# **Public Health Program**

# **Detailed Proposals for New Departments**

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## **Proposal for**

## DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

October 22, 2010

#### I. Department Mission and Vision

The mission of the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences (BSS) in the Program in Public Health is to conduct education and research into applications of interdisciplinary and/or multi-level approaches to understanding behavior and facilitating behavior change in individuals and groups. Our educational goal is to train the next generation of students (undergraduate, MPH, AM/ScM, PhD, MD) to engage in research and programmatic activities to reduce the population burden of disease. Faculty members will engage in research at the individual, family, organization, community, population, and policy levels including basic research to further elucidate mechanisms and causal pathways of behavior including biological/genetic mechanisms and social and behavioral determinants of health; in intervention studies for prevention and treatment; and in translational, dissemination and policy research. This section will advance the central role of behavior in understanding and improving health among individuals, groups, and populations.

Our vision is to selectively grow and diversify our faculty while capitalizing on our considerable strengths so as to attract the best and brightest students, much as we have done for the past three decades in our postdoctoral training endeavors. This vision will be realized by expanding our teaching and research relationships with Brown undergraduates and with other Brown entities such as the Departments of Cognitive, Linguistic, and Psychological Sciences, Neuroscience, Economics, Psychiatry and Human Behavior, Sociology, the Brown Magnetic Resonance Facility, and with our affiliated teaching hospitals and Centers of Excellence.

### II. Background and History

Behavioral and Social Sciences (BSS) was one of the four initial "Sections" that were created when the Department of Community Health internally organized its faculty in July, 2005. The creation of Sections was a component of the overall growth of the Program in Public Health, and occurred in conjunction with expanding the size of the Department's tenure-track faculty. Behavioral and social sciences is one of the core areas of Public Health, and Schools of Public Health must have academic units (a Department, Division, or other identifiable entity) with this designation.

Dr. Peter Monti was initially named Acting Section Head, and then Section Head of BSS the following year. Given his joint administrative responsibilities as Section Head and Director of the Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies, CAAS has been central to the development of the BSS Section, much as it was central to the development of the Department of Community Health. CAAS is the oldest and largest of the Public Health Centers with the majority of its faculty based in the BSS Section. CAAS's founder and first Director, Dr. David Lewis, is currently Professor Emeritus at CAAS. Both he and Professor Emerita Lois Monteiro were among the early chairs of the Department of Community Health and both are now active members of the BSS Section which continues to benefit from their collective wisdom.

The Institute for Community Health Promotion (ICHP) is the other research center with a primary affiliation with BSS. Faculty currently working through ICHP are Drs. Lasater, Gans, Marcus, and

Williams. The ICHP became PPH-affiliated when it was created in January 2002. After a period of time at The Coro Building, the ICHP moved to 121 South Main Street in December 2006. In addition, Dr. William Rakowski has been a senior investigator with the Center for Gerontology and Health Care Research since 1988. The current BSS Section, and the future Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences therefore has strong faculty ties to three Centers/Institutes of the PPH.

The BSS Section formed a subcommittee to develop a "Vision Document" that would guide the academic development of the Section. This document was approved by the full Section faculty in the Fall of 2006 and has guided the hiring of new faculty and the development of graduate-level courses. The BSS Section has held regular meetings of its faculty since being designated as a Section. These meetings, chaired by Dr. Monti, have been as a "faculty of the whole." Topics have included our internal structure and standing committees; development of our graduate-level degree programs; contribution to the undergraduate major in Community Health; mentoring and advising undergraduates, and our representation across types of faculty appointments: tenure-track, (research) faculty, clinical, term/contract.

When the Section was initiated, there were two tenured Full Professors -- Drs. Rakowski and Monti. In addition, Drs. Kim Gans, Thomas Lasater, and Damaris Rohsenow were senior-level (Research) faculty and Dr. David Lewis was a term appointment faculty member. Since then, we have recruited Drs. Bess Marcus (Professor), Don Operario (Associate Professor), and David Williams (Assistant Professor) to the tenure-track faculty, all of whom are developing and offering new courses. We have 46 total faculty in our Section as of October, 2010. Of these, 26 are full time, either in the tenure or research track, and collectively they are responsible for approximately 11M/year in research funding.

Prior to, and since becoming a Section, our faculty have contributed to program administration and to undergraduate and graduate education. Specifics are provided in subsequent sections, and include coursework; serving as Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs in the Program in Public Health; serving as director for the Community Health concentration; thesis supervision for undergraduate, MPH, and PhD students; undergraduate and graduate advising; and membership on, as well as chairing Departmental committees. Faculty have also served on Division and University committees (e.g., ACUP, FEC, MFEC, CMFA, IRB, Need Blind Admissions, Athletics Advisory Board). Drs. Monti and Rakowski have represented BSS on Program in Public Health committees overseeing the expansion and current operation of the Program.

### III. Department Faculty

#### A) Faculty research strengths

While BSS faculty have broad interests, most study some aspect of behavioral or social intervention research aiming to understand and prevent public health problems. Treatment outcome studies for alcohol and addiction problems characterized much of the earlier work of BSS faculty and while this underlying theme still exists, expertise has been developed in the related areas of assessment; co-use of alcohol and tobacco; college student use; personality, affect, cognition and addictions; mechanisms of behavior change; mediators and moderators of treatment outcomes, and the evaluation of process.

Intervention research also cuts across the areas of physical activity, nutrition, weight control and community-based interventions, particularly for ethnic minority populations. Of particular

emphasis has been work on initiation, adoption and maintenance of health behavior change, and the role of affect and cognition in health behavior and exercise promotion. Health behavior theory testing and development and stages of change for behavior adoption are also areas of expertise.

Another emerging area of expertise among BSS faculty is HIV prevention in high risk communities and the interaction of alcohol and HIV/AIDS. A major collaborative effort has been an NIH Center Grant recently awarded to Brown (Monti, PI). It has alcohol and HIV/AIDS as its focus and involves 7 of our BSS faculty. Participating departments include Psychiatry, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Clinical Neuroscience, Medicine, and Infectious Diseases, and participating hospitals/clinics include Rhode Island Hospital, Butler Hospital, Women & Infants Hospital and Fenway Health.

While treatment and community-based interventions are well represented in the BSS portfolio, equal representation exists in laboratory-based work that informs treatment and intervention development. Innovations in intervention are then linked to an emerging expertise ranging from basic experimental discoveries to translational science and dissemination research.

Total BSS research funding for 2008, 2009 and 2010 was \$9,691,669; \$11,139,785; and \$12,469,460, respectively.

Section faculty include 12 full professors (4 are Emeritus), 4 associate professors, 15 assistant professors, 1 clinical assistant professor, 1 clinical associate professor, 1 associate professor with primary appointment in another department, 1 assistant professors, 1 adjunct associate professor, and 3 research associates, across various tracks, as indicated below.

# B) Current full-time faculty [tenure track, term, and (research)] and areas of interest

### Tenure track faculty

**Bess Marcus, Ph.D.:** Exercise initiation, adoption, and maintenance; health behavior change; women's health; theoretical models

**Peter M. Monti, Ph.D**.: Alcohol treatment; brief interventions; mechanisms of change; cue reactivity; pharmacotherapy; adolescent use and abuse; alcohol and HIV/AIDs

**Don Operario, Ph.D.:** HIV prevention in high-risk communities - domestic and international; behavioral/social determinants of health in race/ethnic, gender and sexual minority populations

<u>William Rakowski, Ph.D.</u>: Utilization of cancer screening procedures; analysis of population data sets; planning of health promotion intervention programs; stages of change for behavioral adoption

**David Williams, Ph.D.**: Role of affect in health behavior; exercise promotion; smoking cessation; health behavior theory testing and development

### Term faculty

<u>**Kim Gans, Ph.D.</u></u>: Nutrition/weight control; low literate/low income/ethnic minority populations ; innovative technology for health promotion; physician education; improving food environments; translational/dissemination research</u>** 

## (Research) Faculty

<u>Nancy Barnett, Ph.D.</u>: Brief alcohol interventions for adolescents/young adults; naturalistic change in problematic alcohol use; alcohol biosensor technology research

**Brian Borsari, Ph.D.**: Development and implementation of motivational interventions; interventions for veterans with PTSD and substance use

**Joseph Ciccolo, Ph.D.:** Exercise physiology, exercise psychology, physical activity promotion and adherence; examining how physiological and psychological responses/ adaptation to exercise interact with substance use, abuse and dependence

<u>Chad Gwaltney, Ph.D.,</u> Adolescent smoking and cessation; ecological momentary assessment (EMA) technology

**Lynn Hernandez, Ph.D.:** Culturally appropriate intervention development, ethnocultural moderators of treatment outcomes; adolescents' substance use and sexual risk trajectories

Alicia Justus, Ph.D.: Laboratory assessment of adolescent substance use problems.

<u>Kristina Jackson, Ph.D.</u>: Developmental course, alcohol, initiation, progression, trajectories, adolescents, alcohol-tobacco comorbidity; longitudinal methodology and analysis, fine-grained data collection

<u>Christopher Kahler, Ph.D.</u>: Smoking cessation; brief alcohol interventions; co-use of alcohol and tobacco; personality, affect, and addictions; alcohol and HIV/AIDS

Thomas Lasater, Ph.D.: Community interventions for health promotion

Christina Lee, Ph.D., Cultural adaptations of brief intervention strategies

**Lorenzo, Leggio, M.D.:** Clinical studies with new pharmacotherapies for alcoholism, alcoholics with smoking comorbidity and with significant medical problems (ie, liver diseases)

<u>Molly Magill, Ph.D.</u>: Addictions treatment, behavioral or psychosocial interventions, longitudinal data-analysis; mechanisms of behavior change; mediators/moderators of treatment outcomes; process research

<u>Rosemarie Martin, Ph.D.</u>: Contingency management; motivating behavior change; design and methodology in substance abuse research, treating substance abuse in HIV+ persons

**Nadine Mastroleo, Ph.D.:** College student alcohol use; peer counseling interventions aimed at high risk college student drinking populations; counselor training approaches in brief, empirically supported treatments

Jane Metrik, Ph.D.: Pharmacological and psychological bases of acute effects of marijuana on behavior and decision-making process; genetic factors and other individual differences

characterizing users most vulnerable to development of cannabis use disorders; alcohol-marijuana interactions and cross-reactivity

**Damaris Rohsenow, Ph.D**.: Pharmacotherapy of comorbidity of substances of abuse; cue reactivity; interaction of alcohol and smoking; treatments for cocaine abuse

**Rochelle Rosen, Ph.D.,** Design of culturally relevant health behavior interventions using qualitative methodology; health research in the Pacific islands of American Samoa; vaginal microbicide acceptability

<u>Nichea Spillane, Ph.D.</u>, Health disparities related to substance use in American Indians and smoking cessation treatment; treatments for co-morbid PTSD and Substance Use Disorders

**Daniel Squires, Ph.D.:** Dissemination/Implementation Research; evidence-guided practices; training; community-based treatment; organizational change; addiction and related disorders; New England Addiction Technology Transfer Center

<u>Tara White, Ph.D.,</u> neural basis of individual differences in emotion and drug effects using fMRI, monoamine challenge; validated laboratory assessments of temperament, affect and behavior

### C) Faculty with other appointments

# Full time faculty with primary appointments in Medicine

Susan Kiene, Ph.D.

# *Full time faculty with primary appointments in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior*

Valerie Knopik, Ph.D.; John McGeary, Ph.D.

#### Emeritus faculty

Donald Giddon, Ph.D., David Lewis, M.D., Lois Monteiro, Ph.D., Albert Wessen, Ph.D.

### Visiting Professor

Mark Wood, Ph.D.

### Adjunct Faculty

Timothy Apodaca, Ph.D., Catherine Dube, Ph.D., Christianne Esposito-Smythers, Ph.D, John Hustad, Ph.D., John Kelly, Ph.D., Kimberly Leite-Morris, Ph.D., James MacKillop, Ph.D.

#### **Clinical Faculty**

P. Allison Minugh, Ph.D., Margaret Wool, Ph.D.

#### **Research Associates**

Christopher AhnAllen, Ph.D., John Colby, Ph.D., Irene Glasser, Ph.D.

### D) Academic year 2010-2011 faculty searches

The BSS Section currently has a search underway for a tenured senior faculty member to serve as head of the Section, and Chair of the eventual Department, if this proposal is approved. The successful candidate will have a well-established research program in one or more of the following

areas: child and/or adolescent health; addictive behaviors; obesity; exercise; health disparities; and/or community based intervention research.

#### E) Summary of faculty awards, honors and recognitions

BSS faculty have been the recipients of numerous honors and awards and have served in leadership positions of many national/international organizations. Examples of honors and awards include: Young Alumna Award for Outstanding Achievement Early in Career, Wesleyan College (Knopik); American Medical Association Education and Research Foundation Award (Lewis); Faculty Mentoring Award, Center of Excellence in Women's Health (Marcus); Fellow, Society of Behavioral Medicine (Marcus); Distinguished Research Award, Research Society on Alcoholism (Monti); Distinguished Research Award, Association of Medical School Psychologists (Monti); Distinguished Professor of Alcohol and Addiction Studies (Monti); Fellow, APA (Monti); Fellow, American Psychological Society (Monti); Plenary Speaker, Great Issues in Medicine and Global Health, Dartmouth (Monti); Early Career Award, American Psychological Association (Operario); University of Oxford Excellence in Teaching Award (Operario); Fellow, Gerontological Society of America (Rakowski).

Examples of service in national/international leadership positions include: Member NIH Study Section, Community-Level Health Promotion (Gans); Chair, Medical/Scientific Committee of the National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependency (Lewis); Chair, Board of Directors, National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependency (Lewis); Member, Board of Directors, Physicians and Lawyers for National Drug Policy (Lewis); President Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse (Lewis); Member, Committee on Physical Activity, Council on Nutrition, Physical Activity and Metabolism, American Heart Association (Marcus); Member, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Active Living by Design National Advisory Committee (Marcus); Chair, American Heart Association, Physical Activity and Behavior Change Writing Group (Marcus); Chair, Mass Media Working Group, National Plan for Physical Activity, CDC (Marcus); Consultant, Applied Cancer screening Branch, NCI (Rakowski); Steering Committee, Consumer Health Informatics Summit (Rakowski); Steering Committee, Theories Initiative, NCI (Rakowski); President, Research Society on Alcoholism (Monti); National Institutes of Health Council of Advisors (Monti).

