From the Chair...

Giving Back to “Old IU”

I had some great times as a student in Ann Arbor and would bet that you did, too, here in Bloomington. In fact, after I graduated, I quickly came to realize that my collegiate experiences and especially the investments made in me by University of Michigan mentors had a profound effect on my career. Having come to know IU over the past 10 years, I trust that you can say the same about the effect IU had on you and your career.

My U of M department also has a newsletter like The Pulse. I can remember flipping through a copy years ago and being impressed by the long list of annual donors, including faculty members. I realized that I needed to have my name listed, too, as a way of “giving back” to my alma mater, even if just the little I could afford as a young high school health teacher. More recently, a scholarship fund was established in the name of my undergraduate advisor and mentor, Stephen J. Galetti, and I now contribute to that fund annually to help assure that others, too, can receive the benefit of a Big Ten university education. Do you do the same for your alma mater?

Now more than ever, we need you to give back to “Old IU” through your contributions to the Applied Health Science Fund or our other scholarship funds established with the IU Foundation. Your contribution can be whatever you can afford even as little as $25, about the price of a meal at a typical restaurant, because every little bit helps (of course much larger contributions are also welcomed). Because, you see, the rate of participation in annual giving from our alumni is crucial. When we approach large donors and foundations for funding, they typically want to know the percentage of our alumni that regularly contribute; the higher the percentage the better the impression.

So, the next time you are reminded of your IU attachments in some way (Hoosier basketball anyone?) I hope you will think about what IU has meant to you and your career. Then, resolve to “give back” so that others can receive the same benefit of a fine education at an excellent Big Ten university—Indiana!

To contribute go to https://apps2.iuf.indiana.edu

David K. Lohrmann, Ph.D.
Chairperson
We Are Now the School of Public Health - Bloomington (SPH-B)

The 2012-2013 academic year has brought significant developments in our School and in our Department. On September 28, 2012, IU President Michael A. McRobbie officially renamed HPER the School of Public Health-Bloomington. This name is in keeping with the transition process begun in 2009. We are on track in our goal to become accredited as a school of public health by the Council for Education in Public Health (CEPH).

We are now involved in a two-year self-study, to be completed within the next year. Once we have submitted the self-study to CEPH, it will be revised after preliminary feedback. Then there will be a site visit and finally a decision by CEPH about our accreditation, probably in the Spring of 2015. The transition plan says it best, “The ultimate goal of this process is to complete the evolution of HPER to a SPH in a manner that ensures eventual accreditation by CEPH, while at the same time preserving the integrity of the current departments and maintaining the accreditation of other existing programs.”

So what are these other departments? In Spring 2012, the IU Campus Curriculum Committee approved the Department of Epidemiology and the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics which brings the number of departments in our school to five. In addition there are now eight MPH concentrations:

- Behavioral, Social and Community Health
- Public Health Administration
- Epidemiology
- Environmental Health
- Biostatistics
- Family Health
- Professional Health Education
- Physical Activity

The MPH in Physical Activity is in the Kinesiology Department, and the MPH in Professional Health and the MPH in Family Health are in our department. Two new doctoral degrees, one in Epidemiology and one in Environmental Health, have also been initiated.

All of these changes may make it seem like the SPH-B is an entirely new direction from our past; however, as Dr. Lohrmann, Chair of AHS, likes to point out, we already had strong commitment and capacities to address a majority of the key public health indicators. This means that even when we started our transition, we were well along the way to meeting the goals of a SPH.

Finally, as a SPH, we can better meet the needs of Indiana which ranks in the bottom half of all priority health issues and often falls into the bottom fifth. In fact, Indiana ranks 49th in the US in public health investment. Our school and our sister Fairbanks School of Public Health in Indianapolis can help change that.
We will be able to receive grants from The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grants that will help us improve the health status of Hoosiers and other constituencies we reach in the US and abroad. We will be able to improve the economic outlook for Indiana, since health indicators and economic indicators are related.

