Dear Colleagues:

Since its founding in 1984, the Population Health Institute continues to serve as one of our best examples of the Wisconsin Idea - where the boundaries of the University extend to the boundaries of the State, and beyond. Its engagement with the community in public health and health policy, serves as the foundation of the school’s transformation from a traditional medical school to a school that integrates public health throughout its teaching, research, and service missions.

Despite significant accomplishments, both here at the University of Wisconsin and elsewhere in basic, clinical, and population health research, a wide gap persists between research discoveries (i.e., what we know) and actual practice (i.e., what we do). The Population Health Institute researchers examine the process and outcomes of disseminating evidence-based public health programs and policies into practice.

Research, dissemination and service projects during 2009 include:

- A $5 million/3-year grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to extend the Wisconsin County Health Rankings to county rankings in all 50 states in the nation
- The “Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State” project that identifies the key drivers of Wisconsin’s health and summarizes evidence on the effectiveness of over 300 policies and programs
- The Evidence-Based Health Policy Project that focuses on methods to connect researchers with policy makers, and addresses a broad range of issues in health care and public health
- An evaluation research program that continues to serve as an independent evaluator for many state and local projects, using a wide range of designs including both experimental and quasi-experimental approaches to assess program effectiveness and implementation
- Applied public health training programs, including the Population Health Fellowship and the Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute

In July 2009, Dr. D. Paul Moberg began serving as Acting Director when I became the Associate Dean for Public Health. The Department of Population Health Sciences is currently conducting a national search for a senior faculty member to direct the Institute. With new leadership, the Institute will continue to build on its mission to translate research into practice in Wisconsin, and beyond.

Patrick Remington, MD, MPH
Associate Dean for Public Health
Professor, Population Health Sciences
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Mission Statement

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Population Health Institute
Translating Research into Policy and Practice

The Institute serves as the bridge to public health and health policy practitioners in the State, through an active citizen advisory board, issue briefs and reports, and periodic conferences and educational programs.

It also serves as a focal point for public health and health policy within the School of Medicine and Public Health by bringing together faculty, staff, and students interested in applying their skills and experience to answer “real-world” questions.

Mission:
To translate public health and health policy research into policy and practice.

We strive to:
- Address a broad range of real-world problems of topical importance to government, business, providers and the public
- Promote partnerships of inquiry between researchers and users of research, breaking down barriers between the academic community and public and private sector policy makers
- Advance the development of interdisciplinary research, along the spectrum from public health to health care, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and other academic settings in Wisconsin
- Provide outreach and continuing education for practitioners and opportunities for applied learning for MPH, medical, graduate, and other health professions students
- Contribute to public health and health care practice and policy decisions that improve Wisconsin’s population health
- Maintain the highest level of relevance, rigor, and objectivity
Community Advisory Board

The Institute is guided by an 18-member Community Advisory Board, with members from the health care, public health, business, and voluntary sectors, as well as leaders from Wisconsin’s legislature. The Board meets three to four times per year to guide the work of the Institute and provide feedback on its programs and publications.

Advisory Board Members in 2009

Bevan Baker  
Commissioner  
City of Milwaukee Health Department

Rep. Charles Benedict  
Representative  
Wisconsin State Assembly

Steve Brenton  
President  
Wisconsin Hospital Association

Cheryl DeMars  
CEO  
The Alliance

Kurt Eggebrecht  
Health Officer  
Appleton City Health Department

Curt Gielow  
Executive Dean  
Concordia University School of Pharmacy

Sheri Johnson  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics  
Medical College of Wisconsin

Helene Nelson  
Independent Consultant

Gregory Nycz  
Director  
Family Health Center of Marshfield

Rep. Sandy Pasch  
Representative  
Wisconsin State Assembly

Christopher Queram  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality

David R. Riener  
Director  
Public Policy Institute

Peggy Rosenzweig  
Former UW Regent and Legislator

Ayaz Samadani  
Family Physician  
Dean/St Mary Regional Clinic

Tim Size  
Executive Director  
Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative

Arvid Tillmar  
Chief Executive Officer  
Diversified Insurance Services, Inc.

Karen Timberlake  
Secretary  
Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Susan Turney  
Chief Executive Officer  
Wisconsin Medical Society

As a former state legislator and now pharmacy school dean I believe the significant expertise and focus the Population Health Institute has put on translational research is a significant value-added. My service on the Population Health Institute Advisory Board has been a rewarding and enlightening experience and I’m glad I have contributed to improving healthcare access, delivery and possibly health outcomes statewide.

