

Reorganization

For about 11 years, the MPH program has been a stand-alone program that has not been a part of a department. That is about to change.



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As part of a reorganization within the McQueary College of Health and Human Services, a new department consisting of the Master of Public Health program, the Master of Health Promotion and Wellness Planning, and the baccalaureate program in Health

Services will merge with the existing Department of Sports Medicine and Athletic Training.

The Department Head for the new, yet-to-be named department will be Dr. Tona Hetzler. Dr. David Claborn will continue as the director for the MPH program.

This reorganization will improve efficiency in teaching, but in addition, the university has decided to task the new department with planning a new professional doctorate in the health sciences, perhaps a DrPH or DHS.

The larger department will ensure that a full range of expertise and specialties will be available to develop and field this new degree.

The reorganization is scheduled to be complete by 1 July 2020. The MPH program is very happy to finally have a departmental home.

Recent MPH graduates

Summer 2019

- Esther Adeniron
- Sai Barragada
- Sapana Subedi Chowi

Fall 2019

- Lucy Beeler
- Devin Blankenship
- Zachary Kram
- Sydney Paul
- Weisiyu Qin

Dr. Maxwell A. Barffour

Maxwell A. Barffour, Ph.D, (pictured below), is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor for the MSU Master of Public Health program.

Dr. Barffour is originally from Ghana, West Africa, where he completed his bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Nutrition. He completed his Master of Public Health degree in Epidemiology at Missouri State University in 2008, and a Ph.D in International Health from Johns Hopkins University in 2014. He has published widely in prestigious scientific journals.



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Research:

As a global health scientist, Dr. Barffour has over 15 years of research experience on maternal and child health issues in low- and middle-income countries. His ongoing research involves extensive collaboration with researchers at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, and University of California, Davis, in Davis, California. In the past decade, he's been involved in the implementation of several clinical trials in Zambia, southern Africa, and Laos, Southeast Asia, by exploring the impact of micronutrient interventions (including iron, zinc and vitamin A) on the burden of infectious diseases, growth faltering and anemia in children. Part of his research also explores the use of growth biomarkers IGF-1

and IGFBP-3 in defining growth status and growth potential.

Dr. Barffour is currently pursuing options to carry-out epidemiological studies on issues related to the risk factors and long-term care and prognosis of preterm newborns. He is particularly interested in implementing this work in the Bootheel regions of Missouri, which has the highest burden of preterm birth, low birth-weight, and infant mortality in the state.

In 2016, Dr. Barffour was selected to deliver the closing speech at the Nobel Laureates' meeting in Lindau, Germany. At this event, he highlighted the need for more research to understand the role of nutrition in the etiology of infections in vulnerable populations.

Other interests:

To unwind from his busy career, Dr. Barffour's lifestyle includes playing soccer, tennis, and basketball. Barffour's musical interests include playing traditional African music including Soukous music, on his acoustic guitar. He enjoys family outings with his three boys and wife, Dr. Antoinette A. Barffour, a French Linguistics professor in the MSU Department of Modern and Classical Languages.

Regarding his work in public health, Dr. Barffour said, "I think the Springfield area is a fertile ground for public health research, and I encourage students to stop by and discuss potential research interests."

Students can visit with Dr. Barffour at the McQueary building in the MPH department's room 112.



Professors

Dr. David M. Claborn
Director, Master of Public Health Program
Associate Professor
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Dr. Maxwell A. Barffour
Visiting Assistant Professor
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Dr. Dalen M. Duitsman
Professor
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Dr. Kip R. Thompson
Assistant Professor
KipRThompson@MissouriState.edu

Recent publications by MPH faculty

Claborn DM, Poiry M, Famutimi OD, Duitsman M, Thompson KR. (2018). A survey of mosquitoes in southern and western Missouri. *J Am Mosq Assoc.* 34 (2): 131-133.

Goddard S, Shepard M, **Thompson KR**, Lonecny L. (2018). Disaster preparedness knowledge, beliefs, risk-perceptions and mitigating factors of disaster preparedness behaviors of undergraduate students at a large mid-west university. *J Public Health Issues & Practices.*

Famutimi, D, **Thompson, KR.** Trends in Substance Use and Treatment Admissions Among the Homeless in the United States: 2005-2015. *J Public Health Issues & Practices.* (Submitted April, 2018).