We will draw to our School, students, staff and faculty who want to be in the forefront of public health. Research is increasingly interdisciplinary. With five strong departments, we will be able to benefit from joint research endeavors within the School. We will also be able to team up with faculty across campus who study health from the perspective of law, sociology, informatics, science, and public policy.

If you wish to read more about our School’s venture, please see the school website www.publichealth.indiana.edu “About Us” and look for “Accreditation.”

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**A Poem That Dean Torabi Once Read To Open a Faculty Meeting:**

*And still, after all this time, the Sun has never said to the Earth,  
“You owe me.”  
Look what happens with love like that. It lights up the sky.*  
- Rumi

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**Dr. Mohammad R. Torabi Appointed as Dean of Our School**

We are especially pleased and honored to report that **Dr. Mohammad R. Torabi**, the visionary Chair of the Department of Applied Health Science for 11 years, has been named founding dean of the School of Public Health-Bloomington. Many of you know of Dr. Torabi’s passion for public health, his encouragement of students, faculty, and staff, and his drive to make IUB a leader in our field. It is with great pride that we see him take the helm of our School.

From November, 2010 to January 1, 2013, Dr. Torabi has served as Interim Dean. Indiana University Bloomington Provost and Executive Vice President **Lauren Robel** puts it this way, “The entire campus is grateful to Dean Torabi for his selfless and dedicated service as interim dean, and for the vision and judgment he has demonstrated as the school has transitioned to its new mission.”

Dr. Torabi received his B.S. and M.S.P.H. from Tehran University, his Ph.D. from Purdue University, and his M.P.H. from Indiana University. His research focuses on measurement and evaluation of school and public health education programs and factors associated with health behavior. His research also extends into health
Torabi, (cont.)

promotion and key factors related to individuals' decisions in the prevention of drug abuse, cancer and HIV/AIDS infection.

Dean Torabi has been a leader in national health organizations: former president and a fellow of the American Academy of Health Behavior; a fellow and charter member of the North American Society of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, Sport, and Dance Professionals; charter fellow of the American Association of Health Education; fellow of the American School Health Association; and fellow of the Research Committee of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education and Dance. Also, Dr. Torabi is the Chancellor's Professor in Applied Health Science.

Upon being named Dean, Dr. Torabi commented, “While much has been accomplished at the School of Public Health-Bloomington, much remains to be done. I'm confident that our world-renowned faculty, dedicated staff and loyal alums will continue working toward expansion of our mission of preventing disease, promoting health and quality of life, and health care cost containment for the citizens of Indiana and our global community. This can be achieved through outstanding research, teaching and public health community engagement.” We will leave you with his words from the dedication of the Tony Mobley Auditorium in the fall of 2011, “The sky is the limit.”

Dr. David Lohrmann Appointed Chair of AHS

Most of you know that Dr. David Lohrmann has been the Interim Chair of AHS for the last two years. In that time he has focused on seeking broad input from faculty, staff and students, as he made decisions regarding our Department. We are very pleased to announce that as of March 1, he is our official Chairperson.

Dr. Lohrmann’s career has embraced the issue of school health (from teaching high school in his early years to serving as the president of the American School Health Association more recently). He has said “Prevention of health problems is vitally important in Indiana, the U.S. and countries across the globe. Our department’s mission is futuristic in responding to this growing need.”

Dean Torabi echoes this emphasis on the future “Dr. Lohrmann’s appointment continues our forward momentum in the School of Public Health-Bloomington to expand our research, teaching, and community engagement.”

Dr. Priscilla Barnes

We are very happy to welcome Dr. Priscilla Barnes, no stranger to Bloomington, to our faculty this year. She received her undergraduate degree from IUB in biology in 1997 and her MPH from our department in 1998. After practicing in the field for six years, Priscilla completed her PhD at Western Michigan University in 2010. She returned to Bloomington on a post doctoral fellowship and started her appointment as assistant professor this fall. This new position is a milestone in her career marking the transition from student to public health practitioner to faculty member. Now she is preparing our current students to enter the public health workforce of the future.