Curt Gielow, MHA, BS Pharm.  
Executive Dean  
School of Pharmacy  
Concordia University Wisconsin
Affiliated Faculty and Investigators

Patrick Remington, MD, MPH, has over 25 years experience in public health research and practice, with a focus on measuring and monitoring the health of populations.

D. Paul Moberg, PhD, brings extensive experience in program evaluation and evaluation research, specializing in substance abuse prevention and treatment.

David Kindig, MD, PhD is a Professor Emeritus in Population Health Sciences and Emeritus Vice-Chancellor for Health Sciences at the University of Wisconsin and is a nationally-recognized expert in population health. He has many years of experience in health administration and policy.

Tom Oliver, PhD, MHA, is a leading scholar in the area of national, state, and local health system reform, focusing on the process of policy development, design and implementation.

Barbara Wolfe, PhD is a Professor of Economics, Population Health Sciences, and Public Affairs and Faculty Affiliate at the Institute for Research on Poverty. Her research focuses on poverty and health issues; expansions in public health insurance on health-care coverage and labor force outcomes; the role of income on health; the adequacy of resources for retirees; the effects of welfare reform; ties among income, wealth, and health; and racial disparities in health.

Thomas DeLeire, PhD is an associate professor of population health sciences, public affairs and economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research focuses on health and labor economics. His recent work is on economic mobility, family structure, choice of occupation, health insurance, and the well-being of poor households. From 2005 to 2007, DeLeire was a senior analyst at the Congressional Budget Office and from 2002 to 2003, he was senior economist for labor, health, and education for the Council of Economic Advisers.
## Affiliated Faculty and Investigators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photo</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Research Interests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="Thomas J. Kaplan, PhD" /></td>
<td>Thomas J. Kaplan, PhD</td>
<td>Senior Scientist at the Institute for Research on Poverty</td>
<td>Welfare reform and child support policy and evaluation, with special emphasis on program management and Wisconsin state government programs, and the history of health and social welfare programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image2.jpg" alt="Susan Zahner, DrPH, RN" /></td>
<td>Susan Zahner, DrPH, RN</td>
<td>Associate Professor in the School of Nursing</td>
<td>Local public health system performance; public health performance measurement; public health nursing practice improvement; public health workforce development; and evaluation of continuing education approaches for public health nursing preceptors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3.jpg" alt="Jonathan Jaffery, MD" /></td>
<td>Jonathan Jaffery, MD</td>
<td>Chief Medical Officer</td>
<td>Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), and Kidney Disease Prevention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image4.jpg" alt="Lindsey Leininger, PhD" /></td>
<td>Lindsey Leininger, PhD</td>
<td>Health Policy Researcher</td>
<td>Public policy regarding the uninsured, the impact of recent public insurance expansions on the insurance coverage of older adolescents, the effects of partial-year insurance coverage on children’s access to health care as well as the association between family structure, insurance coverage, and access to care and evaluating the impacts of recent reforms to Wisconsin’s Medicaid program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image5.jpg" alt="Paul Peppard, PhD" /></td>
<td>Paul Peppard, PhD</td>
<td>NIH-funded epidemiologic research</td>
<td>Sleep disorders and health disparities, summary measures of population health, and population health monitoring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image6.jpg" alt="John Mullahy, PhD" /></td>
<td>John Mullahy, PhD</td>
<td>Economist</td>
<td>Health economics. Professor Mullahy co-directs the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-supported Health &amp; Society Scholars Program, the NIMH-supported predoctoral training program in Health and Mental Health Economics, and the Merck Company Foundation-supported predoctoral training program in Health Economics.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Institute Leadership and Programs

The Institute is led by nationally-recognized leaders in applied public health and health policy research. Our progress during 2009 could not have been achieved without the ongoing contributions from members of our Community Advisory Board and support from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health and the Wisconsin Partnership Program.

The Programs of the Institute

Population Health Assessment: Monitors and assesses the major components of population health: health outcomes, health determinants and programs and policies.

Health Policy: Engages in research, consulting, and analysis in partnership with Wisconsin’s leading public and private sector policy makers in health and health care, focusing especially on cost, financing, access, and quality.