BSS faculty serve on the Editorial Boards of the following journals:

American Journal of Health Behavior	Journal of Consulting and Clinical
American Journal of Lifestyle Medicine Behavior Therapy	Psychology Journal of Lifestyle Medicine Journal of Mental Health and Physical
Behavioral Medicine Abstracts	Activity Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior
Brown University Digest of Addiction	Journal of Physical Activity & Health
Theory and Application Health Magazine	Journal of Psychopathology and Behavioral Assessment
Internntl Journal of Behavioral Nutrition	Preventive Medicine
and Physical Activity	Psychology of Addictive Behavior
Journal of Addiction Medicine Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis	Psychology of Sport and Exercise Substance Abuse: Research and Treatment
Journal of Behavioral Medicine	The Open Addiction Journal
Journal of Child and Adolescent	Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, and
Substance Abuse	Prevention

# IV. Department Curriculum and Instruction

## A) Substantive areas of the curriculum

Courses offered by Behavioral and Social Science faculty cover the areas of: planning and evaluation of health promotion programs; addictive behaviors and etiology of substance use; research methodology; physical activity and obesity; health communications; theories of health behavior; community-based research; and, HIV/AIDS prevention. Specific courses are listed below.

# B) Degree programs

*ScM or AM in Behavioral and Social Science Intervention.* Effective Fall 2010, Behavioral and Social Sciences began accepting applications for a Masters degree focused on behavioral and social science intervention. This is an eight-unit, terminal degree program, in which students can opt for a degree requiring a written thesis (ScM), or a capstone experience with supervised fieldwork (AM). The degree is intended to prepare individuals who want to pursue careers in disease prevention/health promotion program planning, delivery, and evaluation. When fully up-and-running, we anticipate a yearly entering class of 10-12 FTE students.

Undergraduate concentration in Community Health. Faculty in BSS serve undergraduates in all 1000-level and 2000-level courses we teach (listed below). Behavioral and Social Sciences is also one of the required areas of the undergraduate concentration. Students can either take a single course from those we offer, or supplement that course with up to two other electives.

*Masters of Public Health degree*. Behavioral and Social Science is one of the five designated and required "core areas" of public health. Students in the MPH can choose from either of two courses to fulfill the requirement (PHP1740, Principles of Health Behavior and Health Promotion Interventions [Rakowski]; PHP2360, Designing and Evaluating Public Health Interventions [Gans]). All other courses are available as electives, and in the past year the MPH has approved "tracks" within the degree, so that students can take three additional courses and have the track as part of their formal academic record. When all five core-area tracks have been approved, they will be activated.

# C) Courses and teaching activities

- PHP1010 Doctors and Patients Clinical Communication in Medicine [Dube]
- PHP1540 Alcohol Use and Misuse [Monti]
- PHP1680N Tobacco, Smoking, and the Evil Empire [Monti]
- PHP1740 Principles of Health Behavior and Health Promotion Interventions [Rakowski]
- PHP2300 Research Methods in Behavioral Science [Operario]
- PHP2310 Physical Activity and Public Health [Marcus]
- PHP2320 Environmental and Policy Influences on the Obesity Epidemic [Marcus]
- PHP2330 Behavioral and Social Sciences Approaches to HIV Prevention [Operario]
- PHP2340 Behavioral and Social Science Theory for Health Promotion Rakowski/Williams]
- PHP2360 Designing and Evaluating Public Health Interventions [Gans]
- PHP2370 Etiology of Substance Use Disorders [Monti]
- PHP2371 Psychosocial and Pharmacologic Treatment of Substance Use Disorders [Monti]
- PHP2380 Health Communication [Williams]

In addition, BSS faculty participate in Independent Study arrangements with undergraduates (PHP1700) and graduate students (PHP2980, PHP2985).

*Medical, postdoctoral, and other teaching.* BSS faculty operate an R25T Cancer Control Research Training Grant (Rakowski, PI) funded by the National Cancer Institute, and two T32 Training Grants, one funded by NIDA (Rohsenow, PI) and one funded by NIAAA (Monti, PI).

### D) Undergraduate instruction, advising, and research

BSS faculty have served as senior thesis advisors for Human Biology (Rosen, Operario, Williams), Development Studies (Rakowski, Rosen, Operario), Psychology (Monti, White), Neuroscience (White), have been a GISP advisor (Ciccolo, students from Biology and Geology; Operario), worked with the Career Services Summer Internship Program (Gans), supervised UTRAs and independent studies (Gans, Metrik, Monti, Rakowski, White), first-year, sophomore, and Dean of College advising (Operario, Marcus, Monti, Rakowski, Williams), BSS faculty routinely hire undergraduates as research assistants (Ciccolo, Mastroleo, Gans, Jackson, Metrik, Monti, Rakowski, White, Williams) Professor Rakowski served two terms as the undergraduate concentration advisor (1996-2001; 2006-2010)

# E) Graduate program teaching and student contact (outside Department)

BSS faculty hire graduate students as research assistants (Ciccolo, Gans, Rakowski), supervise psychology interns (Monti, Borsari), serve as Trainer in the Neuroscience Graduate Program (White), and co-mentor pre-doctoral graduate students in Psychology (Monti).

# V. Organizational Structure and Faculty Governance

### A) Structure

Section Head/Department Chair – Peter M. Monti, Ph.D. Graduate Program Director – Don Operario, Ph.D.

### **B)** Governance

The Section conducts monthly faculty meetings throughout the academic year. Meetings are generally attended by full time faculty based at 121 South Main Street. Routine issues are decided by simple majority vote.

Committees:

Curriculum: Gans (Chair), Marcus, Operario, Rosen, Rakowski Admissions: Ciccolo, Martin, Operario (Chair), Rakowski, White Promotions:

CMFA Track: Barnett, Jackson, Kahler, Monti, Rohsenow (Chair) TPAC Track: Gans, Operario, Marcus (Chair), Monti, Rakowski

# VI. Collaborations: Research and Training

Brown's Comprehensive Alcohol Research Center on HIV (ARCH) (Monti, PI). This recently funded center represents a major collaborative effort between Brown's CAAS and several participating university departments (Community Health, Psychiatry, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Clinical Neuroscience, Medicine, Infectious Diseases) as well as several other Brown Centers (Brown/Tufts Center for AIDS Research (CFAR), Behavioral and Preventive Medicine and

Statistical Sciences). It cuts across four of Brown's Teaching Hospitals (Rhode Island Hospital, the Miriam Hospital, Women & Infant's Hospital, and Butler Hospital) and one Harvard-affiliate clinic (The Fenway). Further, it involves 25 Brown faculty members, 7 full time faculty in the BSS Section. The collaboration will involve both research and training,

Brown/Tufts Center for AIDS Research (CFAR)/Brown University AIDS Program (BRUNAP)/New England AIDS Education and Training Center (NEAETC). These entities focusing on HIV/AIDS have collaborated in the ARCH application. The ARCH will have as its major research mission the study of alcohol and HIV/AIDS. As a fully funded center grant, it has a major teaching/educational component. Dr. Kenneth Mayer is Co-PI of this component and he will be jointly responsible for overall administration of and integration of all aspects of HIV/AIDS content involved in the ARCH. The Alcohol content will be provided through the CAAS, a PPH Center housed in the BSS Section.

<u>Brown/Tufts Center for AIDS Research (CFAR)</u>. As part of the above-mentioned ARCH, the CFAR and the ARCH will jointly sponsor pilot research that will be conducted through the Pilot Project Component of the ARCH. Dr. John Coffin (Chair of the CFAR Pilot Project Program) of Tufts University and Dr. Charles Carpenter of the Miriam Hospital will sit on the Scientific Advisory Committee of the ARCH and will collaborate in this scientific/educational effort.

<u>Community Collaborations</u>. Health promotion/Disease prevention research and programs have been conducted with The Rhode Island Department of Health several community-based organizations, by Professors Gans and Lasater. These collaborations include: Thundermist Health Center, Dorcas Place, Cranston Community Action Program, Progreso Latino, <artinuther King Elementary School, Blackstone Community Action Program; Mt. Hope Neighborhood Center, East Bat Community Action, and numerous worksites and subsidized housing projects in RI and MA.

Brown's Magnetic Resonance Facility (MRI). Several BSS faculty or affiliates have ongoing collaborations with faculty at the MRF including Professors Sanes, Worden and Walsh. This collaboration dates back to 2003 and has included pilot projects funded through the Ittelson Flexible Fund, an NIH I-START, as well as R21 and R01 projects.

<u>Neuroscience</u>. Collaborations in Neuroscience are primarily in training. BSS faculty member White is an approved faculty trainer and trains undergraduates through independent study and honors research and recruits and trains graduate students in the Neuroscience Graduate Training Program and the affiliated NIH Brown graduate training program (GPP).

<u>Brown Center in Neurotechnology (BIBS).</u> Professor White is very active in the BIBs community and is currently part of the BIBs planning group that includes Davenport, Greenberg and Hochberg. She is also actively collaborating with imagers in the DPHB (Greenberg, Deoni, Dickstein, Rasmussen, Cohen and Sweet).

<u>Medicine</u>. Several faculty in the Department of Medicine collaborate with BSS faculty members. Many of these serve as investigators and Co-PIs on BSS-funded research. Many of these individuals have their hospital affiliations at RIH where they conduct their own research.

<u>Emergency Medicine</u>. Several faculty in the Department of Emergency Medicine collaborate with BSS faculty members (Monti, Barnett, Kahler). This collaboration dates back over 15 years with Drs. Monti and Lewander serving as Investigators on the first Brown/RIH adolescent ED brief intervention grant. More recently, this line of work has been extended to the community hospital

setting in a recently funded collaborative effort between Monti and the Memorial Hospital of Pawtucket.

<u>Psychiatry and Human Behavior (DPHB).</u> Many of our BSS faculty are clinical psychologists so it is only natural that they would collaborate with DPHB faculty. Indeed, several of our faculty have joint appointments in the DPHB and many of the faculty in our PPH Centers have their primary appointment in the DPHB. For example, in the BSS-affiliated CAAS, 6 faculty members have their primary appointments in DPHB. While many faculty collaborate in research across the BSS Section and the DPHB, another important collaboration exists in our Training Programs. For example, the two major T32 Training Programs of the CAAS co-sponsor training elements with several psychiatry T32 training programs. This arrangement has proven to be a very efficient way to train postdoctoral fellows and provides them with exposure to nearly twice as many faculty mentors as they might otherwise come in contact with. Collaboration across our T32 programs has always proven effective in the review of our NIAAA T32 training grant, now in its 26<sup>th</sup> year.

<u>Rhode Island College, Roger Williams University, U. Mass Dartmouth, University of Rhode Island</u>. Several BSS faculty (Barnett, Borsari, Magill, Mastroleo, Monti) have partnered with several southern New England Universities in a major effort to study and address the problem of college student drinking. This has resulted in several NIH grant proposals and two major funded projects on which BSS postdoctoral trainees have conducted research studies.

<u>Veterans Administration Medical Center</u>. Many BSS faculty have their primary appointments with the VAMC. Several have clinical appointments at the VAMC and participate in Section activities through their NIH research grants (e.g., Borsari, Cook). Others are primarily researchers who have research appointments at both the VAMC as well as at Brown University (e.g., Rohsenow, Swift). Dr. Monti held a Senior Career Research Scientist Award from the Department of Veterans Affairs until July of this year when he obtained a similar award in the NIH system (a K05). He and Dr. Rohsenow maintain a laboratory on the VAMC campus and he continues to mentor VA Career Development Awardees.

<u>State of Rhode Island.</u> There are several examples of how BSS faculty are collaborating with the State of Rhode Island. For example, through Dr. Gans' ongoing relationship with the Rhode Island Department of Health's Initiative for Health Weight grant, an innovative public-private partnership with a fruit and vegetable distribution company has been established and is underway. A program entitled Fresh to You has been ongoing in several work sites (including here at the PPH), and at the community agency Channel One in Central Falls, to bring lower-priced, high-quality fruits and vegetables directly to places where people live and work. In another example, Dr. Monti has recently established a relationship with Dr. Walter Harper, Director of the Rhode Island Tobacco Control Network. The purpose of this collaboration will be to help identify the state's high priority tobacco-related problems and to advocate and implement evidence- based interventions. As several faculty located in the Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies have adolescent smoking cessation as a research focus (Monti, Colby, Gwaltney, Barnett), this collaboration will provide mutually beneficial given the Network's priority on youth initiation and smoking cessation.

#### VII. Future Goals

Future goals of the proposed Department have their underpinnings in our mission/vision statement and encompass three areas: excellence in research, teaching and training, and collaborations.

**Excellence in research**: A large percentage of our BSS faculty are "senior" and thus have national and/or international reputations. Many of these faculty members conduct their research in either the ICHP Center or the CAAS. Each of these Centers has a national reputation as a center of research excellence. A major goal of the BSS agenda is to expand our existing centers to incorporate substantially more faculty representation across Brown's Departments and Affiliated Hospitals. While we have been relatively successful in extending our faculty to work in other areas of the University Community, relatively few faculty from other Departments come to work in the BSS Centers. There are several good examples of how faculty have reached out to collaborate in other Departments. Professor White's collaborations with Neuroscience and Brown's MRI facility, outlined in the previous section, serve as such examples.

A very recent development that will encourage other Brown entities to initiate collaboration with CAAS is the new alcohol/HIV Center Grant, the Brown ARCH, also described in the previous section. In this project faculty from outside CAAS will be coming to the ARCH with relevant research ideas to be funded through our Pilot Project Component. Faculty from Lifespan (Wands and Kiene) and from Women & Infants Hospital (Lester) will serve as the first examples of such collaboration as they were funded by the initial Center grant mechanism. In years two and three of the Brown ARCH a call will go out to all Brown faculty soliciting applications for future pilot studies. We expect that a certain percentage of these will result in R01 submissions. Indeed, some might be chosen for components of the ARCH renewal application in four years.