Priscilla heard about our program from a friend. She says that public health is so hands-on and creative that it matched the right side of her brain to the left side of her brain. For the students, in her graduate Health Program Evaluation class, she sets up the same kind of hands-on, creative experiences that they will find upon graduation. This is a service learning class. They are divided
into teams, with each team designing an evaluation for a governmental or community-based agency.

She also mentions the variety of opportunities in public health, and for her this has meant working as a Public Health Prevention Specialist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta; as a Program Director in the Minority Health Partnership of the Calhoun County Health Department in Battle Creek, Michigan; as a Program Manager for the National Association of County and City Health Officials in Washington, DC; and as a Health Education Program Manager at the Elmendorf Air Force Base Spectrum Healthcare Resources, Anchorage, AK. As you can see, Priscilla has moved up a career ladder, gaining experience with both national and local health organizations.

The focus of Dr. Barnes’ research is examining factors that influence the organization and function of local public health systems. One aspect of this research assesses how local health departments, hospitals and other care agencies, and community-based organizations can work together to improve population health status.

Priscilla’s second home is the Monroe County YMCA working as a personal trainer or a group fitness instructor. Her YMCA students and those students in her graduate Health Program Evaluation class cannot help but feel the enthusiasm and energy she brings to each setting. Our MPH students studying under Dr. Barnes will certainly leave with the skills and creativity they need for a rewarding career in public health.

We are very pleased to have Dr. Jonathon Beckmeyer as a new faculty member in Human Development and Family Studies. Jonathon just completed his PhD at the University of Missouri in Human Environmental Sciences with an emphasis on Human Development and Family Studies. He has an MS in Criminal Justice and Criminology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and a BS in Psychology from Truman State University.

When asked why he chose Human Development and Family Studies, Jonathon says he became interested in senior year in college when he took some development courses. His overarching goal is to make the lives of adolescents and their families better. Some of his research areas include parent-adolescent relationships and adolescents’ health risk behaviors. And he is very interested in middle school students through freshmen and sophomores in high school. This life-stage fascinates him because it is a time when children are going through big changes in their relationships: with their parents, with their friends, and with new romantic interests. Jonathon says adolescence lasts from about the ages of 9 or 10 (when social processes tend to lag behind the physical changes) to the 20’s.

Another interest for Dr. Beckmeyer is the romantic relationships of adolescents and how they affect alcohol, tobacco and other drugs use and early sexual activities. His research up to now has been quantitative, working with a large secondary data set entitled the Study of Early Child Care and Youth Development. Jonathon would like to collect his own data someday perhaps with a study of adolescents and their friends or adolescents and their parents. His recently completed dissertation focuses on the associations between romantic involvement and adolescents depressive symptoms, ATOD use, and sexual activity.

He is enthusiastic about his move to Bloomington and finds the people upbeat and happy and the campus beautiful. Jonathon likes cycling, photography and cooking (especially Italian, since his mother is Italian). Courses HDFS students are taking from him this year include: Family Life Education and Human Development II. We know they are pleased to have such an energetic and approachable researcher on board as a new professor in Applied Health Science.
This past fall, **Dr. Beth Meyerson** taught a graduate course entitled “Acquiring and Managing Grants for Health & Human Services.” This class was a service learning class with teams of students working with 5 specific agencies to write and submit grants. Dr. Meyerson says, “In short, we are submitting over $700,000 in grant proposals with five Indiana organizations to expand their public health capacity. (See photo on page 10.)

Dr. Meyerson has also been selected as one of the recipients of the 2012-13 IU Outstanding Junior Faculty Award. The faculty review committee was challenged to choose from among applications, all of who were marked by both solid accomplishment and exceptional promise. Congrats to Dr. Meyerson!

**Dr. Cecilia Obeng** and the graduate students from her T580 class (Introduction to Qualitative Inquiry in Public Health Research) presented ten papers at the Qualitative Research Conference in Ohio this past summer. Dr. Obeng was also awarded a School of Public Health-Bloomington Grant to Support Community-Based Research Partnerships in Indiana.

