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#### Happy October!

Crisp days and cool nights, it can only mean one thing-October is here! I trust that Fall Break has you feeling relaxed, refreshed, and ready to take on the second half of the fall semester!

For those of you who are preparing to take Comps, good luck! Your hard work and efforts will not be in vain!

This issue includes many exciting events and opportunities occurring on campus and within the department in the upcoming weeks. To include additional events, please contact the editor.

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# Public Health Memos

### Fall 2022, Volume II



### **Interested in One Health?!**

#### **One Health Student Association/Group**

#### (Tentatively named the Student One Health Coalition)

In collaboration with One Health Initiative and One Health Scholars, we are excited to move forward with creating an executive officer team to launch the One Health Student Association/Group. This academic year (2022-2023) will be the first year for the association.

### There are many exciting campus events happening this semester!

One Health Day is November 3, 2022! Contact Catherine Warner for more details! Cwarne14@vols.utk.edu

## Fall PHSA Events!



Contact Catherine Warner! Cwarne14@vols.utk.edu



#### Introducing our New Faculty Member, Dr. Phoebe Tran!

#### Meet Dr. Tran!

Dr. Phoebe M. Tran, PhD, MS (she/her/hers) is a cardiovascular disease (CVD) epidemiologist who earned her MS (2016) in Epidemiology from Harvard and her PhD (2022) in Chronic Disease Epidemiology from Yale. At Yale, she initiated research efforts with University of Tennessee, University of Kentucky, University of Michigan, and University of Colorado investigators focusing on improving secondary CVD prevention in US rural populations. Her work to improve secondary CVD prevention in underserved populations has been nationally recognized by the NIH and American Heart Association. Other research interests include identifying disparities in chronic disease screening and management for conditions such as diabetes, HIV, and cancer among people with a disability and those living in rural areas.

Her current research focuses on finding ways to improve access to care and quality of life among individuals with CVD living in rural Tennessee. To answer these research questions, she believes in an epidemiological approach that combines the power of large datasets with input from community stakeholders. She is looking forward to conducting community-engaged secondary CVD prevention research and having conversations with students about how they can make a lasting impact on chronic disease prevention efforts.

Having been a longtime Knoxville resident, she is excited to return to Tennessee and reexplore the area's natural wonders. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking with her husband, playing with her cats Zoë and Spoons, and crocheting.

#### Student Spotlight! Travis Hudson

#### Meet our Spotlight Student!

#### Hey y'all!

My name is Travis Hudson, and I am a current second year student here at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville! I currently serve as a GTA for Intro to Public Health and as the Vice President of Health and Safety for the Kappa Omicron chapter of Theta Chi.

As a student, I have had the privilege of working across departments at UTK. Last October, I was a part of a team out of the Department of Nutrition under the guidance of Dr. Betsy Anderson-Steeves in conjunction with the University of Kentucky investigating the lived experiences of grocery store managers rolling out online food ordering during the COVID-

19 pandemic. At the beginning of September, our research was officially published in MDPI! Knowing this work can be used to improve the way we serve people in emergency scenarios has made my classroom experience practical and I could not be prouder of this work!

Copy and paste this link to access the full paper!

https://www.mdpi.com/2072-6643/14/18/3794



#### Alumni Spotlight! Sara Coley

#### Meet our Spotlight Alumni!

Sara Coley recently completed her MPH from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville with a concentration in Community Health Education (May 2022). Her focus of study was on Opioid Use Disorder and Social Determinants of Health (SDoH). Sara worked with Project NOW (Nurturing Options for Women) to reduce stigma around Opioid Use Disorder within rural communities such as, Claiborne, Scott, and Cocke counties. She was also a GTA during her time at UTK for the Intro to Public Health course for undergraduates.

Sara currently serves as the Patient Engagement Coordinator for University Family Physicians (UFP) and the Department of Family Medicine at the Graduate School of Medicine in Knoxville. She works specifically with the TennCare population at UFP to coordinate social needs and educates physician faculty and residents on social determinants of health. She is currently working towards forming community partnerships and relationships with her patient population.

In Spring 2022, Sara completed her Applied Practice Experience (APEx). For her APEx, Sara created a simulation style board game named "Reality Check". The board game "walks" participants through scenarios that are dictated by nonmodifiable factors (such as age, race, and sexual orientation) and potentially modifiable factors (like SDoH and social needs). Sara and Dr. Russomanno, her APEx preceptor, are working to copyright the game so that other institutions can use it as an interactive learning experience. She recently presented at the Tennessee Public Health Association (TPHA) Annual Conference where there was a significant interest in the game from the TDOH, Covenant Medical Centers, and ETSU College of Medicine.

Sara is really excited that her APEx product has been so well received and how she has been able to educate different communities about SDoH. She has given presentations on SDoH for Grand Rounds through the UT Graduate School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine and has worked with the staff and faculty of UFP through an implementation of "Reality Check."



For more information on the Reality Check board game, contact Sara at scoley@utmck.edu or Dr. Russomanno at jrussoma@utk.edu

### **Resources for Vols!**

- Need help with writing for a course, thesis, or dissertation? Schedule an appointment with the Judith Anderson Herbert Writing Center.
- Looking for a space dedicated to graduate students? Graduate Commons (Hodges Library, 131) is a great place to meet, study, and get access to technology. Study rooms are available on a first come basis.
- Needing individual, group, or couples counseling? **The Student Counseling Center (SCC)** is a great resource! They offer in-person and telehealth options. To make your first appointment, call 865-974-2196.
- Check out **TRECS** for free Group Fitness Classes! TRECS also offers trips, clinics, and gear rental through UTOP.