Program Evaluation: Conducts evaluation projects in many areas of public health, including substance abuse prevention and treatment, maternal and child health, school health promotion and related areas.

Education and Training: Connects the Institute to the public health and health care community in the state through seminars, conferences, training programs, and an active website.

Cross-Cutting Themes

Service Learning: Serves as a population health ‘laboratory’ for learning, where graduate students and fellows apply their skills to real-world issues.

American Indian Tribal-Academic Partnerships: Builds and maintains research evaluation and service initiatives with Wisconsin's American Indian communities and the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC)

Community Engagement: The Institute fosters strong partnerships between the University of Wisconsin and population health practitioners and policy makers through all of its programs.

Evidence-Based Practice: The Institute seeks to evaluate and disseminate evidence-based policies practices through its programs.
Population Health Assessment

Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State

In July 2009, the Institute published the third in a series of major reports from the “Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State Project”: What Works? Policies and Programs to Improve Wisconsin’s Health. This report is a summary of a wide scan of research for evidence of effectiveness for policies and programs addressing the multiple drivers of health. The report is supplemented by a more in-depth database of over 360 policies and programs, available at http://WhatWorksForHealth.wisc.edu.

Bridget Booske, PhD, Program Director

Description: The Institute monitors health and health disparities in communities; reviews evidence on policies and programs to inform health policy, program planning, and evaluation; and disseminates information in user-friendly formats to motivate action toward community health improvement. The program provides opportunities for population health graduate and MPH students to engage in the analysis, interpretation, and communication of health data to Wisconsin’s public health and health policy community.

Primary Partners: National, state and local public health organizations and policy makers.

Major Projects

- Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH)
- Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State
- Catalysts for Action Toward Community Health Improvement (CATCH)
- National Opinion Survey on Health and Health Disparities

Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH)

The Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH) project is a major new project that began on January 1, 2009 with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The goals of the project are to:

1. Create a call to action by publishing County Health Rankings in every state
2. Engage policy makers and other community leaders from multiple sectors in partnerships to improve population health, and
3. Develop incentive models to stimulate multi-sectoral action toward community health improvement

The initiative to expand the County Health Rankings to other states across the United States includes not only a significant expansion of our data collection activities but also a major investment in community engagement and outreach activities with state and local health departments across the nation and multiple national stakeholder organizations, as well as the development of a comprehensive new website: www.countyhealthrankings.org.
Highlights from 2009 include the following:

- Continued a multi-faceted evaluation of BadgerCare Plus, in partnership with Wisconsin’s Department of Health Services, and supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Evaluation components focus on enrollment and continuity, affordability, take-up and crowd-out, and the impact of various health promotion interventions.

- Attained a five-year contract with Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) support to extend the BadgerCare Plus evaluation to the new Core Plan and expand the analysis to health care utilization trends and health outcomes.

- Mentored two La Follette and one MPH/La Follette graduate students as project assistants, and engaged two economics doctoral students on BadgerCare research.

- Initiated a study of Black-White racial disparities in health care outcomes, focusing specifically on rates of diabetes leg amputations, in collaboration with the Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality.

- Served on several government and industry committees including Wisconsin BadgerCare Plus Advisory Committee, Wisconsin Collaborative for Health Care Quality Aligning Forces for Quality Initiative and the Wisconsin Hospital Association Quality Steering Committee.

Evidence-Based Health Policy Project (EBHPP)

The EBHPP, a partnership with the La Follette School of Public Affairs and the Wisconsin Legislative Council, connects lawmakers and researchers, along with public and private sector decision leaders to advance Wisconsin’s health.

- Provides policy makers, in both the public and private sectors, with timely, nonpartisan, high-quality information for evidence-based decision making; and increases involvement of University of Wisconsin research and teaching activities in topical issues of state public policy.

- Designated as a core community engagement component of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Institute for Clinical and Translational Research - Community Academic Partnership (ICTR-CAP)

- Produced briefings and forums in 2009 addressing: nursing shortages; Google’s gaps in policy research; medical homes and retail clinics; collection and reporting of data on quality and costs; and the relationship between supply, utilization, expenditures, and outcomes.
Program Evaluation

The Program Evaluation group was involved in 24 actively-funded projects during 2009. These projects cut across many areas of population health and used a diversity of approaches. The largest areas are substance abuse, prevention, and health promotion.