**Dr. Vanessa Schick** and her team have been awarded a $5000 grant from the School of Public Health Bloomington for their work with Positive Link at IU Health Bloomington.

**Dr. Shahla Ray** was selected a Project Engage 2013 Fellow for Summer 2013 from the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning.
Dr. Dong-Chul Seo has become a Fellow of the American Academy of Health Behavior. The minimum requirement to become a fellow is to have authored or coauthored at least 50 refereed research papers published in national or international journals that regularly report the findings of original health behavior research. In addition one must receive a minimum of 25 external grants as P.I. or co-P.I. or 1.5 million in external grants or presented at least 75 scientific papers at national or international professional meetings. Congratulations, Dr. Seo, on this prestigious accomplishment.

Dr. Seo has also been elected to serve on the American Academy of Health Behavior (AABH) Executive Board as President-Elect for 2013-14, and President for 2014-15. We congratulate him on assuming this position of national leadership. The mission of AABH is to serve as the “research home” for health behavior scholars and researchers whose primary commitment is to excellence in research and the application of research to practice to improve the public's health.

Drs. Kevin Slates and David Lohrmann submitted a winning poster at the American Society of Safety Engineers 2012 conference in Denver, CO. Their poster is entitled “Curriculum Mapping: An Evaluation of an Undergraduate Safety Major Using ANSI/ASSE Competencies as a Framework for Assessment.”

Dr. Krisha Thiagarajah and Senior Lecturer Victoria Getty published an article entitled, “Impact on Plate Waste of Switching from a Tray to a Trayless Delivery System in a University Dining Hall and Employee Response to the Switch” in the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The study found a significant reduction in the average amount of solid food waste generated per patron with the trayless system using trays, from 4.39 to 3.58 oz. per patron per meal.

Dr. Krisha Thiagarajah was also awarded and has completed an IU Service-Learning Faculty Fellowship for the 2012-13 academic year.

**Student News**

Kathryn Barnhart, Erika Collazo, Elena Larson, and Margo Mullinaz were awarded School of Public Health Student Research Grants.

Tiffany Barnett, a senior earning her Bachelor of Science in Safety at Indiana University Southeast, was selected as the 2012 Future Leader in Environmental Health and Safety runner-up.

Amy Bodde, PhD 2010, is now Assistant Professor of Health Services Research at Mayo Clinic. She had a recent manuscript entitled "Correlates of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity participation in adults with intellectual disabilities" accepted for the journal *Health Promotion Practice*.

Leah Cerwinske, Sarah Ferguson, Emma Reuth, Juliet Schwartz, Kaley Schwind, Katie Sutton, and Kylie Wellman all received the Indiana University Founders Scholarship.

Bre Cunningham received the IU Recognition Scholarship, Johnson County People’s Foundation Scholarship.

Brittany Dill, BS PH completed her internship at Web MD during the summer of 2012.

Bobbie Emetu, President of our Nu Chapter of Eta Sigma Gamma and a 2nd year doctoral student had a paper entitled “The Association between Sensation Seeking, Sexual Risk Behavior, and HIV Knowledge among Undergraduate Students” published in the Eta Sigma Gamma Student Monograph Series in Spring, 2012.

Lena Finder, HDFS, 2012 is earning her Masters in Social Work at Temple University with a research assistantship and full tuition remission for a year.

Jordan Graham, Tianen Liu, Kayla McClaran, Lindsay Ogle, Sarah Orth, and Shelby Wood all received the Indiana University Excellence in Service-Learning Student Award.
Mukta Gundi's team won the third place at the National Level Health App Competition sponsored by the Institute of Medicine for their "HealthyState Health App." Their app was showcased at the Health Data Forum in Washington, DC on June 5 and 6.

Caroline Kingori, PhD 2012 is now a tenure track Assistant Professor in Community Health in the Department of Social and Public Health, College of Health Sciences and Professions, Ohio University.