**Teaching and Training**. Several BSS faculty have long been committed to excellence in undergraduate teaching. Rakowski perhaps serves as the best example given his extraordinary efforts in the context of our undergraduate major in Community Health and in his mentoring/ advising of undergraduates. Other faculty have excelled at pre and postdoctoral training. For example, Monti's training program has won a national award as "Outstanding Training Program of the Year," and both Marcus and Monti have won accolades for their work in mentoring postdoctoral trainees. BSS faculty strongly feel that excellence in research and teaching go hand-in-hand, and this is perhaps no better exemplified than in the Educational and Dissemination Component of the ARCH, where we have laid out plans to train the next generation of alcohol/HIV researchers at the pre and postdoctoral level. The 6<sup>th</sup> competitive renewal application of our T32 Training Grant (Monti, PI) has a training component focused in this cross-cutting area. Further, we plan to continue our outstanding track record in mentoring K Awardees. Indeed, Monti recently received a K05 Award which has as one of its aims the mentoring of junior faculty and K awardees.

**Collaborations**. BSS is interdisciplinary and collaborative by definition. As the smallest Public Health Section (in terms of number of tenured faculty members), BSS must depend on collaborations for its future growth. We are off to a good start with the new collaborations that we have made with the CFAR, The Center for Statistical Sciences, and related entities. We have begun discussions with the new head of HSR, Professor Wilson, whose area is medication adherence in HIV disease. We see such outreach activities as essential if we are to continue to grow. Our newly funded ARCH is so named to reflect this mission.

#### Appendix I Annual Peer-Reviewed BSS Faculty Publications for the Past Five Years

#### 2006

Abenavoli, L., Proietti, I., Leggio, L., Ferrulli, A., Vonghia, L, Capizzi, R., Rotoli, M., Amerio, P.L., Gasbarrini, G., & Addolorato, G. (2006). Cutaneous manifestations in celiac disease: a review. World Journal of Gastroenterology; 12(6): 843-852.

Addolorato, G., Ancarani, F., Leggio, L., Abenavoli, L., De Lorenzi, G., Montalto, M., Staffolani, E., Zannoni, G.F., Costanzi, S., Gasbarrini, G. (2006). Hypokaliemik nephropaty in an adult patient with partial empty sella: a classic Bartter's syndrome, a Gitelman's syndrome or both? Panminerva Medica 48(2):137-142.

Addolorato, G., Capristo, E., Leggio, L. Ferrulli, A., Abenavoli, L., Malandrino, N., Farnetti, S., Domenicali, M., D'Angelo, C., Vonghia, L., Mirijello, A., Cardone, S., & Gasbarrini, G. (2006). Relationship between ghrelin levels, alcohol craving, and nutritional status in current alcoholic patients. Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 30(11): 1933-1937.

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#### **Proposal for**

#### DEPARTMENT OF BIOSTATISTICS

October 22, 2010

#### I. Department Mission and Vision

A) Biostatistics creates and applies methods for quantitative research in diverse fields including public health, medicine, biology, and the social and behavioral sciences. Biostatistics is evolving rapidly and is highly interdisciplinary. The purview of the discipline includes design of studies requiring systematic collection of information from well-defined populations, theory and methods associated with conducting analyses of the data, and proper scientific interpretation of quantitative findings. Biostatistics draws upon and creates new knowledge in mathematics, statistics, and computing, and uses this knowledge to advance research in the health sciences.

**B)** The Department of Biostatistics at Brown will guide, promote, and conduct research and education in all aspects of the field. The formation of the Department builds on vigorous growth in Biostatistics at Brown since the mid 1990's and the development of a Biostatistics Section in Public Health that has already achieved national and international reputation and influence.

**C)** On the research front, the faculty and students of the Biostatistics Section, and the future Department, investigate, develop, promote and apply the theory and methods of statistical science in biology, medicine, and public health, with the purpose of advancing scientific inquiry in biostatistics and in the biomedical sciences. The Section strongly encourages and promotes significant involvement of faculty and students in interdisciplinary research, both in academia and in industry. In biomedical research projects across Brown and the affiliated hospitals, as well as in national and international collaborations, Biostatistics faculty provide leadership and methodologic expertise and promote the best use of statistical science.

**D)** On the education front, Biostatistics faculty train and mentor future researchers and professionals via the Graduate Program in Biostatistics, which offers ScM, AM and PhD degrees. In addition, Biostatistics faculty provide statistical training for the broader University community by teaching courses that serve a range of undergraduate and graduate student audiences in Public Health, the Division of Biology and Medicine and across the campus. To better serve this part of its mission, the Biostatistics Section encourages the development of innovative educational offerings and operates the Undergraduate Concentration in Statistics. The future Department of Biostatistics will be ideally positioned to play a leading role in addressing broader University needs for statistical education and research.

### II. Background and History

### A) Overview:

Biostatistics is arguably the most dynamic area of statistics and leads the exceptional growth of the entire field in recent years. It is the epicenter for important recent developments in statistics, including methods for high dimensional and massive data (generated, for example, in molecular biology and genetics), hierarchical and multi-level models (such as those used for data in the social sciences and health care policy research), methods for analyzing studies with missing data, methods for drawing causal inference (for use, for example, in the analysis of data from

observational studies), and methods for the analysis of neuroscience data. Biostatistics has a strong interdisciplinary orientation and provides much of the quantitative underpinning of biomedical research. In particular, the methods and practices of Biostatistics form a key component of clinical and translational research, bioinformatics and computational biology, epidemiology, health services and outcomes research, and other public health disciplines. Biostatistics also has integral connections with the social and behavioral sciences, including economics, sociology, psychology, and public policy.

## B) Biostatistics in the US and Internationally:

Demand for advanced expertise in biostatistics has grown substantially in recent years, in both academia and in the public and private sectors, particularly in settings emphasizing research in biomedicine and biotechnology. An important part of this growth of Biostatistics research and practice has taken place in leading research institutions, where Departments of Biostatistics are typically located in Schools of Public Health. The research orientation and academic makeup of Schools of Public Health has proved most appropriate and conducive to the development of graduate programs in Biostatistics. However, the scope of research and educational activities of Biostatistics faculty covers all the Biomedical Sciences and also overlaps with the Social and Behavioral Sciences.

In recent years, substantial expansion has taken place in existing departments of Biostatistics, such as those at Hopkins, Harvard, Columbia, U. Washington, U. North Carolina, Emory, and U. Michigan. Several new departments have been formed and grown rapidly in universities across the country, including U. Pennsylvania, U. Texas-M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Duke, Rochester, Vanderbilt, and Ohio State U. In addition, significant Biostatistics components were developed in general departments of Statistics, such as those at Stanford, Harvard, Texas A&M, Berkeley, and U. Florida.

Internationally, Biostatistics research and practice has also expanded substantially in recent years and has fueled demand for appropriately trained scientists, at both the masters and the doctoral level. Programs for doctoral study specifically in Biostatistics are available in relatively few countries (notably in the United Kingdom, Belgium and the Netherlands). However most available opportunities for training in Biostatistics are offered in general departments of Statistics and their scope and size is somewhat limited but growing over time. Thus, the US has the most extensive and vibrant academic enterprise in Biostatistics and draws large numbers of high quality applicants to its graduate programs from countries across the globe.

### C) Biostatistics at Brown:

The formation of the Department of Biostatistics is the culmination of fifteen years of vigorous development and growth in Biostatistics at Brown, beginning with the founding of the Center for Statistical Sciences (CSS) in 1995, as a unit of Brown Medical School. The Center's mission was to foster research and statistical education at Brown Medical School and the University at large. Over the years CSS developed a robust research enterprise and provided the academic strength and infrastructure for the growth of the Biostatistics faculty and the launching of degree programs in Biostatistics in 1999 (PhD) and 2007 (ScM, AM). Center faculty and staff grew from an initial group of 6 (including 1 faculty in the tenure track and 3 in the research track) to the current group of more than 40 (including 6 faculty in the tenure track and 5 in the research track). The Biostatistics Section of the Department of Community Health was formed in 2006 as a transitional form of organization for the Biostatistics faculty in the process of laying the foundations for the establishment of a Department of Biostatistics as an integral part of a School of Public Health.

## **III.** Faculty

# A) Faculty Roster

The Biostatistics Section of the Department of Community Health has eleven faculty members, six on the tenure track and five on the research track, listed here with their current research interests. Detailed descriptions are provided in Appendices 1 and 2.

## Tenure track faculty:

**Constantine Gatsonis**, PhD, 1981, Cornell – Professor: Bayesian inference; diagnostic test and biomarker evaluation; meta-analysis; comparative effectiveness research.

**Joseph Hogan**, ScD, 1995, Harvard- Professor: Longitudinal and missing data methods; causal inference; HIV/AIDS research; behavioral medicine.

**Eunhee Kim**, PhD, 2009, Univ. of North Carolina- Assistant Professor: Diagnostic test and biomarker evaluation; semi-parametric methods; longitudinal data analysis.

**Crystal Linkletter**, PhD, 2006, Simon Fraser Univ. – Assistant Professor: Statistical methods for social network analysis; modeling for spatial-temporal data; Bayesian inference.

**Hernando Ombao**, PhD, 1999, Univ. of Michigan-Associate Professor: Time series analysis; spatio-temporal process modeling; psychiatry; neuroscience.

**Zhijin Wu**, PhD, 2005, Johns Hopkins – Assistant Professor: High dimensional data; computational molecular biology; bioinformatics.

### Research track faculty

**Fenghai Duan**, PhD, 2005, Yale - Assistant Professor (Research): High dimensional data; computational molecular biology; bioinformatics; diagnostic test evaluation.

**Andres Houseman**, PhD, 2005, Harvard- Assistant Professor (Research): Molecular epidemiology; biomarker discovery; environmental exposure assessment.

**Tao Liu**, PhD, 2006, University of Pennsylvania - Assistant Professor (Research): Longitudinal and missing data methods; causal inference.

**George Papandonatos**, PhD, 1995, Univ. of Minnesota – Associate Professor (Research): Item Response Theory, correlated data methods, Bayesian inference and genetic epidemiology; behavioral medicine.

**Zheng Zhang**, PhD, 2004, Univ. of Washington – Assistant Professor (Research): Diagnostic test and biomarker evaluation; agreement and reproducibility methods; semiparametric and non-parametric methods; clinical trials; cancer; medical imaging.

# **B)** Research Strengths

The research enterprise in Biostatistics at Brown combines the creation of new statistical methods and the development of significant interdisciplinary research projects in collaboration with local, national, and international investigators. Funded research projects at the Center for Statistical Sciences alone totaled \$8.3 million in the 2009-2010 fiscal year (Appendix 6).

Biostatistics faculty have developed national and international reputations for research excellence and leadership in a variety of areas of statistical methodology, notably methods for diagnostic and screening test evaluation (Gatsonis), longitudinal and missing data analysis (Hogan), time series and functional data analysis (Ombao), and causal inference (Hogan). The faculty also has growing strength in statistical methods for neuroscience (Ombao), genomics

and genetics (Wu, Houseman, Papandonatos), social network analysis (Linkletter) and analysis of complex health care data (Gatsonis, Linkletter).

Biostatistics faculty have also built significant interdisciplinary collaborations at the local, national and international level. In particular, C. Gatsonis co-cofounded the American College of Radiology Imaging Network (ACRIN) in 1999 and leads the network's Biostatistics Center, which is located at Brown. F. Duan, E. Kim, and Z. Zheng are lead statisticians for ACRIN studies. ACRIN is now recognized as the major national collaborative group that develops and conducts multi-center clinical trials of diagnostic imaging modalities for the early detection, diagnosis, and management of cancer. More than 130 universities and hospitals from the US and several other countries have participated in ACRIN multi-center trials. The scope of this research was recently expanded to include cardiovascular disease and to place major emphasis on studies in the newly developing area of Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER).

The faculty have become significantly invested in international health, primarily through collaborations with researchers in East Africa. In particular, J. Hogan is a co-investigator in the USAID-funded AMPATH Consortium (Academic Model Providing Access to Healthcare), a collaboration between Moi University in Kenya and 18 universities in North America. He also is a co-investigator for the recently-funded NHLBI Center of Excellence for Cardiovascular Health, a joint project involving Brown, Duke and Indiana Universities in the US and Moi University in Kenya. Research on these projects involves analysis of cohort and medical record data from over 100,000 individuals enrolled for HIV and primary care in western Kenya. This program of international research engages faculty (Hogan, Liu, Linkletter), several scientific staff, and graduate students, and is expected to grown in scope over the next several years.

Areas of significant local collaborative research activity include research in HIV/AIDS (Hogan, Liu), alcohol and tobacco addiction (Papandonatos), neuroscience (Ombao), behavioral genetics (Papandonatos), health services and outcomes (Liu, Gatsonis), and epidemiology (Houseman, Hogan, Liu, Wu). Additional detail on local collaborations is provided in Section VI.

### C) National Leadership and Service

Biostatistics faculty members have extensive presence in all key areas of leadership and national service. In the 2009-2010 academic year,

- Six members of the faculty served on NIH and other funding agencies review committees as permanent or ad hoc members (Gatsonis, Hogan, Houseman, Ombao, Papandonatos, Wu).
- Five members of the faculty served as editors or members of the editorial board of journals in statistics and biomedical subject matter areas (Gatsonis, Hogan, Houseman, Ombao, Papandonatos)
- Two senior members of the faculty served on NAS and Institute of Medicine Committees (Gatsonis, Hogan).
- All members of the faculty served as reviewers for scientific journals and many made invited presentations at national and international meetings.
- Three senior faculty (Gatsonis, Hogan, Ombao) presented short courses at national and international meetings, covering topics in diagnostic test evaluation (CG), inference with missing and longitudinal data (JH), statistical methods in neuroscience (HO), and Comparative Effectiveness Research (CG)

# IV. Department curriculum and instruction

# A) Degree Programs

The Department of Biostatistics will continue and enhance the educational offerings of the Biostatistics Section, which offers programs of study leading to the PhD, ScM and AM degrees in Biostatistics (<u>http://www.stat.brown.edu/Grad/Default.aspx</u>). The Department will also continue to organize the Undergraduate Concentration in Statistics.

