RWJF Awards PHS Alum Abiola Keller New Connections Grant

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has awarded Population Health Alumna Abiola Keller, MPH, PhD, a $100,000 grant through the New Connections program. Keller is the Director of Clinical Research and Assistant Professor in the Department of Physician Assistant Studies at Marquette University. She received both her MPH and PhD in the Department of Population Health Sciences.

Keller is among a select group of junior investigators to receive a 24-month grant from the foundation. The grant will allow Keller to evaluate the increasing role of non-physician providers in improving the quality and equity of depression treatment in the United States.

PHS MD/PhD Student Ifna Ejebe Receives Awards

Congratulations to Ifna Ejebe! Ifna was awarded the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality (AHRQ) R36 Health Services Dissertation Award and the NIH Individual Predoctoral MD/PhD Award (F30) through the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK).

Ifna will serve as the Principal Investigator of the project “Diabetes Self-Management Education and Associated Healthcare Use in US Adults.” The overall objective of this study is to investigate the distribution of diabetes self-management education and its contribution toward persistent disparities in diabetes outcomes, medical expenditures, and healthcare use. The sponsor for both awards is Elizabeth Jacobs MD, MAPP and the co-sponsor is John Mullahy, PhD.

John Rankin Annual Memorial Lecture

This year’s John Rankin annual Memorial Lecture will be presented by Professor Charles Irvin, PhD, Director of the Vermont Lung Center at the University of Vermont. Dr. Irvin received his graduate research training in the UW Rankin Laboratory of Pulmonary Medicine. He will be speaking on “Obesity, Asthma, and the Effects of Bariatric Surgery: The Puzzling and Unexpected.” The lecture will be held on Wednesday, October 8th at 8:00 a.m. in Room G5/113 CSC.

John Rankin M.D. was a Professor of Medicine (1953-81) and Chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine (now Population Health Sciences) (1968-81). This year marks the 31st Rankin Lecture.
2014-15 Academic Guides Now Available
The updated 2014-15 Population Health and Epidemiology Academic Guides are now available on the website. Please take a look at these guides to make yourself aware of several new policies and changes. These guides are your main “go to” source for questions about the programs!

Spring 2015 Advising Period
Don’t forget to meet with your advisor before it’s time to sign up for spring semester courses. Advising will begin on Monday, October 27th and course enrollment opens on Monday, November 11th.
In order to have your enrollment hold removed, non-dissertators are required to fill out and have their advisor sign a Course Advising Form. Dissertators require a Dissertator Update/Hold Removal Form. Anyone planning on enrolling in a 699 or 990 course will also need a 699/990 Authorization Form. All forms available on the PHS website. Please e-mail a completely filled out, electronic copy or deliver a hard copy of your forms to Quinn Fullenkamp (qhfullen@wisc.edu) in room 740 WARF before the deadline.

January Qualifier Exam
The next PhD Qualifier Exams will be held on January 13th (Biostats), January 14th (HSR), and January 15th (Epi).
If you qualify to take the exam and intend to do so this upcoming January, please send an e-mail to Quinn Fullenkamp (qhfullen@wisc.edu) by Friday, October 31st at the very latest.
If you are not sure if you qualify to take the exam, e-mail Quinn by the deadline so he can check on your eligibility.

Planning a December Graduation?
If you are planning on graduating this December, please contact Quinn Fullenkamp by Wednesday, October 15th and complete the following:

1. Fill out a Request to Graduate form and return it to Quinn Fullenkamp (740 WARF).

2. Fill out the appropriate Warrant Request Form by Wednesday, October 15th (available on WARF 7th floor).
October PHSSO Meeting

The October PHS Student Organization meeting will take place on **Wednesday, 10/1** from 1:15 to 2:00pm in 758 WARF.

The meeting will include committee updates, a quick presentation by the Office of Professional Development in the Grad School, and as usual provide Potbelly’s sandwiches, chips, and cookies!

Also, be sure to check the [PHSSO](#) web site for more upcoming events!

Departmental News

Upcoming Seminars

All Wednesday seminars take place from noon until 1:00 pm in 132 WARF.  
All Monday seminars take place from noon until 1:00pm in 1309 HSLC unless otherwise noted.

**Wednesday, October 1:** Student Panel facilitated by Corinne Engelman on “Getting Started on Finding a Job after Graduate School.” Panelists include Eva Dugoff, Kristen Malecki, and Marguerite Burns.

**Monday, October 6:** Veronica L. Gunn, MD, MPH, FAAP, Vice President of Population Health Management and Payment Innovation and Medical Director, Community Services, Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin, “Population-Based Approaches to Improving Child Health”

**Wednesday, October 8:** Unnur Gudnadottir presenting, “Weight Misperception and Weight-related Attitudes/behaviors among Overweight and Obese Individuals.”

**Monday, October 13:** Vijay Limaye, PhD, 2015 California Epidemiologic Investigation Service Fellow, Environmental Health Investigations Branch, California Department of Public Health, “Climate Change, Energy Demand, and Population Health: Modeling Risks from Extreme Heat and Air Pollution.”

**Wednesday October 15:** Hillary Joyner presenting, “ Audio Computer Assisted Self-Interview: Who’s Listening?”

**Monday October 20:** Alberto Palloni, PhD, Samuel H. Preston Professor of Population Studies, Center for Demography and Ecology, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, “The Fragility of the Future and the Tug of the Past: Longevity in Latin American and the Caribbean.”

**Wednesday October 22:** No seminar.

**Monday October 27:** Elizabeth Cox, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Wisconsin SMPH, “The Power of Stakholder Engagement in Patient-Centered Outcomes Research.”

**Wednesday October 29:** Kristin Berg presenting, “Women Veterans and Successful Smoking Cessation.”

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And Follow @UWPopHealthSci on Twitter!
Professional Development Events

**NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Application Overview and Fellows Panel:**
This workshop is intended to be an informational session about applying to the National Science Foundation GRFP. It will give an overview of the application to provide perspective students an idea of the amount of work involved and where to start.

Wednesday, October 1st from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in 1111 Genetics-Biotechnology Building

**Writing Fellowship/Grant Applications:** This workshop will provide an outline of the fellowship application writing process, covering how to take into account argument, organization and style in preparing a fellowship application.

Monday, October 16th from 4:00-5:00 p.m. at 6191, Helen C. White Hall

**Creating an Individual Development Plan:** Participants will begin to create a personalized plan that takes into account career interests and addresses the development of knowledge and skills for professional growth.

Wednesday, October 8th from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the Wisconsin Idea Room, Education Building
Thursday, October 23rd from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in L196, Education Building

**Transferable Skills: What Employers want**
Monday, October 13th from 4:00-5:30 p.m. at Union South

**Converting your CV to a Resume**
Monday, October 20th from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Union South

**Entre Dos Mundos / Between Two Worlds:**
Upcoming Guest Lecturer

Martica Bacallao, PhD, Assistant Professor, Arizona State University, will present “Becoming Bicultural: Risk and Resilience in Latino Youth.”

A recent wave of massive immigration has led to a struggle with the need to become bicultural, a difficult and sometimes painful process of navigating between ethnic cultures. Dr. Bacallao will explore the individual and family dynamics and societal messages behind bicultural development and sheds light on the factors that lead to positive or negative consequences for immigrant youth.

The lecture will take place on Thursday, October 16th, at 12 noon (lunch will be served, in the Wisconsin Idea Room (159), Education Building.

Please RSVP to Carmen R. Valdez (cvaldez@wisc.edu).