Jordan Lahr, BS in HDFS Summer 2012, is currently an AmeriCorps VISTA member working for the Indiana Youth Institute in downtown Indianapolis. She is collaborating with other youth serving intermediaries around the state to combine resources and make them available in an online database that will be easily accessible to youth workers and their organizations.

Kelly Lin (Yi-Chun Lin) received the Graduate Student Research Award by American Society for Nutrition (ASN), Nutrition Education Research Interest Section for the paper: Lin YC, Folan EB, and Fly, AD. "2009-10 USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) in Indiana Improved Several Factors that Lead to Improved Health." Experimental Biology 2012. Kelly worked with Dr. Alyce Fly on this paper. ASN is the premiere nutrition research organization so we are very pleased with this honor.

Omar Martinez, who received his MPH and PhD from our department, simultaneously, and JD from the Mauer School of Law, is now doing postdoctoral training at the NIH Behavioral Sciences Research in HIV Infection Program, Columbia University Medical Center. Dr. Brian Dodge says, "At a time of extreme competition, in an already competitive profession, Omar's unique JD/MPH training in law and public health at IU and the Center for Sexual Health Promotion, as well as his tireless community-based work, gave him the edge he needed for getting this offer."

Brandalyn Nordhoff won second place in the Women In Science Program for Spring 2012. Brandalyn worked under Dr. Shahla Ray.

Jasmine Page is a Wells Scholar and a Community Health major in our department. She completed an internship in Botswana in Summer, 2011 working in the community clinics alongside nurses and nurses-aids, and she also participated in the Washington Leadership Semester through SPEA in Spring, 2012 at the Environmental Protection Agency, specifically within the Office of Children's Health Protection.

Kimberly Powel won the American Association of Health Education's Outstanding Undergraduate Health Education Majors of the Year Award for IUB in Public Health.

Elizabeth Reist won the American Association of Health Education's Outstanding Undergraduate Major of Health Education Majors of the Year Award for IUB for School Health.

Emily Schilling received the Indiana Dietetic Association Scholarship, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Jannette Smith Memorial Scholarship, Indiana Dietetic Association Lute Trout Scholarship, and the Good Samaritan Society Scholarship.

PhD Student, Nicole Smith, presented a study entitled "The Association between Sensation Seeking, Sexual Risk Behavior, and HIV Knowledge among Undergraduate Students" This study was co-authored by Jody Lynce Meade, associate professor in the IU Maurer School of Law.

AHS Students Heading for Medical School...

Lauren Useem, BS in Nutrition Science May 2012, has been accepted to medical school at the A.T Still University in Mesa, Arizona.

Jenna Voirol, BS in Nutrition Science, has been accepted to the IU School of Medicine.

Rachel Wansco, BS in Nutrition Science May 2012, will be attending medical school in Baltimore at the University of Maryland.

Brooke Watanabe, BS in Community Health Aug 2012, has also been accepted to the IU School of Medicine.
**CENTER NEWS**

**Indiana SBIRT Receives Premier Health Achievement Award**

Wishard Health Services in conjunction with the AHS Indiana Prevention Resource Center (IPRC) recently received the Indiana Public Health Foundation’s Premier Health Achievement Award for IndianaSBIRT. The award, given in the category of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, recognized exemplary leadership in implementing a universal screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT) program for alcohol and substance abuse in Wishard Community Health Centers (CHCs). The IndianaSBIRT program is funded by a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) cooperative agreement, which partners Wishard Health Services and the IPRC to institute SBIRT services as a new standard of care in Wishard CHCs. SBIRT will be introduced in ten Wishard CHCs, with plans to extend the model over the next four years to other CHCs in Indiana.

**Dr. Ruth Gassman** received a SPH Ingenuity Grant.

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**ALUMNI NEWS**

**James Christopher Bea**, age 38 of West Lafayette, formerly of Bloomington, Indiana (1994-2008), passed away at his home at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 6, 2012, surrounded by his loving family and friends. Born January 15, 1974, in Michigan City, Indiana, he was the son of James “Scut” Bea (wife, Rochelle) of Alton, Illinois and Donnita Crabb Scully (husband, Wes) of Michigan City. James was a 1992 graduate of Elston High School in Michigan City.