Projects included:

- A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funded study of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS);

- Two Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funded state projects—the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentives Grant (SPF-SIG) and Wisconsin’s Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment (SBIRT) grant;

- A National Institute on Drug Abuse funded study of Recovery Schools for high school students with substance use disorders;

- Evaluation of correctional programs providing treatment alternatives for offenders with substance abuse problems.

Another area is evaluation of programs targeting populations experiencing health disparities. These include Native American health, partnering with the GLITC; programs targeting African American and Latino health, partnering with the WI Division of Public Health; and assistance to the Department of Corrections to examine disparities in parole revocation.

We are also working with partners to evaluate statewide mental health programs; nutrition; physical activity and fitness programs in schools.

Description: This unit conducts evaluations of programs in public health and human services. The evaluation group also maintains directly-funded evaluation research projects, rigorously evaluating innovative programs using experimental and quasi-experimental designs.

Primary Partners: Community, tribal and State governmental organizations; collaboration with other University of Wisconsin researchers and practitioners.

Examples of the services provided:

- Designing and implementing comprehensive program evaluations

- Developing a wide range of evaluation designs and needs assessments

- Developing data collection methods and survey instruments

- Monitoring program services (e.g., measuring progress in reaching program objectives)

- Conducting qualitative research, including content analysis, intensive interviews, focus groups and site visits and statistical analysis of data from surveys and program-specific data sets

- Conducting rigorous evaluation research in many areas of public health and human services
**Education and Training**

**Community Teams Program**

_The cohort of 5 community teams graduated from the program in September 2009. The fourth cohort (2009-2010) includes a record 9 teams representing community health initiatives in Brown, Calumet, Chippewa, Eau Claire, Green Lake, Milwaukee (2), Polk and Winnebago Counties. The teams are addressing health issues from cancer to substance abuse and physical activity and nutrition._

**Participant Feedback on Community Teams Program**

“Our team brought back skills that can immediately be applied to our community’s needs [and] efforts to improve physical activity in Fox River Valley.”

_Kurt Eggebrecht_  
Health Officer, Appleton Health Dept.

**Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute**

- **The mission** of this collaborative program of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health and the Medical College of Wisconsin is to enhance the skills and leadership capacity of the State’s public health workforce.

- **Community Teams Program:** A year-long program for 5 to 9 teams focused on building public health and collaborative leadership skills as they work to address a priority health issue in their community.

- **Regional Workshops:** A series of targeted one-day workshops offered in community settings on priority topics identified through collaboration with regional partners. Topics have included conflict management, coaching and mentoring, and policy approaches to improving health.

**Description:** The Education and Training Program offers seminars, conferences, and applied training and continuing education programs to community public health practitioners.

**Primary Partners:** A diversity of organizations and individuals from non-profit academic, governmental, business and local public health sectors working to improve the health of the State of Wisconsin.

**Key Activities**

- Wisconsin Population Health Fellowship Program
- Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute
- First Monday Seminar Series
- Population Health Conferences

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Marion Ceraso, MHS, Program Director

Leadership Institute Workshop

Community teams program participants
Service Learning

WI Population Health Fellowship Program

This two-year fellowship program provides recent masters level graduates with service and training opportunities in community based, non-profit, governmental and health service organizations. The primary goal of the Fellowship Program is to develop the next generation of public health practitioners skilled in planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health programs.

**Description:** Each of the Institute’s programs provides students and fellows the opportunity to “learn while doing.” This focus on service learning adds to coursework that students take in the Population Health MS/PhD program, or in the applied coursework offered as part of the Master of Public Health (MPH) program. The Institute serves as a population health ‘laboratory’ for learning, where students apply their skills to real-world issues and, in turn, have an opportunity to publish results as issue briefs, in the Wisconsin Medical Journal, or in named publications.

**Primary Partners:** State and local health and health care leaders who provide service learning opportunities for students working in the Institute, or for fellows in the Wisconsin Population Health Fellowship.