# **B)** Graduate Programs

Biostatistics faculty offer graduate level instruction to a diverse audience of students and trainees from around the University. Courses have been offered since 1995, and the graduate program was formally launched in 1999. C. Gatsonis started the program and directed it until 2003, when J. Hogan assumed the leadership.

The Biostatistics PhD program is designed to train independent researchers who will develop new quantitative methods and underlying theory and make innovative applications to substantive and demanding scientific problems in public health, medicine, biology, and the social sciences. The program emphasizes theory, methods and applications of biostatistics that are central to modern biomedical and public health research. The program typically takes 4-5 years to complete.

The Biostatistics Masters programs (ScM and AM) are designed to provide advanced training for a diverse body of students, including those pursuing careers as professional statisticians or data analysts in industry, government or academia; those contemplating doctoral study in biostatistics; and established researchers seeking advanced training in biostatistics. These programs require 1-2 years to complete. For Brown undergraduates, we offer a fifth-year masters degree that can be completed in one year after receiving the bachelors degree.

Graduate students in Biostatistics were first enrolled in 1999. Enrollment increased over time, with 17 PhD students and 16 masters students currently matriculated. The program has granted 5 PhD and 6 masters degrees since its inception. Despite being a young and relatively small program, our students have been remarkably successful at garnering competitive awards and fellowships. The size and scope of the program has been calibrated to the growth of faculty, particularly in the tenure-track (currently 6) and also reflects efforts to make effective use of relevant expertise and course offerings across the University.

# C) Curriculum

All faculty participate in graduate training through teaching, advising, supervising PhD and masters theses, serving on dissertation committees, and providing financial support for research assistants. Teaching is carried out primarily by the tenure track faculty and by one course handled on a per-semester basis by research track faculty, covering between 10 and 12 one-semester courses per year. The curriculum begins with two introductory sequences, one designed primarily for undergraduates and MPH students, and the other aimed at PhD students in the sciences. It continues with the advanced level courses, which typically require some exposure to mathematical statistics as a pre-requisite, and are aimed primarily at Masters and doctoral trainees in biostatistics; however, several qualified students from other departments enroll on a regular basis.

The list of Biostatistics courses includes the following:

PHP2500 Introduction to Biostatistics (Wu)

PHP2510 Principles of Biostatistics and Data Analysis (Hogan, Liu)

PHP2511 Applied Regression Analysis (Linkletter)

PHP2520 Statistical Inference I (Ombao)
PHP2530 Bayesian Statistical Methods (Linkletter)
PHP2540 Advanced Methods for Multivariate Analysis (Gatsonis)
PHP2580 Statistical Inference II (Ombao)
PHP2601 Linear and Generalized Linear Models (Kim, Liu)
PHP2602 Analysis of Lifetime Data (Houseman)
PHP2603 Analysis of Longitudinal Data (Kim)
PHP2610 Causal Inference and Missing Data (Hogan)
PHP2620 Statistical Methods in Bioinformatics, I (Wu)
PHP2690 Advanced Topics in Biostatistics (Linkletter)
PHP2030 Clinical Trials Methodology (Joint course with Epidemiology, Gareen, Zhang)

A full description of Biostatistics courses is provided in Appendix 4.

# D) Medical, postdoctoral and other teaching

Members of the Biostatistics faculty regularly present lectures on biostatistical methods in courses for biology graduate students, medical students and in courses offered by other sections of the Program in Public Health. They also organize short courses on methods for special interest to campus audiences, such as methods for the analysis spatial data and topics in causal inference, time series analysis, classification methods, and statistical computing. Biostatistics faculty serve as members of doctoral and masters thesis committees in both Public Health and other disciplines and they also advise and mentor undergraduate and graduate students

# E) Undergraduate instruction, advising, and research

A substantial number of undergraduate students attend the introductory sequences in Biostatistics (PHP 2500, PHP 2510), making up about 25% of the enrollment in these classes. Several undergraduates also attend more advanced courses covering such topics as regression analysis (PHP2511), statistical methods for bioinformatics (PHP 2620), longitudinal data analysis (PHP 2603), and generalized linear models (PHP 2601).

Biostatistics faculty have also initiated the Undergraduate Concentration in Statistics, in collaboration with colleagues from several other departments. The Concentration currently has two students and is directed by Z. Wu.

# V. Organizational Structure and Faculty Governance

The Department will be led by a Chair, appointed by the Dean of Public Health. The first Chair will be Constantine Gatsonis, who currently serves as Head of the Biostatistics Section.

The Chair, with advice from the faculty, will appoint Directors for the educational programs of the Department. These appointments will be typically made for once renewable 3 year terms. At present, Joseph Hogan serves as Director of the graduate program in Biostatistics and Herando Ombao serves as Associate Director, in charge of the Masters program in Biostatistics. The Chair will also appoint the Director of the Undergraduate Concentration in Statistics, which has been traditionally based at the Center for Statistical Sciences. At present Zhijin Wu serves in this position.

The Biostatistics Section holds regular faculty meetings every two months between September and June of the academic year. Special meetings are also held on an ad-hoc basis. The agenda for the meetings is distributed in advance by the Head and minutes are compiled and archived in the departmental records.

The Section operates a standing committee on the graduate program, which includes subcommittees in charge of the admissions to the graduate program and the Ph.D. qualifying examinations. Biostatistics faculty also participate in all committees of the Program in Public Health, including the Executive Committee, the Curriculum Committee and committees related to the Masters in Public Health Program.

# VI. Research Collaborations

A rich network of collaborations links the Biostatistics faculty with researchers locally at Brown and the affiliated hospitals. National and international collaborations were discussed already in Section III.

Among the numerous local collaborations *outside* the Program in Public Health:

- J. Hogan, H. Ombao, T. Liu and Z. Wu have significant involvement in research on HIV and AIDS, primarily through the Lifespan/Tufts/Brown Center for AIDS Research (one of 18 CFAR's funded nationally), and the newly-funded Brown Alcohol Research Center for HIV/AIDS (ARCH). J. Hogan directs the biostatistics core for the CFAR, which includes collaborations with researchers across Alpert Medical School and the affiliated hospitals.
- G. Papandonatos and J. Hogan have extensive collaborations with colleagues at Miriam, Rhode Island and Butler Hospitals in studies of tobacco addiction, nutrition and obesity studies, and behavioral epidemiology. For example, G. Papandonatos collaborates with colleagues at Miriam Hospital on studies of physical activity, maternal depression, and weight control. His collaborations at Rhode Island Hospital include studies of cognitively impaired patients and non-epileptic seizures. And his Women and Infants Hospital collaborations include studies of genetic predictors of preterm birth and geneenvironment interactions in offspring of cocaine-exposed mothers.
- Z. Wu and A. Houseman are involved in studies of environmental toxicology in collaboration with colleagues in the Superfund Basic Research Program.
- H. Ombao collaborates with the behavioral neuroimaging groups at Miriam and Butler Hospitals. He is also doing joint research with colleagues in the Department of Neuroscience.
- Z. Wu collaborates with the Center of Biomedical Research Excellence Award (COBRE) in studies of perinatal biology.

Ten of the eleven Biostatistics faculty are full members of the Center for Statistical Sciences and conduct their research through the Center. CSS occupies office space on the 7th floor at 121 South Main Street, which houses Brown's Program in Public Health. Center faculty and staff have access to all other Brown facilities available to academic units, such as conference rooms, auditoria, and computer networking infrastructure.

# VII. Future goals

# A) Future Recruitments

We envision a Department of Biostatistics with 16-18 faculty by 2014. At least half the faculty will belong to the tenure track and the rest will hold term or research track positions. A search for a tenure-track position is taking place during the current academic year. Given the current faculty size of 11, these plans would require at least one additional recruitment in the tenure track by 2014 and three additional recruitments with term or research track appointments.

# B) Academic Plans

Also by 2014 we envision a graduate program enrollment of about 40 students, roughly equally divided between masters and doctoral programs. To sustain such a configuration, the Department would need to enroll 4-5 new students each year in the doctoral program and 8-10 students in the masters programs. The overall size of the graduate program will be calibrated to the size of the teaching faculty in the Department.

The doctoral program is developing its national and international reputation as a small but high quality program, in which students can have close interaction with faculty who work on the cutting edge of Biostatistics. In order for the program to consolidate its reputation and ensure its long term prominence, it is essential to add more middle-level and senior-level faculty who can mentor students and also generate financial support for them.

The newly launched masters program in Biostatistics is key to the overall growth of the Department and will require careful attention, programmatic development and resources. In addition to developing coursework to meet the needs of students who are preparing for professional careers, the program needs to ensure appropriate student advising and mentoring, and to develop expertise and resources to facilitate professional development and placement of its students. The program also urgently needs appropriate space and facilities for its students.

### C) Research Plans

The Department will consolidate and enhance current strengths in causal inference and methods for observational studies, evaluation of diagnostic tests and biomarkers for diagnosis and prediction, time series and spatio-temporal data methods for neuroscience, computational molecular biology, network data modeling and analysis. Important areas for further growth in methodologic and interdisciplinary research include Comparative Effectiveness Research and genetic epidemiology

# Appendices

- 1. Faculty roster
- 2. Faculty areas of expertise
- 3. Faculty publications since 2005
- 4. Biostatistics courses
- 5. Yearly Biostatistics research funding since 1995
- 6. Detailed listing of funded projects in 2009-10

#### Appendix 1: Biostatistics Faculty Roster

**Fenghai Duan**, PhD, 2005, Yale - Assistant Professor (Research). Prof. Duan's research interests are in the statistical analysis of high dimensional data and the evaluation of diagnostic imaging. He is pursuing collaborative research in computational biology, with a focus on experimental studies in both human beings and animals, which are characterized by the utilization of high throughput technologies and the goal to achieve a genome/proteome-wide understanding of biomedical conditions. As a member of the Biostatistics Center of ACRIN Dr Duan is lead statistician in several multicenter studies of diagnostic imaging in cancer.

Constantine Gatsonis, PhD, 1981, Cornell – Professor. Dr. Gatsonis is a leading authority on the evaluation of diagnostic and screening tests and biomarkers and has extensive involvement in methodologic research in medical technology assessment and in health services and outcomes research. He is Group Statistician of the American College of Radiology Imaging Network (ACRIN), a NCI funded collaborative group conducting multi-center studies of diagnostic imaging and image-guided therapy for cancer. ACRIN has also recently expanded its scope to include studies of imaging for cardiovascular and neurologic disease. A major focus of the research publications and current interests of Dr. Gatsonis is on Bayesian inference and its applications to problems in biostatistics, with emphasis on the evaluation of diagnostic imaging and health services and outcomes research. He has long-term involvement in methodologic work on hierarchical regression models and their applications to the analysis of variability in diagnostic performance among radiologists and institutions; to meta-analysis of studies of diagnostic test performance; and to the analysis of variations in the utilization, outcomes, and quality of health. In addition to Bayesian methods, Dr. Gatsonis has published on other aspects of methodology for the analysis of correlated ROC data and on broader issues of study design in diagnostic test evaluation.

**Joseph Hogan,** ScD, 1995, Harvard- Professor. Dr Hogan is a leading authority on the analysis of longitudinal data, methods for missing data, and methods for causal inference. He is Co-Director of the Outcomes & Biostatistics Core for the Lifespan/Tufts/Brown Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) and Director of Biostatistics for the USAID-AMPATH Program based in Eldoret, Kenya. Dr. Hogan's research concerns the development of statistical methods for longitudinal and multivariate data, with emphasis on applications in HIV/AIDS and the behavioral sciences. He maintains interdisciplinary collaborations with investigators at Brown and internationally. Current projects include (i) optimal use of immunologic biomarkers for monitoring patients on HIV therapy in the developing world; (ii) development of methods for drawing causal inferences about process of behavior change in addiction treatment; and (iii) models for characterizing patterns of antiviral treatment resistance in the HIV genome.

Andres Houseman, PhD, 2005, Harvard- Assistant Professor (Research). Dr Houseman is a biostatistician with diverse interests, including molecular epidemiology, biomarker discovery, and environmental exposure assessment. He is working on the development of methods for latent variable analysis, model-based clustering, and high-dimensional data analysis. His recent methodological work has focused on computationally efficient methods for epigenomics research. In addition to analysis of DNA methylation data sets, Dr Houseman is also working on pathway (gene-set) analysis of microarray data with dual exposures, and exposure assessment in the context of complex multivariate air pollution data sets.

**Eunhee Kim**, PhD, 2009, Univ. of North Carolina- Assistant Professor. Dr Kim has expertise and research interests in semi-parametric methods, biomarker evaluation, and longitudinal data

analysis. She is developing semi-parametric methods to combine biomarkers to optimize classification accuracy, and to assess biomarkers by adjusting for risk factors that can influence the performance of a diagnostic test. She has collaborated in studies of cardiovascular disease and women's health, and is now beginning her collaborations in diagnostic imaging studies conducted by ACRIN.

**Crystal Linkletter**, PhD, 2006, Simon Fraser Univ. – Assistant Professor. Dr. Linkletter has expertise statistical methods for social network analysis and other data involving connectivity, modeling for spatial-temporal data, and Bayesian inference. Dr Linkletter is developing regression models for pair-wise network responses and investigating the application of these models in large-scale hierarchical models and simulation studies of the spread of infectious diseases in social networks. She is also working on the study of functional connectivity between regions of the brain and is developing spatial hierarchical models to combine multimodal sources of data and anatomical features in functional connectivity models. Dr. Linkletter is involved in collaborative research projects using social networks as predictors for health policy and decision making, and spatial models that study the environmental factors of health outcomes.

**Tao Liu,** PhD, 2006, University of Pennsylvania - Assistant Professor (Research). Dr Liu has expertise and research interests in statistical methods for analyzing data with missing values particularly in longitudinal studies, methods for sensitivity analysis, and causal inference methods for studies with imperfect randomization. He is a faculty member in the Outcomes & Biostatistics Core of the Lifespan/Tufts/Brown CFAR and has collaborations in behavioral medicine and health services and outcomes research.

