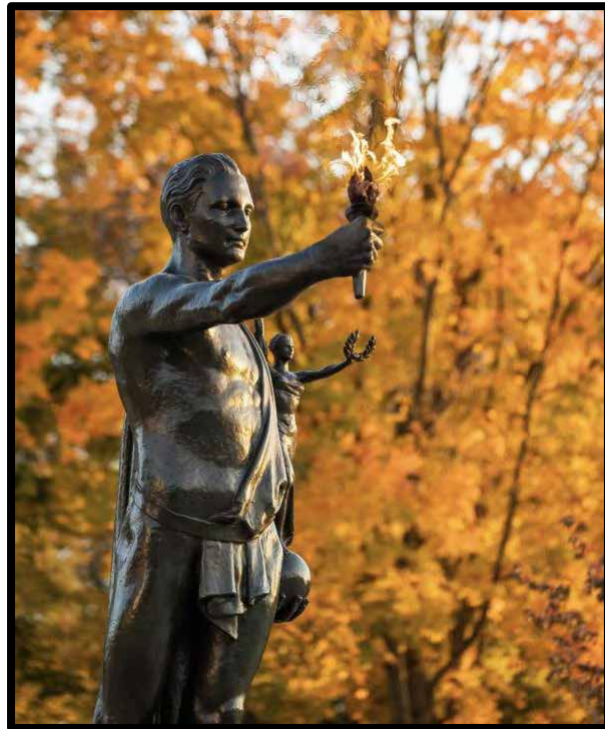
“A sweater is like life, you get
nothing out of it that you don’t
put into it!”

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Public Health Memos

Fall 2024, Volume II



FALLing in Love with Public Health!

With so much going on in the department
and across the public health landscape,
how could one not fall in love with public
health?

This month’s edition highlights some
awesome activities, amazing awards, and
prestigious presentations!

Public Health Student Association



JOIN THE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT
ASSOCIATION FOR A

SAFE & SWEET WELLNESS POP-UP!

**OCTOBER 21ST FROM 2-4PM
IN THE HPER BREEZEWAY**

CHES Study Group!

Dr. Perion will be offering a CHES study group information session
Every other Wednesday from 12:00-1:00pm
for those interested in taking the CHES exam!

What is CHES you ask? Great question!

CHES stands for Certified Health Education Specialist.

This certification, given by the National Commission of Health Education Credentialing, establishes an individual's knowledge and skills and makes them more competitive on the job market!

This study group is open to all students!

For more information and the link to the study group,
contact Dr. Perion at Jperion@utk.edu

For more information on the CHES exam and certification, go to
<https://www.nchec.org/ches>



NCHEC

National Commission
for Health Education Credentialing

Credentialing Excellence in Health Education

Officially a CHES!

Congrats to Spring 2024 graduate Meghan Lucido and current MPH student Gladys Hunt on passing the CHES!



Fun Fact!

The University of Tennessee maintains a 100% pass rate!

TPHA Presentations

Congrats to Ellen Oakes, a second-year MPH student, and third-year PhD student, McKenzie Granata Green, on presenting at this year's TPHA Conference in Murfreesboro, TN!

Ellen, who works with Dr. Shelton, presented on The Associations Between the Multidimensional Deprivation Index and Ppr-Dialysis: Nephrology Care and Mortality on Dialysis Among People with End-Stage Kidney Disease.

McKenzie, who works with Dr. Tran, presented on The Influence of Insurance Status on Mental Health Outcomes in Tennessee Veterans

Way to go, Ellen and McKenzie!



TPHA Takeaways!

"The TPHA conference was an awesome chance to share my research and network with public health professionals who are passionate about improving health service delivery in Tennessee. It was really amazing to see just how many different opportunities there are to make an impact in public health!"

-Ellen Oakes, MPH student

"TPHA 2024 was exciting and educational! I found Dr. Wilson's keynote address to be inspiring and informative as she shared information on the significant impact the Social Determinants of Health have on people and communities. Her speech provided very real context to the concepts we learn in class each day. Of course, another highlight was learning more about current research conducted by Public Health Professionals across the state, including UT Faculty and Students!"