2009 Population Health Practice Fellows

- Evan Cole, MPH
- Marjory Givens, MPH, PhD
- Sara Kazmierczak, MS
- Courtenay Kessler, MS
- Raisa Koltun, MPH
- Kate Konkle, MPH
- Samantha Perry, MPH
- Marisa Stanley, MPH

2009 Graduate Student Assistants across the Institute

- Penny Black
- John Bowser
- Erika Cheng
- Jared Collins
- Laura Dague
- Kristin Gallagher
- Matt Gigot
- Anna Graupner
- Julie Halverson
- Emma Hynes
- Noah Ives
- Shannon Mok
- Karen Odegard
- Clare O’Connor
- Hyojun Park
- Matt Rodock
- Lillian Shields
- Julie Woulfe
Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health

We have joined with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council and Wisconsin’s tribal and urban Indian clinics through the National Institutes of Health and Indian Health Service-supported Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health. A joint Memorandum of Understanding governs this relationship, based on collaboration, tribal self-determination, and respect for tribal sovereignty. This partnership includes several research projects, ranging from preventing childhood obesity to cancer surveillance, and a student development component aimed toward bringing American Indian youth into the sciences and health professions.

Institute staff members have lead responsibility, on behalf of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, for building and maintaining research and service initiatives with Wisconsin’s American Indian communities and the Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health. The Institute provides technical assistance, training, and evaluation services for programs that address maternal and child health, and the delivery of health care services.

The following projects were ongoing in 2009

- Continued to convene the University of Wisconsin Native American Health Work Group

- Represented the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health in the Native American Research Center for Health (NARCH) partnership with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC)

- Collaborated with GLITC in developing grant proposals for several public health programs

- Continued the evaluation of GLITC’s Honoring Our Children project, ongoing since 1998, and the related Honoring Our Families and Urban/Rural Outreach projects

- Consulted with Alexandra K. Adams, MD, PhD (University of Wisconsin Department of Family Medicine) on the process evaluation of the Healthy Children, Strong Families, Supportive Communities project, a child obesity prevention program in tribal communities

- Convened the 5th Annual American Indian Health Sciences Day, with over 150 American Indian student participants from around the State
Community Engagement

The “Wisconsin Idea” envisions close working relationships throughout the State of Wisconsin, such that “the beneficent influence of the University reaches every family in the State.” Institute staff members regularly engage with colleagues and partners in programs, applied research, program evaluation, committees, consulting, proposal development and other activities. These partnerships, some funded, some in-kind, and some simply collegial, include entities in the public and private sector as well as in other departments and centers within the University. Institute participation may be based on grants and contracts, in-kind commitments, or colleagueship.

The list provides a selected view of the myriad organizations with which Institute staff collaborated and/or consulted in 2009.

Public/Governmental Agencies

- Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Wisconsin Legislative Council
- Wisconsin Department of Corrections
- Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
- Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds
- National Institute on Drug Abuse
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Private and Not-for-Profit Agencies

- Alliance Employer Health Care Cooperative and Alliance Foundation
- Aurora Health Care, Inc.
- Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc.
- Medical College of Wisconsin
- The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- United Way of Dane County, WI
- UW Medical Foundation
- Wisconsin Education Association
- Wisconsin Hospital Association
- Wisconsin Medical Society
- Wisconsin Nursing Association
- InterTribal Council of Michigan
- Wisconsin Association of Drug Court Professionals
- Wisconsin Collaborative for
- Healthcare Quality
- Women, Infants and Children Association
Executive Committee and Institute Staff

The Population Health Institute supports the mission of our newly integrated School of Medicine and Public Health by translating public health and health policy into practice. We consider our work as the most recent embodiment of the Wisconsin Idea by working with government and community toward a healthier Wisconsin. We merge the burgeoning body of public health knowledge with the realities of behavior, culture, resources and institutional interests to create strategies that make a difference in the health of our citizens across the full spectrum of our society.

The Executive Committee provides guidance to the Director on the performance of the Institute, reviewing goals and objectives and evaluating accomplishments through this annual report.

Executive Committee

Gordon T. Ridley, Chair
Senior Associate Dean for Administration and Finance, Associate Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs

David A. Kindig
Senior Advisor
UW Population Health Institute
Professor Emeritus

Katharyn May
Dean and Professor
School of Nursing

Dennis Dresang
Professor
La Follette School of Public Affairs

F. Javier Nieto
Chair, Department of Population Health Sciences
Professor, Population Health Sciences and Family Medicine

Patrick Remington
Professor, Department of Population Health Sciences

Ron Cisler
Director Center for Urban Population Health

Susan Goelzner
Department of Anesthesiology
Department of Population Health Sciences