**Hernando Ombao**, PhD, 1999, Univ. of Michigan- Associate Professor. Dr Ombao is recognized expert in methods for time series analysis and spatio-temporal process modeling and has extensive collaborative experience in psychiatry and neuroscience. Dr Ombao is developing time series models and estimation procedures for brain signals (EEG, fMRI, MEG, Event-related optical signals), with applications to identifying time-frequency spectral features in brain signals that separate patient groups (e.g. schizophrenics vs health controls), discriminating between motor intention (e.g. leftward motion vs rightward motion); and characterizing brain functional connectivity (FC) and comparing between patient groups (diagnosed with Alzheimer's vs adults with no symptom of cognitive impairment). At Brown, he serves on the Executive Committee of the MRI Research Facility and collaborates with investigators on neuroscience, behavioral medicine, and psychiatry.

**George Papandonatos**, PhD, 1995, U. Minnesota – Associate Professor (Research). Dr Papandonatos has expertise and methodological interests in Item Response Theory (IRT), correlated data methods, Bayesian inference and genetic epidemiology. He has extensive research experience and collaborations in behavioral medicine, particularly in the study of nicotine addiction through the TTURC-SPORE. Dr Papandonatos is currently using IRT to analyze the DSM-IV criteria for nicotine dependence, to provide a firmer theoretical foundation for psychometric measurement scales, and to deal with binary patterns and dependent traits. Dr Papandonatos is also developing approaches to better characterize the familial transmission using multivariate structural equation modeling (SEM) techniques.

**Zhijhin Wu**, PhD, 2005, Johns Hopkins – Assistant Professor. Dr Wu's has training in both molecular biology and biostatistics and research interests in statistical methods for computational biology. She is developing statistical methodology for processing and analyzing data generated in high throughput biotechnologies, including microarrays for genome wide gene expression profiling and epigenetic studies, parallel quantitative RTPCR for targeted gene expression profiling, high throughput screening assay for potent chemical compounds and next

generation sequencing for genomics and transcriptomics. Her recent publications included work on normalization methods for new applications in microarrays, methods for analyzing dose responses in gene expression in double exposure experiments, and methods for analyzing tag profiling sequencing data. Dr Wu has extensive collaborations at Brown with researchers in environmental toxicology, HIV-AIDS, and liver disease.

**Zheng Zhang,** PhD, 2004, Univ.of Washington – Assistant Professor (Research). Dr Zhang has training in both medicine and biostatistics and research interests in the development of statistical methodology for evaluating diagnostic tests and biomarkers. She is developing methods for quantifying and comparing the accuracy of biomarkers, risk prediction models, and radiographic imaging tools in their ability to detect disease and predict future outcomes. She is also involved in research on the assessment of patient outcomes of diagnostic tests and on methods for measuring agreement between test interpreters and measurement systems. As a member of the Biostatistics Center of ACRIN Dr Zheng is lead statistician in several multicenter studies of diagnostic imaging in cancer and other diseases.

Appendix 2	<b>Biostatistics</b>	faculty	expertise
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Field	Duan	Gatsonis	Hogan,	Houseman,	Kim	Linkletter	Liu,	Ombao	Papandonatos	Wu	Zhang
Bayesian Methods		x	x			x			x		
Behavior Genetics									X		
Bioinformatics	X			x						Х	
Biomarkers	х	x	X	x	x						
Clinical Trials Methodology		X	X		x				X		X
Diagnostic Imaging, Methods for		x			x						x
Epidemiologic Methods			X								
Health Services &Outcomes Research		x					x				
HIV/AIDS, Methods for			х				х				
Latent Variable Modeling				x		x			Х		
Longitudinal & Multivariate Data			x	x	x		x		Х		
Meta-Analysis		X							Х		
Missing Data			Х				X				
Neuroscience								Х			
Observational Studies,			X				х		Х		

Causal						
Inference						
Social			v		v	
Networks			~		^	
Spatio- Temporal						
Temporal			Х	Х		
Methods						
Statistical				v		
Learning				X		

### Appendix 3 Biostatistics faculty publications, since 2005

#### 2005

- Aberle, D. R., C. Chiles, <u>C. Gatsonis</u>, B. J. Hillman, C. D. Johnson, B. L. McClennan, D. G. Mitchell, E. D. Pisano, M. D. Schnall and A. G. Sorensen (2005). "Imaging and cancer: research strategy of the American College of Radiology Imaging Network." *Radiology* 235(3): 741-51.
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- Brown, L. B., B. R. Ott, <u>G. D. Papandonatos</u>, Y. Sui, R. E. Ready and J. C. Morris (2005). "Prediction of on-road driving performance in patients with early Alzheimer's disease." *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* 53(1): 94-8.
- Cobb, N. K., A. L. Graham, B. C. Bock, <u>G. Papandonatos</u> and D. B. Abrams (2005).
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- J.D. DePue, B. McCabe, A. Kazura, B. Becker, <u>G.D. Papandonatos</u>, T. Chun, & K. Emmons. "Assessement of Parents' Smoking Behaviors at a Pediatric Emergency Department", *Nicotine & Tobacco Research:* 9(1):33–41.
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- <u>Gareen, I.</u> (2005). "Potential confounding of the association between screening arm and cancer mortality in population-based screening trials by screening test-related factors." AMERICAN JOURNAL OF EPIDEMIOLOGY 161(11): S44-Suppl.S., Hillman, B. J. (2005). "ACRIN--lessons learned in conducting multi-center trials of imaging and cancer." *Cancer Imaging* 5 Spec No A: S97-101.

- 12. Gutman, RE, Peipert JF, Weitzen S., <u>Blume J.</u> (2005). "Evaluation of clinical methods for diagnosing bacterial vaginosis." *Obstetrics and Gynecology*. 105(3): 551-6.
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## Appendix 4 Biostatistics Courses

#### PHP2500 Introduction to Biostatistics

The first in a two-course series designed for students who seek to develop skills in biostatistical reasoning and data analysis. Offers an introduction to basic concepts and methods of statistics as applied to diverse problems in the health sciences. Methods for exploring and presenting data; direct and indirect standardization; probability; hypothesis testing; interval estimation; inference for means and proportions; simple linear regression, etc. Statistical computing is fully integrated into the course.

### PHP2510 Principles of Biostatistics and Data Analysis

Intensive first course in biostatistical methodology, focusing on problems arising in public health, life sciences, and biomedical disciplines. Summarizing and representing data; basic probability; fundamentals of inference; hypothesis testing; likelihood methods. Inference for means and proportions; linear regression and analysis of variance; basics of experimental design; nonparametrics; logistic regression.

Pre-requisites: Undergraduate level MATH 0010.

#### PHP2511 Applied Regression Analysis

Applied multivariate statistics, presenting a unified treatment of modern regression models for discrete and continuous data. Topics include multiple linear and nonlinear regression for continuous response data, analysis of variance and covariance, logistic regression, Poisson regression, and Cox regression. Primarily for graduate students and advanced undergraduates.

Pre-requisites: Graduate level PHP 2510 Minimum Grade of S or Undergraduate level APMA 0165

#### PHP2520 Statistical Inference /

First of two courses that provide a comprehensive introduction to the theory of modern statistical inference. BC 257 presents a survey of fundamental ideas and methods, including sufficiency, likelihood based inference, hypothesis testing, asymptotic theory, and Bayesian inference. Measure theory not required.

Pre-requisites: MATH 0120, MATH 1610, and either APMA 1650-1660 or PHP 2130-2160.

#### PHP2530 Bayesian Statistical Methods

Surveys the state of the art in Bayesian methods and their applications. Discussion of the fundamentals followed by more advanced topics including hierarchical models, Markov Chain Monte Carlo, and other methods for sampling from the posterior distribution, robustness, and sensitivity analysis, and approaches to model selection and diagnostics. Features nontrivial applications of Bayesian methods from diverse scientific fields, with emphasis on biomedical research.

Pre-requisites: APMA 1650 and 1660, PHP 2510 and 2511, or equivalent.

#### PHP2540 Advanced Methods for Multivariate Analysis

Survey of modern statistical methods for analysis of multivariate and high-dimensional data. Topics include inference for multivariate normally distributed data, methods for data reduction, classification and clustering, multiple comparisons for high-dimensional data, analysis of multidimensional contingency tables, and functional data analysis. Applications to diverse areas of scientific research, such as genomics, biomarker evaluation, and neuroscience will be featured.

Prerequisites: APMA 1650-1660 or PHP 2520, MATH 0520.

#### PHP2580 Statistical Inference II

This sequence of two courses provides a comprehensive introduction to the theory of modern inference. PHP 2580 covers such topics as non-parametric statistics, quasi-likelihood, resampling techniques, statistical learning, and methods for high-dimensional Bioinformatics data.

Pre-requisites: PHP 2520 or equivalent.

### PHP2601 Linear and Generalized Linear Models

Generalized linear models provide a unifying framework for regression. Important examples include linear regression, log-linear models, and logistic regression. GLMs for continuous, binary, ordinal, nominal, and count data. Topics include model parameterization, parametric and semiparametric estimation, and model diagnostics. Methods for incomplete data are introduced. Computing with modern software is emphasized.

Prerequisites: PHP 2520, APMA 1650

### PHP2602 Analysis of Lifetime Data

Comprehensive overview of methods for inference from censored event time data, with emphasis on nonparametric and semiparametric approaches. Topics include nonparametric hazard estimation, semiparametric proportional hazards models, frailty models, multiple event processes, with application to biomedical and public health data. Computational approaches using statistical software are emphasized.

Prerequisites: Intermediate-level courses in biostatistics: PHP 2510, 2511 or equivalent.

### PHP2603 Analysis of Longitudinal Data

Comprehensive coverage of methods for drawing inference from longitudinal observations. Theoretical and practical aspects of modeling, with emphasis on regression methods. Topics include: multilevel and marginal models; estimation methods; study design; handling dropout andnonresponse; methods for observational data (e.g. time-dependent confounding, endogeneity, selection bias). SAS and S-Plus software are used.

Prerequisites: Statistical inference (APMA 1650- 1660 at minimum), regression (PHP2511), working knowledge of matrix algebra (e.g. MATH 52).

#### PHP2610 Causal Inference and Missing Data

Systematic overview of modern statistical methods for handling incomplete data and for drawing causal inferences from "broken experiments" and observational studies. Topics include modeling approaches, propensity score adjustment, instrumental variables, inverse weighting methods and sensitivity analysis. Case studies used throughout to illustrate ideas and concepts.

Prerequisites: PHP 2511; MATH 1610, familiarity with object-oriented programming (e.g. R, S-Plus, Matlab)

#### PHP2620 Statistical Methods in Bioinformatics, I

Introduction to statistical concepts and methods used in selected areas of bioinformatics. Course is organized in three modules, covering statistical methodology for: (a) gene expression studies, with emphasis on DNA microarray data, (b) proteomics studies, (c) analysis of biological sequences. Succinct discussion of biological subject matter will be provided for each area. Available software will be introduced.

Prerequisites: Statistics background at the level of PHP 2130-2160 or PHP 2030-2070/80.

#### PHP2690 Advanced Topics in Biostatistics

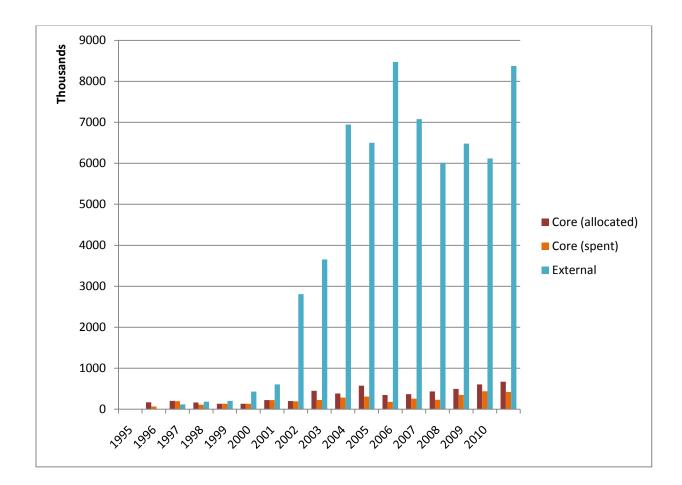
Seminars and topics course on advanced methods or applications of biostatistics, or new and innovative research. Pre-requisites: Typically intended for advanced PhD students in biostatistics, public health, and fields where advanced methods are directly applicable.

Prerequisites: Typically will include PHP2510 and 2511 at minimum.

#### PHP2030 Clinical Trials Methodology

The course examines the modern clinical trial as a methodology for evaluating interventions related to treatment, rehabilitation, prevention and diagnosis. Topics include the history and rationale for clinical trials, ethical issues, study design, protocol development, sample size considerations, quality assurance, statistical analysis, systematic reviews and meta-analysis, and reporting of results. Course discussion is extensively illustrated with examples from various fields of health care research. Prerequisites: introductory epidemiology and statistics.

Pre-requisites: PHP2500 and PHP2510.