-Caroline Barnes, MPH student

PHSA Merch!

The Public Health Student Association is selling merch!

Interested in ordering? Check out the link below!

<https://forms.gle/4J6VRvXGdDQGwK9d9>

Payments for clothing can be made to Felicia on Venmo **@Felicia-Wright1** and to Tori **@Tori-Cavins** for stickers.

Have the payment titled 'PHSA_yourlastname' so PHSA can correlate the payment to your order

Payments need to be sent no later than **November 1st**!

APHA Presentations


Presenter	Date	Time	Presentation
Su Chen Tan and Kaylynn Hunt	Sunday, October 27, 2024	3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	<i>How wide is the gap? ”: Mental health service utilization and disparities in the treatment of adolescent depression</i>
Dr. Tran	Sunday, October 27, 2024	3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Comparing mental health of US urban and rural caregivers of persons living with dementia: A nationally representative study
Siddhi Patel	Sunday, October 27, 2024	4:30PM - 5:00 PM	An examination of physical activity differences between racial/ethnic groups following myocardial infarction.
Sompa Reza	Monday, October 28	2:45 PM - 3:00 PM	Socioeconomic disparities, food insecurity, and mental health outcomes among university students in Bangladesh: An online survey
Dr. Parks	Tuesday, October 29, 2024	9:15 AM - 9:30 AM	Rural health network development in North Carolina: Supporting health equity and quality improvement through engagement (SHEQuITE Network)
Parker Avery and Dr. Parks	Tuesday, October 29, 2024	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Self-reported food insecurity during the COVID-19 pandemic era: Exploring changes in food insecurity, psychological distress, and family/social life impairment
Dr. Parks	Tuesday, October 29, 2024	2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Characterizing diabetes mellitus status of western North Carolina veterans
McKenzie Granata Green	Wednesday, October 30, 2024	12:45 PM - 1:00 PM	Exploring physical health of rural and urban caregivers of persons living with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: A nationally representative study




APHA 2024
ANNUAL MEETING & EXPO
 Minneapolis | Oct. 27-30

Preparing for Graduate School?

Are you interested in a graduate or professional program? These workshops, hosted by the Career Development and Academic Exploration Center, may be for you!


CAREER DEVELOPMENT & ACADEMIC EXPLORATION 

OCTOBER
GRAD
SCHOOL
 **PREP**
MONTH

Paying for Graduate School
presented by the Center for Financial Wellness
October 22nd • 4:30-5:30P.M. • Student Union 225

Personal Statements and Admissions Essays
presented by the Judith Anderson Herbert Writing Center
October 23rd • 5:30-6:30P.M. • Hodges 129

Find all event details on Handshake!
<https://utk.joinhandshake.com/stu/events>



Faculty Being Fabulous!

Congrats to Dr. Chen on being promoted to full professor!



Dr. Chen's research and scholarly program focus on addressing three fundamental questions:

1. Risk assessments: What is the impact of environmental chemical exposure on human life? While human exposure to many of these compounds is usually at a low dose, it is important to realize that humans may have had daily, repetitive exposures to a mixture of chemicals for decades. Consequently, many of the control measures that currently exist were implemented only after serious environmental damages occurred, a fact that has been recognized by federal regulatory agencies.
2. Risk intervention/prevention: How naturally occurring biologically active compounds derived from plants can be used as new strategies and novel preventive agents to treat chronic and metabolic disorders. My fundamental research in this area could provide scientific validation and evidence to guide pre-clinical and clinical investigations on the potential application of phytochemicals for preventing early onset of obesity/metabolic disorders; and
3. Risk detection/monitoring: How to develop rapid testing tools to identify potential environmental chemical/pathogens exposure? Collaborating with colleagues at Tickle College of Engineering, we develop novel, sensitive, rapid, and cost-efficient tools for environmental chemicals/pathogens testing. These tools upon validation, could provide real-time prediction of specific exposures and permit the prediction of the risk of disease in individuals and in community, specifically in resource-limited settings. The quantitative determination of exposure with these new tools are especially important for population based human studies because the ability to define the amounts and nature of the exposures is often a major obstacle in conventional epidemiological studies.

Congrats again, Dr. Chen! ☺