Institute Staff in 2009

David Ahrens, MS, Researcher
UW Comprehensive Cancer Center

Jessica Athens, MS, Associate Researcher

Alison Bergum, MPA, Associate Researcher

Bridget Booske, PhD, MHSA, Senior Scientist
Director, Population Health Assessment

Jennifer Buechner, BS, Research Specialist

John Bowser, MS, Research Specialist

Marion Ceraso, MHS, MA
Director, Education and Training

Colleen Comeau, AAS
University Services Associate II

Tim Connor, MS, MA, Associate Researcher

Nancy Eberle, MPH, Assistant Researcher

Liz Feder, PhD, Associate Researcher

Joan Fischer, MA, Editor

Charlane FitzGerald, MPH, Researcher

Donna Friedsam, MPH
Health Policy Programs Director

Janae Goodrich, BA, Research Specialist

Barbara Hill, MSW, Researcher

Bryan Hoefl
Administrative Program Manager

Aimee Hugl, Research Specialist

Ceri Jenkins, Senior Outreach Specialist

Nathan Jones, PhD, Researcher
UW Comprehensive Cancer Center

Amanda Jovaag, MS, Associate Researcher

David Kindig, MD, PhD, Senior Advisor

Judy Knutson, University Services Associate II

Robin Lecoanet, JD, Associate Researcher

Sarah Linnan, BS, Researcher

D. Paul Moberg, PhD
Deputy Director and Senior Scientist

Christine Niemuth, BA, Research Specialist

Tom Oliver, PhD, Associate Professor

Patrick Remington MD, MPH, Director
Associate Dean for Public Health

Kirstin Siemering, DrPH, RD, Researcher

Carrie Sullivan, MPH, Outreach Specialist

Kit Van Stelle, MA, Researcher

Kristen Voskuil, MA, Associate Researcher

Julie Willems Van Dijk, PhD, RN
Associate Scientist

Lesley Wolf, University Services Associate II
Conferences, Seminars, Publications, Programs

Institute-Sponsored Seminars

“Participatory Photo Mapping: An Integrated Method for Health and Place Research” Suzanne Gaulocher, MPH, Wisconsin Population Health Fellow Madison/Dane County Health Department, Samuel F. Dennis, Jr., PhD, RLA, ASLA, Assistant Professor Landscape Architecture & Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin. February 2, 2009.


“The Medical Home and Health System Reform” Barbara Starfield, MD, MPH, Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, Primary Care Policy Center, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. April 6, 2009.

“Great Expectations: Health Reform and the Obama Administration” Jonathan Oberlander, PhD, Associate Professor of Social Medicine and Health Policy and Administration, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. May 4, 2009.

“Health Care Reform in 2009: You Can’t Always Get What You Want” Thomas Oliver, PhD, Professor, Department of Population Health Sciences, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. June 11, 2009.

“The Social Epidemiology of Alcohol Use and Related Problems in Wisconsin” D. Paul Moberg, PhD, Research Professor, Department of Population Health Sciences, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. December 7, 2009.

Institute-Sponsored Conferences and Healthy WI Leadership Programs

Improving Your Community’s Health: Policy Change in the Real World. Milwaukee, January 15, 2009

Real Talk Real Action Conference. Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison, WI, January 29-30, 2009

Community Organizing: Direct Action and Power Relationships. Midwest Academy Milwaukee, February 25, 2010

4th Street Forum: Bad Habits, Medical Costs and Individual Responsibility. Midwest Academy, Wisconsin Dells, March 2, 2010

The 5th Annual American Indian Health Sciences Day. Health Sciences Learning Center, Madison, WI, April 3, 2009


Smart Regulation: Can New Types of Governance Improve Health? Health Sciences Learning Center, Madison, WI, October 9, 2009

Capitol Briefings and Forums by the Evidence-Based Health Policy Project

Real Talk Real Action Conference. Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison, WI, January 29-30, 2009

Community Organizing: Direct Action and Power Relationships. Midwest Academy Milwaukee, February 25, 2010

4th Street Forum: Bad Habits, Medical Costs and Individual Responsibility. Midwest Academy, Wisconsin Dells, March 2, 2010

The 5th Annual American Indian Health Sciences Day. Health Sciences Learning Center, Madison, WI, April 3, 2009


Smart Regulation: Can New Types of Governance Improve Health? Health Sciences Learning Center, Madison, WI, October 9, 2009

Capitol Briefings and Forums by the Evidence-Based Health Policy Project

January 8, 2009

Rx for RNs: Addressing the Nursing Shortage. Katharyn May, Dean of the University of Wisconsin School of Nursing, Janet Allan, Dean of the University of Maryland School of Nursing, Judy Warmuth, Vice President for Workforce Development at Wisconsin Hospital Association, and Senator Judy Robson, Wisconsin State Legislature.