# Appendix 6 Overall funding levels at the Center for Statistical Sciences since 1995

PI/Sub PI	Grant Period	Grant Period		Total (All	Title	Funding
	From	То	Year	Years)		Agency
-		_ / /	Budget	Budget		
Gareen	6/1/2009	5/31/2011	\$80,979	\$149,895	Compliance With Lung Cancer Screening	NCI
Gatsonis	3/2/1999	12/31/2013	\$1,962,852	\$20,196,180	Biostatistics Data Management Center for ACRIN	NCI
Gatsonis	7/1/2002	12/31/2012	\$1,812,624	\$24,414,612	NLST Supplement to Biostatistics Data Management Center for ACRIN	NCI
Gatsonis/Hillman	1/1/2004	9/30/2009	\$0	\$1,246,692	ACRIN 6666 Breast Ultrasound Screening in High-Risk Women	AVON
Gatsonis	1/1/2005	12/31/2009	\$0	\$1,271,061	CTC Supplement to Biostatistics Data Management Center for ACRIN	NCI
Gatsonis	5/1/2006	12/31/2009	\$167,414	\$665,037	National Oncologic PET Registry	AMI
Gatsonis	8/29/2006	12/31/2008	\$0	\$358,040	ACRIN Protocol 6678 FDG-PET/CT	NCI
					study	
Gatsonis	1/1/2007	12/31/2009	\$0	\$415,489	PET Assesment of Tumor Hypoxia in Cervical Cancer	NCI
Gatsonis	4/1/2009	3/31/2012	\$418,406	\$635,000	ACRIN 4005: CT Angiography Clinical Trial	ACR
Gatsonis/Jolles	5/1/2009	9/29/2010	\$0	\$69,830	ACRIN 6688: Phase II Study of FLT in Invasive Breast Cancer	NCI
Gatsonis	7/1/2009	6/30/2011	\$247,675	\$247,675	ACRIN 6684 FMISO	NCI
Gatsonis	7/1/2009	6/30/2011	\$373,258	\$373,258	ACRIN 6687	NCI
Gatsonis	7/1/2009	6/30/2011	\$373,258	\$373,258	ACRIN 6688: Phase II Study of FLT in Invasive Breast Cancer	NCI
Gatsonis	7/1/2009	6/30/2011	\$348,860	\$348,860	ACRIN CA013	NCI
Gatsonis	9/1/2009	8/31/2011	\$24,991	\$24,991	ACRIN Adoption of New Technologies for Remote Date Capture and Protocol Authoring (ADOPT)	NCI
Gatsonis/Tosteson	9/30/2009	8/31/2011	\$437,882	\$869,477	Advanced Imaging in Cancer	NCI
Hogan/Carpenter	9/1/1998	6/30/2012	\$126,207	\$1,422,399	Center for AIDS Research	NIH
Hogan/Cohen	9/30/2006	8/31/2011	\$27,410	\$128,923	Age Effects on the HIV-associated Brain Dysfunction	NIH
Hogan/Paul	7/1/2007	6/30/2012	\$48,326	\$282,575	Neuromarkers of Age-related Cognitive Decline	NINDS
Hogan/Gorin	8/23/2007	4/30/2010	\$0	\$27,901	Modifying Obseogenic Homes: Impact on Weight Management (UConn Subcontract)	NIH
Hogan/Katzenstein	9/1/2008	8/31/2013	\$49,142	\$353,869	HIV-1 Drug Resistance in different Subtyes	NIH
Hogan/Einterz	10/1/2008	9/30/2012	\$191,432	\$319,507	USAID-AMPATH Partnership: Academic Model for the Prevention of Treatment of HIV/AIDS	USAID
Hogan/Navia	1/1/2009	4/30/2010	\$0	\$30,473	In Vivo Proton MRS Studies: Cerebral Injury in HIV Infection	NINDS
Hogan	6/8/2009	6/7/2014	\$102,147	\$622,372	Global Health Activities in Developing Countries to Combat Non- Communicable Chronic Cardiovascular and Pulmonary	NIH

#### Appendix 6 Detailed listing of funded projects in 2009-10

#### Diseases (ASANTE) Hogan/Braitstein 9/15/2009 7/31/2014 \$16,901 \$333,186 Orphaned & Separated Children's NIH Assessment Related to Their Health & Well-Being (OSCAR) New Approaches to Mediation 9/30/2009 8/31/2011 \$481,042 Hogan \$939,768 NIAAA Analysis using Causal Inference Methods (Causal) Linkletter 6/1/2009 5/31/2010 \$0 \$23,850 ADVANCE Career Development Brown Award: Spatial Modeling of Social Networks Liu/Merchant 3/15/2009 2/28/2014 \$44,604 \$294,369 Brief Intervention for Drug Misuse in NIDA the Emergency Department (BIDMED) Liu/Carpenter 1/1/2010 12/31/2010 \$40,000 \$40,000 Methods to Optimize Use of limited NIAID Resources for Monitoring Treatment of HIV/AIDS in the Developing World (CFAR Dev) NIDA Liu/Merchant 3/3/2010 2/28/2012 \$24,238 \$49,907 Increasing Viral Testing in the Emergency Department (InVITED) Ombao 9/1/2008 8/31/2010 \$59,084 \$128,000 Collaborative Research: Spectral and NSF Connectivity Analysis of Non-Staionary Spatio-Temporal Data Ombao/Rasmussen 9/16/2009 5/31/2014 \$28,763 \$153,034 Neurocircuitry Underlying DBS Effects NIMH in OCD: A Window into Mechanisms of Action - Core C (OCD) 6/30/2010 Promoting Physical Activity after NCI Papandonatos/Pinto 9/15/2004 \$0 \$91,314 **Colorectal Cancer** Papandonatos/Abrams 9/30/2004 7/31/2010 \$0 \$468,602 Nicotine Dependence: Phenotype, NCI Endophenotype & Contexts Papandonatos/Pinto 7/1/2004 5/30/2010 \$O \$92,105 Maintaining Exercise after Cardiac NHLBI Rehabilitation Prenatal Smoking, Fetal Behavior, and NIDA Papandonatos/Stroud 6/1/2005 5/31/2010 \$69,037 \$136,568 Infant Withdrawal Papandonatos/Niaura 8/5/2005 7/31/2010 \$44,249 \$207,856 Ethnic Health/Motivating HIV+ Latinos NIDA to Quit Smoking Papandonatos/Marcus 5/1/2006 10/31/2009 \$69,115 \$174,739 Achieving Physical Activity Guidelines NIDA Through Enhanced Print Intervention Papandonatos/Ott 5/1/2007 4/30/2011 \$29,816 \$141,891 Naturalistic Assessment of the Driving NIA Ability of Cognitively Impaired Elders 9/1/2007 7/31/2012 \$32,678 \$226,501 Maternal Depression Placental HPA Papandonatos/Stroud NIMH **Regulation & Fetal-Neonatal Stress** Response Papandonatos/Tremont 10/1/2007 5/31/2012 \$25,707 \$237,047 Psychosocial Telephone Intervention NINR for Dementia Caregivers Reducing Violence Against Women Papandonatos/Rychtarik 4/30/2013 NIAAA 5/1/2008 \$26,111 \$201,900 with Alcoholic Partners Papandonatos/Pinto 11/30/2012 \$38,370 \$95,773 NCI 1/1/2009 Community Volunteers Promoting Physical Activity Among Cancer Survivors Papandonatos/Wing 9/28/2009 8/31/2014 \$14,871 \$145,108 Increasing Sleep Duration: A Novel NCI Approach to Weight Control (SLEEP) Wu/Hixon 7/17/2007 5/31/2011 \$360,920 \$1,459,049 Gene Networks in Peri-pubertal NIEHS

		Total	\$8,295,069	\$60,936,490		
Wu/Widmer	7/21/2009	6/30/2011	\$26,782	\$54,453	Applications High-throughput screening for new inhibitors of Giardi lamblia	NIAID
Wu/Irizarry	10/1/2007	8/31/2011	\$69,918	\$259,987	Preprocessing and Analysis Tools for Contemporary Microarray	NIH
Wu/Wands	9/30/2007	8/31/2012	\$0	\$134,109	Sertoli Cell Injury HCV in Alcoholics	NIH

#### **Proposal for**

#### DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

October 22, 2010

#### I. Department Mission and Vision

The mission of the proposed Department of Epidemiology is to educate new scientists and conduct original research to advance knowledge of the causes, prevention and treatment of disease and disability at the population level. To achieve this mission, members of the department employ sophisticated study designs, statistical analyses, field investigations, and laboratory techniques to: 1) fully characterize disease distribution (geographic, ecological, and social); 2) uncover the causes of the disease and methods of transmission; and 3) investigate measures for control and prevention. Our vision is to educate and train outstanding students to become leaders in research on the determinants of population health as well as advocates for translation of this research into practice

#### II. Background and History

This proposal to create a Department of Epidemiology is the result of a five-year transitional phase undertaken by Brown's Department of Community Health and Program in Public Health. This has involved: a) considerable growth in the total number of faculty with expertise in Epidemiology within the existing Department of Community Health, including hiring eight new tenure-track faculty over the last four years; b) a thorough revamping of the graduate programs in Epidemiology, including the introduction of a number of new courses, revised curriculum, and degree requirements; c) development of a host of new research initiatives and collaborations throughout the Brown Community. This work has taken place while the Department of Community Health has been reorganized into four academic sections (1) Biostatistics; 2) Epidemiology; 3) Social and Behavioral Sciences; 4) Health Services, Policy and Practice), followed by a vote to dissolve the Department of Community Health and replace it with four new Departments, including the proposed Department of Epidemiology. These developments are all directed towards the goal of creating a new Brown School of Public Health.

For the past five years the Epidemiology Section, under the direction of Professor Stephen Buka, and under the oversight of the Department of Community Health chair, Dr. Vincent Mor has been conducting the large majority of academic activities involved in the functioning of a free-standing Department. The role of the Section has been to provide an academic home for public health faculty members whose primary expertise is in Epidemiology. The Epidemiology section has been responsible for major faculty actions (e.g., recruitments and promotions and academic functions). The Epidemiology section has also been responsible for curriculum development and teaching in the areas of specific expertise (e.g., coordination of curricular requirements). Having reached a critical mass of 39 faculty members, we now submit this formal proposal to operate as an independent Department of Epidemiology.

### III. Department Faculty

#### A) Faculty research strengths

The proposed department currently has 39 full-time, adjunct and affiliated faculty members who are both campus- and hospital-based. There are eight primary tenured or tenure-track appointments (4 Assistant Professors, 1 Associate Professor, 3 Full Professors) and two term appointments (1 Associate Professor, 1 Full Professor); and seven research faculty (6 Assistant Professors, 1 investigator). In addition, the Department includes 11 faculty who have primary appointments in other departments, including dermatology, emergency medicine, family medicine, medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, neurology, and pathology and laboratory medicine. The roster also includes two clinical voluntary faculty, one teaching associate, two research associates and six adjunct faculty.

Major areas of faculty activity include cardiovascular disease, cancer, perinatal epidemiology, environmental health, nutritional epidemiology, social epidemiology, obesity, diabetes, asthma, mental illness, infectious disease, global health, and others. Faculty research on the etiology of major disorders involves several large-scale longitudinal projects of representative communitybased samples, in some cases followed over decades, to investigate the emergence of disease and disorder as well as the combined influences of environmental, nutritional, social & genetic factors on the incidence and course of these conditions. Randomized clinical trials and other clinical investigations are conducted in collaboration with leading hospitals and other treatment facilities in Rhode Island and throughout the U.S. to investigate the impact of new therapeutic technologies and to add to evidence-based treatment decisions in medicine and public health. The faculty of the proposed Department of Epidemiology have world-class reputations not only for their individual scholarly contributions, but also for their novel collaborative approaches which are critical to advance the science and practice of public health. Among other highlights of the faculty, Dr. David Savitz, is only one of a handful of Brown faculty members to have been elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine, one of the highest academic honors in biomedical science.

Global health concerns are growing and shifting at a dramatic rate. New methodological, conceptual and training approaches, such as those proposed by the Brown faculty are critical to keep the field of epidemiology fresh and relevant in light of the serious global needs in public health. Our work in global health, in line with the university's commitment to global health, includes Professor McGarvey's work on cardiovascular disease, tropical parasitology, child nutritional status and environmental issues in countries such as Samoa, the Philippines, and Ghana. Also Professor Lurie's work on the national history, epidemic dynamics, treatment and prevention of HIV in South Africa. Case-control studies of major chronic diseases (including cancer, cardiovascular disease and others) involve collaborations with laboratory facilities at Brown and elsewhere to investigate environmental exposures and biological mechanisms that contribute to disease emergence and pathology. These faculty have wellestablished collaborations throughout the Program in Public Health, the Medical School, and the University at large, as well as with all of the major hospitals in the region and many RI state agencies. These include the RI Department of Health, the RI Office of Health and Human Services, Rhode Island Hospital, Women and Infants Hospital, Miriam Hospital, Memorial Hospital, Brown Departments of Sociology, Psychology, Economics, Pathobiology, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, and many more. Center faculty also collaborate regularly with Rhode Island agencies including the Departments of Health, Human Services, Education and others to assist with statewide analyses of population health and the implementation of population-based prevention efforts.

Total external Epidemiology research funding for 2008, 2009, and 2010 was \$ 4,006,054, \$ 5,239,548 and \$ 6,130,820 respectively.

A detailed summary of publication output is shown in Appendix A, which lists publications for 2009 – 2010 for all primary teaching faculty, including eight tenure or tenure-track professors and two term appointment faculty (this listing does not include the work of recently appointed faculty). During this 22 month period, these 10 faculty published 234 peer-reviewed articles, many in top-tiered medical and public health journals.

### B) Current full-time faculty (tenure track, term and (research) and areas of interest)

#### Tenure track faculty

<u>Stephen Buka</u>, ScD, Professor and Section Head, is an epidemiologist and developmental psychologist whose work focuses on the causes, development and prevention of major psychiatric and cognitive disorders. Current studies include investigations of prenatal risks for schizophrenia, attention deficit disorder and addictive disorders, including neuroimaging and molecular genetics techniques; and community-level influences on youth substance use and delinquency.

<u>Karl Kelsey</u>, MD, MOH, Professor, is interested in the application of laboratory-based biomarkers in environmental disease, with experience in chronic disease epidemiology and tumor biology. The goals of his work include a mechanistic understanding of individual susceptibility to exposure-related cancers.

<u>Eric Loucks</u>, PhD, Assistant Professor, his research focuses on (1) to evaluate whether there are causal associations between educational attainment and health, using techniques that elucidate biological mechanisms, account for infrequently measured confounders, and evaluate education interventions and (2) to determine whether childhood family psychosocial environment and childhood socioeconomic circumstances influence health and biological risk factors for coronary heart disease.

<u>Mark Lurie</u>, PhD, Assistant Professor, is an infectious disease epidemiologist working on the HIV/AIDS, STI, and TB in sub-Saharan Africa. He has studied the role of migration in the spread of HIV in South Africa, examined the evidence for concurrency as a major driver of the HIV epidemic, and his current research, through an NIH R-01 examines the impact of antiretroviral therapy on HIV epidemic dynamics in Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Dominique Michaud**, **ScD**, **Associate Professor** does work focused on better understanding the causes of pancreatic and brain cancers with the goal of providing means to prevent these deadly cancers. She works primarily with large cohort studies and examines risk factors such as diet, BMI, allergies, infection and genetic susceptibility.

