Spring 2020

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Chair’s Note

It is spring semester of 2020 and COVID-19 is “upon the population” here in Wisconsin and across the globe. Despite many warnings and some useful pandemic modeling, the changes in our daily lives came abruptly in the middle of March, when we transitioned from business as usual to all hands-on deck to defeat the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus. Each of us is now doing our part by staying at home and continuing to work (remotely) as hard as we can to advance the teaching and research mission of Population Health Sciences, and to protect and promote the health of the public. In this issue of the Newsletter, in addition to introducing our newest PHS faculty members, Dr. Lawrence Brown and Dr. Jomol Mathew, we feature a number of PHS activities underway to support the COVID-19 response in our community. Though many uncertainties and disproportionate impacts of this epidemic remain, there are also glimmers of hope, and much knowledge to be gained from this experience that can be used to build a more sustainable, healthy, equitable and inclusive society for the future.
Welcome Lawrence Brown and Jomol Mathew

On December 30\textsuperscript{th}, Lawrence Brown started as a Visiting Associate Professor (CHS) of Population Health Sciences and PHI’s new Director of County Health Rankings and Roadmaps.

On April 1\textsuperscript{st}, Jomol Mathew joined Population Health Sciences as a Visiting Associate Professor (CHS) and the Institute of Clinical and Translational Research as Chief of Biomedical Informatics.

Jonathan Patz Interview: Reason for Hope Against Coronavirus

Jonathan Patz was interviewed by the Wisconsin State Journal on the effectiveness of “shelter-in-place” directives around the world.

Pat Remington Interviewed by the WI State Journal

Pat Remington spoke in the Wisconsin State Journal’s Center Stage podcast on the subject “Everything you ever wanted to know about the coronavirus (but were afraid to ask)”. 
Ajay Sethi Featured in a Discovery Channel Documentary

Ajay Sethi was among UW Experts Featured in a Discovery Channel Documentary, “Pandemic: COVID-19”.

Survey of the Health of Wisconsin (SHOW) Response

SHOW is planning a COVID-19 longitudinal study to explore how the pandemic will impact the social determinants of health.

HIP Response

UW Researchers provide health decision makers with HIPxChange Toolkit and information to plan for COVID-19 complications.