Wessells KR; Brown KH; Kounnavong S; **Barffour MA**; Hinnouho GM; Sayasone S; Stephensen CB; Ratsavong R; Larson CP; Arnold CD; Harding KB; Reinhart GA; Lertmemongkolchai G; Fucharoen S; Bernstein R; Sonja Y. Hess (March, 2018); Comparison of two forms of daily preventive zinc supplementation versus therapeutic zinc supplementation for diarrhea on young children's physical growth and risk of infection: study design and rationale for a randomized controlled trial. *BMC Public Nutrition* 4.

Barffour MA, Schulze K, Palmer AC, Chileshe J, Kalungwama N, Coles C, Moss WJ, West KP Jr. Estimated burden of anemia attributable to malaria, inflammation and iron or vitamin A status during low and intense malaria transmission among rural Zambian children. *J of Pediatrics* (October, 2019).

Healy K, Palmer AC, **Barffour MA**, Schulze K, Siamusanty W, Chileshe J, West KP Jr., Labrique AB, "Nutritional correlates of impaired dark adaptation and pupillary responsiveness in Zambian children"; Revision submitted to *Journal of Nutrition* (April, 2018).

Thompson, KR. The Impact of National Militaries on Global Health. Book Chapter, *Current Issues in Global Health* (Claborn, ed.) Intech Publishing; London.

Claborn, DM. 2018. "What is Global Health" in *Current Issues in Global Health*. David Claborn (ed.) Intech Publishing; London. ISBN 978-1-78984-511-2.

Claborn, DM. 2019. "Guiding Collaboration Between County Health Department Directors to formulate Realistic Response Plans in the Event of Mosquito-Borne Zika Outbreaks." *In Master of Public Health Competencies: A Case Studies Approach* (AJ Santella, ed). Jones and Bartlett Publishers, Sudbury, MA .

Claborn, DM (ed.) 2019. *Current Issues in Global Health*. ISBN 978 1 78984 511 2. Intech Publishing.

Claborn, DM, SS Chowi, M Meyers, D Duitsman, and KR Thompson. (in press). Mosquito occurrence in 36 counties of southern and western Missouri. *Southwest Naturalist*.



MPH Admin Assistant

The MPH admin assistant is J.D. Marckmann (in photo) who is a native of Springfield, Missouri.

Marckmann's background also includes a career as a civilian team member with the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army. She has lived in nine states as well as in England and Turkey.

Her hobbies include outdoor photography, non-fiction writing and editing, visiting aircraft museums, and traveling to the Pacific Coast states.





Master of Public Health Program

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Mailing address

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Recurring Schedule of Classes

Class modalities are rotated between online and seated formats to provide students with the maximum convenience in completion of degree requirements:

FALL

Even-numbered academic years

PBH 720 (seated)
PBH 730 (online)
PBH 740 (online)
PBH 745 (seated)
PBH 756 (blended)
PBH 735 (blended)

SPRING

PBH 720 (online)
PBH 730 (seated)
PBH 740 (online)
PBH 760 (blended)
PBH 775 (seated)
PBH 783 (seated)

FALL

Odd-numbered academic years

PBH 720 (seated)
PBH 730 (online)
PBH 740 (online)
PBH 745 (online)
PBH 756 (blended)
PBH 735 (blended)

SPRING

PBH 720 (online)
PBH 730 (seated)
PBH 740 (online)
PBH 760 (blended)
PBH 775 (seated)
PBH 783 (online)

Seminars and electives will be taught as needed by the largest number of students. Field experience, capstone, and individual study courses will be taught every semester as required by individual students. MGT 701 is taught in a seated modality every semester.

Blended courses meet for at least 24 hours in class during a semester and are supplemented with online work. Check with the instructor for the dates of class meetings. Summer offerings will vary but will usually include PBH 756 in a seated format.

Accreditation

Effective July 1, 2018, the Missouri State University MPH Program is re-accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) until 2025.

The Council's objectives are:

CEPH is an independent agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to accredit schools of public health and graduate public health programs outside schools of public health. The goal of CEPH is "to enhance health in human populations through organized community effort." The Council's focus is the improvement of health through the assurance of professional personnel who are able to identify, prevent and solve community health problems.



To promote quality in public health education through a continuing process of self-evaluation by the schools and programs that seek accreditation.

To assure the public that institutions offering graduate instruction in public health have been evaluated and judged to meet standards essential for the conduct of such educational programs.

To encourage - through periodic review, consultation, research, publications and other means - improvements in the quality of education for public health.