**David Savitz**, **PhD**, **Professor**, focuses on reproductive epidemiology and the study of environmental influences on cancer and pregnancy. The most significant theme for the past decade has been a focus on the etiology of preterm birth, the primary cause of infant mortality. He has a strong interest in the concepts, strategies, and technology of epidemiology and has sustained a focus on advancing the methods of epidemiologic research.

<u>Elizabeth Triche</u>, PhD, Assistant Professor, specializes in maternal and child health, reproductive health particularly preeclampsia, intrauterine growth restriction, and preterm delivery. She is also interested in the association between allergens, indoor and outdoor air pollutants on respiratory health in children and their mothers.

<u>Gregory Wellenius</u>, ScD, Assistant Professor, research centers on the identification of environmental determinants of cardiovascular disease. Drawing on tools from epidemiology, toxicology, and environmental health, his work has focused on studying the effects of ambient air pollution on the risk of heart disease and stroke, as well as its effects on cardiovascular physiology.

# Term faculty

<u>Melissa Clark,</u> PhD, Associate Professor, is a survey methodologist who combines expertise and interests in survey methods with substantive areas of women's health and underserved populations. The overarching theme in her research is to better understand the individual, social, and environmental barriers and facilitators to health and well-being among individuals who have traditionally experienced disparities in overall health status and access to high quality health care.

<u>Stephen McGarvey</u>, PhD, MPH, Professor is concerned with issues of human population biology and international health, specifically modernization-related induced socio-economic and behavioral changes, genetic and environmental influences on obesity and cardiovascular disease risk factor, tropical parasitology and child nutritional status and health, and environmental issues. His research involves developing-world countries such as Samoa, the Philippines, and Ghana.

### **Research Faculty**

Jasmina Burdzovic Andreas, PhD, Assistant Professor, main interests are in the broad area of developmental psychopathology, and in the specific processes of developmental risk, resilience, and protective factors.

**Ilana Gareen**, **PhD**, **Assistant Professor**, focuses on cancer screening trials. She is interested in the downstream consequences of screening, including medical care utilization, iatrogenic consequences, changes in quality of life, and the impact of screening and screening results on smoking cessation as well as potential biases arising in cancer screening trials.

<u>Annie Gjelsvik</u>, PhD, Assistant Professor, focuses on providing public access to public health surveillance data to provide health professionals and community organizations with valuable information with which to improve the health of the population through data-driven programs and policies.

**Deborah Pearlman**, **PhD**, **Assistant Professor**, **interests** are in advancing a deeper understanding of how fundamental causes of disparity (e.g., socioeconomic position, residential racial segregation) influence health over the lifespan. Her current research examines whether race is associated with health outcomes when measures of neighborhood-level poverty are taken into account.

Patricia Risica, DrPH, MPH, Assistant Professor, research interests include obesity; the influence of location of fat on the body with disease risk; weight gain during pregnancy and

keeping weight after pregnancy; breastfeeding; and diabetes, heart disease and obesity among Alaska Natives and other native peoples around the polar parts of the globe.

<u>Sherry Weitzen</u>, PhD, Assistant Professor, focuses on a variety of issues related to women's health and epidemiologic methods.

# C) Faculty with other appointments

Investigators: Jo-Ann Donatelli Full time faculty with primary appointments in Dermatology: Martin Weinstock Full time faculty with primary appointments in Emergency Medicine: Bruce Becker, Roland Merchant Full time faculty with primary appointments in Family Medicine: Charles Eaton, Donna Parker Full time faculty with primary appointments in Medicine: Traci Green, Kenneth Mayer, Josiah Rich Full time faculty with primary appointment in Neurology: Albert Lo Full time faculty with primary appointment in Obstetrics and Gynecology: Maureen Phipps Full time faculty with primary appointment in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine: Carmen Marsit Adjunct Faculty: Ana Baylin, Paul Florin, Robert Goldberg, Douglas Kiel, Edmond Shenassa, Wendy Verhoek-Oftedahl Clinical (Voluntary) Faculty: Colleen Caron, Alvaro Tinajero Teaching Associates: Kristen Smith Research Associates: Gerald Bove, Angela Paradis

### D) Academic year 2010-1011 Faculty searches

There are three searches currently underway for tenure track faculty to join the Epidemiology department. These searches seek to expand upon our current strengths by recruiting new faculty with particular expertise with epidemiologic methods, molecular epidemiology and environmental health. Our current goal is to have 11 tenured or tenure-track faculty by the academic year 2011/2012.

<u>Open Rank Search focused on Epidemiology Methods</u>: To remain at the forefront of research and training in epidemiology, Brown University seeks to recruit a new faculty member with expertise in epidemiologic methods. These range from new study designs and analytic approaches that incorporate high-density genetic, environmental and disease data, to novel design and analytic approaches for inferring causal evidence from observational studies. These can include marginal structural models, propensity score approaches, Mendelian randomization and comparable methods. The addition of a faculty member with expertise in these approaches will be essential to provide state-of-the-art training to doctoral students in Epidemiology, Health Services and other areas within the Program in Public Health, and should greatly enhance the quality and competitiveness of faculty grant output.

Senior Rank Search focused on Molecular Epidemiology: Increasingly, epidemiology faculty at Brown University are collecting molecular-level information related to the genetics, environmental risks and disease biomarkers for conditions ranging from cancer, cardiovascular disease, perinatal outcomes and mental disorders. While we have many faculty collecting such data, there is need for an epidemiologist whose training and work is focused on molecular epidemiology, which includes both the conduct and analysis of large scale studies that collect molecular level data. Such a faculty member is needed to teach courses on genetic and molecular epidemiology to students across degree programs in public health, the medical school and other departments within the Division of Biology and Medicine. This person should also be well-positioned to advance a number of major research initiatives across the Brown community, in light of the huge potential for large scale biological data collection in Rhode Island. This faculty member will be an asset and potential liaison to clinical partners with interest in personalized medicine, providing methodologic expertise to supplement clinical opportunities at the Brown-related hospitals. This is an area of great interest nationally and internationally where Brown is well-poised to make major advances.

<u>Open Rank search focused on Environmental Epidemiology</u>: We seek a well trained epidemiologist / environmental health specialist with interest in the rigorous application of population measures to the assessment of human health. Disciplinary area targeted include air pollution, cancer, respiratory, reproductive or neurological diseases. This position would not only provide research expertise and broad opportunity for collaboration, but would also take an important step in meeting the accreditation criteria for the planned Brown School of Public Health. Teaching would include MPH students, students in the environmental health track of the MPH as well as doctoral students in epidemiology.

# E) Selected faculty awards, honors, and recognitions

Selected faculty awards, honors and recognitions for the past year are highlighted in this section.

<u>Stephen Buka, ScD</u>: Member, Executive Steering Committee, NIH; National Children's Health Study; Chair; Rhode Island State Epidemiology and Outcomes Workgroup; Editor, Journal of Developmental Origins of Health and Disease

<u>Melissa Clark, PhD</u>: Dean's Excellence in Teaching Award, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University; Participating Program Scientist, Center for Population Research in LGBT Health; Associate Editor, Translational Behavioral Medicine: Practice, Policy, Research; Society of Behavioral Medicine, Program Support Committee Chair

<u>Albert Lo, MD</u>: Elected to the Board of Directors, American Society for Neurorehabilitation (2010);Named Associate Director for the Brown and Providence VA Center of Excellence for Restorative and Regenerative medicine (2010)

**Eric Loucks, PhD**: Invited Reivew Panel Member: Canadian Institutes of Health Research; Institute of Public, Community & Population Health Awarded (and declined); Canadian Institutes of Health (CIHR) New Investigator Award; Senior Teaching Excellence Award (McGill University, Epidemiology and Biostatistics Student Society) **Mark Lurie, PhD**: Best Poster Award, EPIDEMICS<sup>2</sup>: Second International Conference on Infectious Disease Dynamics, December 2-4, Athens, Greece. Poster title: Impact of Antiretroviral Therapy on the Basic Reproductive Number of HIV. Invited for internationally viewed debate on the relationship between HIV incidence and concurrent partnerships in Africa, organized by the World Bank and USAID and telecast to 20 countries including the ministers of health of all southern African countries as well as a day-long workshop on the issue at Columbia University; research on mining and the risk of tuberculosis in 44 African countries, profiled and praised by the South African Minister of Health at international AIDS conference

**Carmen Marsit, PhD:** Invited presentations at: 1) NIH, Office of Women's Health, NIH, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, and Women and Infants Hospital jointly sponsored conference on "Moving into the Future: New Dimensions and Strategies for Women's Health Research for the NIH"; 2) the American Association for Cancer Research, "Future of Molecular Epidemiology Conference"; 3) the New York Academy of Science Behavioral Epigenetics Symposium.

**<u>Stephen McGarvey, PhD</u>**: Appointed member, International and Cooperative Projects-1 Study Section, National Institutes of Health, Center for Scientific Review; Appointed member, Advisory Committee for the Schistosomiasis Consortium for Operational Research and Evaluation (SCORE); Co-Editor, *Annals of Human Biology.* 

**Deborah Pearlman, PhD:** May 2010 – first faculty member in the Program in Public Health to win The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University Dean's Award for Excellence in Mentoring in Public Health.

<u>Josiah Rich, MD, MPH</u>: The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Department of Medicine's Eight Annual Beckwith Family Award for Outstanding Teaching (2009); Nominee, Third Annual Riesman Family Excellence in Teaching Award

**David Savitz, PhD**: Member of Planning Committee for Institute of Medicine Workshop on "Assessing the Effects of the Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill on Human Health" in New Orleans, June, 2010; Invited editorial on Gulf oil spill in Annals of Internal Medicine (Savitz DA, Engel LS. Lessons for Study of the Health Effects of Oil Spills. Annals of Internal Medicine. 2010); Reappointed for additional year as a Member of the Board of Scientific Counselors of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; Appointed as an Associate Editor of the American Journal of Epidemiology.

### **IV. Department Curriculum and Instruction**

### A) Substantive curriculum areas

Undergraduate curriculum: The Brown Epidemiology faculty plays a substantial role in both the inter-departmental Community Health Concentration as well as enrollment of undergraduates in a range of other concentrations. Epidemiology faculty members teach several courses that are of broad interest and enrollment by undergraduates, including courses on "Introduction to Community Health", "Introduction to Epidemiology", "Community Health Senior Seminar", "Applied Research Methods" and others. These courses range from a general introduction to the fields of community health, public health and global health, and at increasing levels of sophistication introduce the basic concepts and empirical methods of epidemiology which serve

to quantify the magnitude and distribution of human disease and dysfunction within populations, both domestically and internationally.

*MPH Curriculum*: The Epidemiology faculty similarly offers a range of courses that are central to the Masters of Public Health Curriculum, including Introduction to Methods in Epidemiologic Research, Social Determinants of Health, Scientific Writing in Public Health, Clinical Trials Methodology and others. Going beyond the undergraduate curriculum, these courses extend students mastery of the basic concepts and empirical methods of epidemiology and advance students' expertise in the application of these concepts and techniques.

*PhD Curriculum*: The Epidemiology faculty provides advanced training in epidemiologic methods, their application in both basic and applied research settings (e.g., state and national departments of public health, pharmaceutical industry), and a host of substantive offerings focused on the known risks, causes and preventive strategies for a range of diseases (e.g., cancer epidemiology, cardiovascular epidemiology).

# B) Degree programs

The Epidemiology department will award a Ph.D. and an M.Sc. in Epidemiology. The department will also offer an Epidemiology track in the MPH program, and contributes to both Undergraduate and Medical Student training.

### PhD Graduate Program

The mission of the doctoral program in Epidemiology is to prepare students to become leading, independent investigators with rigorous training in epidemiologic methods, able to excel in academia, public health practice, or industry. All students in the doctoral program in Epidemiology are required to demonstrate mastery of advanced epidemiologic methods, which is assessed via coursework, examinations, and research activities (see core competencies attached).

Three primary features distinguish the Brown University Epidemiology Doctoral program from other leading departments around the country.

- 1) The combination of a leading Ivy League University, located in the capital city (Providence) of a small state, with excellent ties between state agencies, major clinical facilities, and other academic departments, provides unparalleled first-hand opportunities for community, hospital, and industry-based epidemiologic research. In particular, the formal ties with, and easy access to, other academic Departments within Public Health and across the Brown campus, major hospitals, industry partners (e.g., pharmaceutical) and the RI Department of Health afford excellent opportunities for both clinical and applied epidemiology.
- 2) Brown has a nationally-recognized approach to classroom / didactic education. This starts with a University-wide requirement that ALL faculty (from Nobel laureates to new assistant professors) teach one or more courses per year. Courses taught by the Epidemiology faculty include standard offerings in epidemiologic and biostatistical methods, but also cover specialized topics including courses on Human Biology for Epidemiologists; Analysis of Population Datasets; Scientific and Grant Writing all designed to accelerate independence and skills of Brown's doctoral students. Brown is also committed to training a new generation of teachers, with excellent resources and opportunities to enhance the teaching skills of our graduate students, including a dedicated Center for Teaching and Learning (the

Sheridan Center), paid Teaching Assistantships, and routine evaluation and feedback of student teaching.

3) Brown also has a long and unique culture of learning through collaboration, mentoring and fostering independent thinking and research, facilitated by low student-to-faculty ratios. Central to most faculty and graduate student research projects is the goal of advancing insight into the causal mechanisms through which environmental, social, and genetic conditions contribute to the etiology and prevention of disease. This requires interdisciplinary training in a variety of topics including study design, statistical analysis, human biology and genetics, societal conditions and causal inference. Brown faculty are selected for their breadth of knowledge, research and mentoring skills and provide these core competencies while encouraging, fostering and modeling innovative applications by doctoral students.

The PhD program has a fully developed curriculum, requiring a minimum of 9 core courses and four additional elective courses (to be selected from a set of 12 offered by the Department). Additional degree requirements include written and oral qualifying examinations, research placements, and a doctoral dissertation.