**Sameer Chaudhari**, MD, MPH is conducting research with the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine-Cardiology Group. He is a co-author of two articles, “Clinical Cardiology Statin Commentary 2012” and “The J-Point Phenomenon in Aggressive Therapy of Hypertension: New Insights.”

The manuscript co-authored by Dr. Bilesa Perera and Dr. Mohammad Torabi, entitled, “Healthy Aging in Sri Lanka: Constraints and Opportunities” was selected as the winner of the 2012 Nobuo Maeda International Research Award for the American Public Health Association’s Aging and Public Health Section.

Congratulations to the 34 seniors and 3 master’s students who completed their dietetics requirements during the 2012-13 school year! As of mid-May, 95% of the 38 students who applied for dietetic internships, a necessary step to become a Registered Dietitian (RD), have received supervised practice placements.

Back: Emma Rueth, Kelly Lazzell, Vicky Getty (program director), Liz Whitaker, Alex Shear Front: Tina Lam, Katie Sutton, Kylie Wellman, Leah Cerwinske, Renee Hinesley

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Dietetics Students Graduate With Smiles
The Challenge: The community is a tremendous classroom, particularly for students engaged in practice-based programs. Our life in practice is very different from the linear expectations of classroom learning. Students in this class learned not only how to write grant proposals but how to do this with all the bumps, changes and lack of clarity that comes with daily organizational life. - Dr. Beth Meyerson

The Accomplishments: This class underscored for me the importance of being detail-oriented, consistent in my objectives, and of requesting and listening to the feedback of my colleagues. Since writing the grant on behalf of Indiana Youth Group, I have been invited to join their program planning committee, to present to their board of directors, and was even invited to contribute to a board of directors program planning session. - Caitlin Neal

This has prepared me for my current position as the Manager in Training for Mobile Doctors Inc. Kansas City, MO. I have developed the patience to work with teams in various capacities and I know how to lead without micromanaging. - Odion Clunis

My internship with Global Health Bridge (GHB) in India made me realize how important it is for international start-ups to search and apply for appropriate grants to initiate and sustain their projects. During my internship, I helped GHB in figuring out the appropriate grants to apply for and also helped in writing certain essential aspects of the grant proposal such as the program description. - Mukta Gundi

I learned so much in the grants class, not only about the technicalities of writing a grant, but also about program development and collaborating with others. I have just accepted a job as a Grant Coordinator and I am confident that my experience in this class has prepared me well to be successful in this role. - Heidi Knoblock
Newest AHS
Undergrad Major: Youth Development

In so many ways a picture of a child or an adolescent speaks to us of imagination, joy and hope for the future. And we know that youth is the wellspring for our adult lives, defining who we become in so many ways. When we think of our own youth, most of us can remember a teacher, mentor, or relative who gave us a cue, a leg up, perhaps a reassurance that set us on our path to adulthood.

IU students who want to work with young people to become such a mentor now have a new major from Applied Health Science which they can choose. Our Youth Development major builds a strong foundation for working with young people in a wide variety of youth-serving agencies including hospitals, schools, group homes, nonprofit organizations, juvenile justice systems, public health agencies, community youth services, and afterschool programs. That foundation comes from a focus on the infant, child, and adolescent across all ability levels and within the family and community. This major also includes understanding of professionalism, cultural and human diversity, applied human development, relationships, communication, and program development.

Anyone who wants to work with kids and provide the best possible service to them, will certainly need more than a driver's license and a criminal justice check. That's why universities around the world have begun to offer youth development majors, which often lead to certification in the field. A student who completes this new major at IU will be prepared to apply for certification to become a Family Life Educator with an Indiana Youth Development Credential from the National Council on Family Relations. Initial steps will also have been completed toward earning the Child and Youth Care - Professional (CYC-P) credential. These credentials are transferrable to many jobs, and assure an employer of one's knowledge and capabilities for helping young people in a variety of roles.