February 19, 2009

Accountable Care Organizations: A Path Forward to Quality and Savings. Elliott Fisher, MD, MPH, Dartmouth Medical School and The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice.

March 3, 2009

Google’s Gaps: The Art of Policy Research on the Internet. Catherine Arnott Smith, PhD and Dr. Greg Downey, PhD, University of Wisconsin School of Library and Information Studies.

April 7, 2009

Medical Homes and Retail Clinics: Complementary Care or Conceptual Clash? Barbara Starfield, MD, MPH, Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; Lowell Keppel, MD, CPE, FAADP, FACPE, Chairman of the Board and Immediate Past President, Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians; Ken Berndt, Director of Business Development, Bellin Hospital, Fast Care Program.

October 8, 2009

Health Care Quality, Effectiveness, and Value: How Might State of Wisconsin Investments Pay Off? Christopher Queram, CEO of the Wisconsin Collaborative for Health Care Quality moderated the discussion. Speakers included Julie Bartels of the WI Health Information Organization (WHIO), Lisa Ellinger of the Department of Employee Trust Funds (DETF), and Jonathan Jaffery, Chief Medical Director of Medicaid and BadgerCare Programs.

Peer Reviewed Publications


Selected Abstracts and Presentations

Research into Practice: Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State. David A. Kindig, Wausau Community Health Forum, January 2009


Recovery High School Models of Continuing Care for Adolescents with Substance Use Disorders. D. Paul Moberg, PhD, Andrew J. Finch, PhD, Amanda L. Krupp, Addictions Health Services Research Conference, San Francisco, CA. October 28, 2009


Issue Briefs**


*student or trainee author

** Publications available at http://uwphi.pophealth.wisc.edu/
During 2009, the Institute had a total budget of approximately $4.4 million. This funding was from a diverse mix of sources, including the Wisconsin Partnership Programs (Blue Cross/Blue Shield conversion), Wisconsin state agencies, federal agencies, core funds from the UW School of Medicine and Public Health, several foundation and other nonprofit sources. The following graph summarizes funding source as percent of total:

A. State Agencies (including federal pass-through)

Wisconsin Division of Public Health ($176,000)
- System-Based Diabetes Prevention and Control Program
- Evidence-Based Practices & Monitoring for Healthiest Wisconsin 2010
- InfoLinks eHealth Project
- BadgerCare Plus

Wisconsin Division of Disability and Elder Services ($596,000)
- Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentives Grant Wisconsin
- Mental Health Program Evaluation Services
- Screening, Brief Intervention Referral and Treatment Program
- Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentives Grant South Dakota

Wisconsin Department of Corrections ($99,000)
- Study of Offender Revocation
- Treatment and Diversion Program

WI Dept of Transportation ($22,000)
- Victim Impact Panel Evaluation

WI Dept of Health Services ($75,000)
- Service Integration for Chronic Disease

WI Medical Society Foundation ($12,000)
- Board of Director Support

B. Direct Federal Funding ($99,000)

- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Prevention and Surveillance (CDC)
- Recovery Schools as Continuing Care for Adolescent Substance Abuse (NIDA)

C. UW School of Medicine and Public Health

Core SMPH Funds ($390,000)
- Wisconsin County Health Rankings
- Issue Briefs and eNEWS
- Conferences and Seminars
- Native American Health

Wisconsin Partnership Programs ($1,035,000)
- Population Health Fellowship Program
- Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute
- Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State
- What Works: Reducing Health Disparities
- Evidence Based Health Policy Program
- FIT WIC/FIT Families
- Honoring Our Children Urban/Rural Project
- Symposium on New Governance

D. Foundations and Other Nonprofit Sources

Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council ($68,000)
- Honoring Our Families
- Honoring Our Children—Healthy Start

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) ($1,829,000)
- BadgerCare Plus Performance Review
- Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH)
- Catalysts for Action Toward Community Health (CATCH)

Sawyer County, WI ($10,000)
- Evaluation of Sawyer County Drug Court
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