#### M. Sc. Graduate Program

The primary mission of the Masters of Science in Epidemiology is to provide education and training for a diverse group of individuals who wish to be part of a team of public health researchers and practitioners. The masters program is designed to provide intermediate-level training in the underlying principles and practice of epidemiology. The M.Sc. program may also stimulate interest in further training at the PhD level. Candidates for the Master of Science degree follow an integrated program of study comprising a minimum of eight semester courses and must prepare a master's thesis. Upon completion of the Master of Science degree, students are expected to have proficiency in the following areas: 1) conceptualization of different epidemiologic approaches to the understanding of the causes of health and disease in population-based research; 2) synthesis of existing literature in epidemiology; 3) experience in the design and conduct of epidemiological studies; 4) sample size estimation for basic epidemiologic study designs; 5) analysis of data from epidemiological studies using appropriate statistical methods; and 6) effective communication of scientific findings. The training is provided through coursework and the completion of a thesis.

The graduate program also offers a Masters of Arts (AM) in Epidemiology. This is typically conferred as a terminal degree for students who are accepted into, but will not be completing, the PhD program in Epidemiology.

#### MPH Epidemiology Track

The Epidemiology Track is designed for the public health practitioner / scientist who seeks additional training in epidemiologic methods, study conduct and analysis. The goal is to train professionals with breadth in the core topics of public health and intermediate-level mastery of epidemiologic concepts and methods.

MPH students pursuing this track are required to successfully complete thirteen courses (including two internships) and complete a thesis. Students are required to develop an academic portfolio, in which they should explore a topic of interest in epidemiology. Full-time students generally take three courses per semester over two years, in addition to the Public Health/Community Service Internship. Students may request that up to four graduate/medical

courses, taken previously or concurrently with their Brown MPH enrollment, be counted toward the thirteen course requirement.

The MPH program in epidemiology also provides training in <u>applied epidemiology</u>. Under the supervision of a faculty member, students work with practicing epidemiologists and with other public health practitioners to conduct community-based needs assessments, participate in the design and evaluation of community-based interventions, analyze large data bases, evaluate surveillance systems, and complete a scientifically rigorous thesis. The handson training in epidemiology is accomplished through a targeted assignment in a public health organization or institute. To respond to emerging global health issues, the MPH program in epidemiology also offers training in field work, surveillance and the application of epidemiological methods to local public health problems in developing countries.

Course Number	Course Name	Course Instructor	
Undergraduate			
PHP0320 *	Introduction to Public Health	M. Clark	
PHP1070 *	The Burden of Disease in Developing Countries	S. McGarvey	
PHP 1700	Current Topics in Environmental Health	K. Kelsey	
PHP 1910	Community Health Senior Seminar: Health and Human Rights	M. Lurie	
PHP 1920 *	Social Determinants of Health	E. Loucks	
Graduate			
PHP2030	Clinical Trials Methodology	I. Gareen	
PHP2040	Applied Research Methods	M. Clark	
PHP2090	Scientific Writing in Public Health	E. Loucks	
PHP2120	Introduction to Methods in Epidemiologic Research	E. Triche	
PHP2130 <sup>1</sup>	Human Biology for Epidemiology	E. Loucks	
PHP2180	Critical Epidemiology	D. Michaud	
PHP2210A	Epidemiology of Chronic Disease 1 & 11	D. Michaud	
PHP2220A	Epidemiology of Violence and its Consequences	TBN	
PHP2220B	Nutritional Epidemiology	TBN	
PHP2220C	Perinatal Epidemiology	B. Triche	
PHP2220G	Methodological and Practical Issues in Global Health Research	S. McGarvey	
PHP2230 <sup>2</sup>	Infectious Disease Epidemiology	M. Lurie	
PHP2240	Methods in Environmental Epidemiology	G. Wellenius	
PHP2430	Analysis of Population-Based Datasets	B. Triche	
PHP2980	Graduate Independent Study and Thesis Research		
PHP2985	MPH Independent Study for Thesis Preparation and Research		
Non-credit <sup>3</sup>			

#### C) Courses and Teaching Activities

\* Courses are offered to undergraduates as well as graduate students

<sup>1</sup>Course is not being offered in 2010-2011, but will be offered again in 2011-2012

<sup>2</sup> Bi-annual course last offered in 2009-2010

<sup>3</sup> Will be offered as required course for credit in the future

*Medical, Postdoctoral, and other teaching.* Members of the EPI have lead responsibility for two courses as a part of medical education: BIOL372 Medical Education Quantitative Methods, and BIOL5400 Community Health Clerkship (a required clerkship).

# D) Undergraduate instruction, advising, and research

Members of the Epidemiology faculty have a high level of involvement in undergraduate instruction, advising, and research. Epidemiology faculty teach several major undergraduate courses which are highly subscribed and well-evaluated, with the result that many undergraduates approach our faculty to direct GISPS, UTRAs, research assistantships and the like. For example, Melissa Clark serves on the Selection Committee and as a Faculty Fellow for the Royce Fellowship Program, on the Engaged Scholars Committee for the Swearer Center for Public Service. A number of our faculty serve as undergraduate advisors, for instance new faculty member Eric Loucks has commenced freshman advising with four freshman advisees. The majority of our teaching faculty are currently serving as honors advisors or have done so within the past three years. These include Marsit (honors advisor for Amanda Filiberto, Community Health concentrator, Summer 2010 UTRA sponsor for Cailey Bromer, Neuroscience concentrator), Clark, Lurie and Pearlman (each direct 1-2 honors students each year in community health and other concentrations including human biology, development studies, applied mathematics, neuroscience and others). Clark also serves as a faculty advisor for a departmental undergraduate group (DUG). Lo supervised UTRA advisee Jen Cao in her work gait variability in individuals with neurological gait disorders. McGarvey currently supervises one undergraduate, Benjamin Rome, Community Health, "Samoan children's physical activity levels as a risk factor for childhood obesity" and serves as a second reader for Melanie Zuch, 2010, Development Studies, "A virus and nothing else:' the effect of antiretrovirals on HIV-related stigma, and Rashid Hussain, 2010, Anthropology, "Partition to polio: how the marginalization of India's muslims impedes a global eradication effort." He also oversees an Undergraduate Independent Study for Carolyn Brown, class of 2011 on analysis of pregnancy characteristics on birthweight in American Samoa and is undergraduate advisor for two additional students.

# E) Graduate program teaching and student contact (outside EPI)

# Medical Students and MPH Students

The Epidemiology faculty contribute to the teaching of MPH Core Courses and Analytic Interships (Clark, Gjelsvik); MPH Electives (Clark, Lurie, Pearlman Tinajero), Community Health Clerkship small group sessions (Clark, Gareen, Merchant, Risica, Tinajero), as well as participate in MPH and undergraduate thesis and academic advising (Clark, Gareen, Loucks, Lurie, McGarvey, Pearlman, Risica, and others). Epidemiology faculty contribute each year to the core Medical Student Curriculum, covering such topics as disease screening and surveillance, basic epidemiologic methods, clinical trials and more.

# V. Department Structure and Governance

*Structure.* The current section head of Epidemiology is Stephen Buka, who will become the Inaugural Department Chair. Dr. Buka is also the Director of the Center for Population Health and Clinical Epidemiology which is housed in the Epidemiology department.

*Governance*. The Section currently holds monthly department meetings, and this will continue when the section becomes a Department. Department meetings are generally attended by full

time faculty based at the academic campus at 121 S. Main St., and other off-site faculty who are currently teaching courses. Routine issues are decided by a simple majority vote. In all tenure and promotion issues the Department will rigorously follow University policies and procedures.

The current Section is and the proposed Department will be responsible for faculty evaluations, recommendations for promotion and tenure, recruitment of new faculty, mentoring and support of faculty career development and encouragement of relevant science and scholarly productivity. The department will also be responsible for curriculum development, core competencies, graduate student research placement and oversight and teaching including coordination of curricular requirements and teaching needs across the multiple academic programs. These activities will be directed by the Department Chair, the Graduate Program Director(s) and a set of faculty committees. Senior faculty in the Section review all reappointments, promotions, tenure, and hiring recommendations. Faculty are expected to contribute to administrative and strategic concerns regarding the management and well-being of the department. Such responsibilities will occur through the standing committees described below and ad hoc committees as needed.

The Graduate Program Director(s) have oversight for all activities related to the three graduate programs provided through the Department (Doctoral and Masters of Epidemiology, and Epidemiology track of the Masters of Public Health) including admissions, monitoring student progress, and administering qualifying exams. The Graduate Program Director(s) will chair the annual committee to review and make recommendations for student admissions. One Co-Director will also represent the department on the program-wide curriculum committee. Each year an admissions committee is created to review applicants to the doctoral program.

Standing departmental committees include: 1) the Epidemiology Curriculum Committee which oversees curriculum requirements and content, identifies gaps in the course offerings, reviews new courses and assures quality; 2) the Core Competencies and Milestones Committee is responsible for determining the training objectives and desired competencies for each of our graduate programs, and methods for evaluating student mastery of these competencies, including oral and written comprehensive examinations, teaching assistantships and research placements; 3) the Social Committee assists students with creating appropriate opportunities for program-wide networking and educational opportunities.

# VI. Collaborations: Research and Training

A strength of the proposed Department of Epidemiology is the collaborative and multidisciplinary orientation and demonstrated track record of all of the faculty and the resulting educational programs. These include ongoing research and training collaborations with a number of departments within the Medical School, other campus-based departments, local hospitals, Rhode Island state agencies and more. Several of these are highlighted below.

### A) Alpert Medical School Departments.

Dermatology, Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Medicine, Neurology, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine: Several faculty in these and other Departments in the Alpert Medical School have joint appointments in Community Health and serve as investigators and Co-PI's on Community Health faculty funded research. Most of these individuals have hospital affiliations at the Miriam, Rhode Island Hospital, Women &

Infants, Memorial Hospital, and the VA hospital where they do their own research and also support and supervise Department graduate students as part of their training. Epidemiology faculty members are critical liaisons between Brown academic efforts and hospital-based research activities. For example, Professor David Savitz has a primary appointment in Epidemiology, but also holds a joint appointment in Obstetrics & Gynecology. He also holds an appointment as Associate Director for Perinatal Research at Women and Infants Hospital with responsibility for training and mentoring junior research faculty at the hospital. Drs. Buka and Clark also collaborate closely with members of Women and Infants Hospital through the National Children's Study effort and Clark's project on women's oncology. Drs. Kelsey and Marsit play central roles in the large Superfund and ARRA projects based in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. Similarly, Dr. Martin Weinstock, Professor of Dermatology and Community Health, is Director of the Rhode Island Pigmented Lesion Unit and Director of Photomedicine at Rhode Island Hospital, where he conducts a number of large scale clinical and epidemiologic investigations spanning the two institutions.

# B) Campus-based Departments and Institutes.

*Anthropology:* Dr. McGarvey holds a joint appointment in Anthropology and serves as primary instructor for ANTH 0310 – Human Evolution. He and other faculty have supervised both undergraduate and graduate students in Anthropology.

*Economics & Education:* Drs. Loucks and Buka have existing and new collaborations underway regarding the long-term health benefits of educational attainment.

*Sociology.* Dr. Buka directs a major Brown-based research project, the National Children's Study, which is anticipated to continue for the next 21 years. Profs. Logan and Short in the Department of Sociology are key collaborators on this project, which has supported a number of Sociology graduate student RAs.

*The Population Studies and Training Center.* Professors Lurie, McGarvey and others have close affiliations with the Population Studies and Training Center. Epidemiology's long-standing collaboration with the Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences initiative (S4) will continue through this center, now that S4 has been incorporated into the administrative structure of the Population Studies Center.

Other campus-based affiliations are described in the Cover Document to this proposal.

# C) Local Hospitals

Epidemiology faculty are involved in ongoing funded collaborations with all of the major hospitals in RI, including RI Hospital, Women and Infants Hospital, Miriam Hospital, Memorial Hospital, Butler Hospital and more. At the Veterans Administration hospital, Professors Lo and Triche are involved with a number of projects including VA-funded research on cortical mechanisms of gait in Parkinson's disease, studies of multiple sclerosis, ALS and others.

### D) State of Rhode Island

Epidemiology faculty have strong ties with a number of Rhode Island state agencies, most notably the the Rhode Island Department of Health. Three faculty members conduct the majority of their research through projects based at the Health Department: Gjelsvik, Pearlman, Tinajero. This synergistic relationship has both enhanced state efforts while providing a unique training opportunity for graduate students. For instance, in the past year Dr. Pearlman

contributed to the submission of four successful ARRA grants addressing physical activity, nutrition and tobacco use which resulted in over \$10 million in new funding for the RI Health Department and partners to improve the health of Rhode islanders. Similarly, work by Pearlman and others have resulted in major awards from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, resulting in over \$7 million new dollars for the state. Drs Buka, Caron, Tinajero and others have similar collaborations with state agencies including the RI Department of Education, Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals, and Department of Children, Youth & Families.

# E) National and International

Most Epidemiology faculty are actively engaged in research collaborations with leading institutions around the U.S. and globally. Some examples from our junior faculty only include:

Prof. Baylin's work on cardiovascular disease, obesity, and metabolic syndrome involves funded research in Costa Rica, Columbia, and elsewhere, with funded collaborations with Harvard University, the University of Michigan and the National University in Colombia.

Prof. Loucks serves on the Expert Advisory Committee for the Canadian Health Measures Survey, which is the Canadian equivalent to the U.S. NHANES, and works with investigators throughout the United States to evaluate social determinants of health in the CARDIA (Coronary Artery Disease Risk in Young Adults) Study.

Prof. Marsit's work in cancer molecular epidemiology is dependent on ongoing collaborations with researchers across the United States, including Prof. Margaret Karagas at Dartmouth Medical Center, Prof. Heather Nelson at the University of Minnesota, and Prof. John Wiencke at the University of California San Francisco.

Prof. Wellenius is currently working with researchers at the University of North Carolina, Pennsylvania State University, and Harvard University to investigate the effects of long-term exposure to air pollution on the risk of stroke in post-menopausal women. In a separate project, he is collaborating with researchers at the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (Toronto, Ontario), the University of Toronto, and McMaster University (Hamilton, Ontario) to study the effects of short-term increases in ambient pollution on stroke risk in Ontario.

### VII. Future Goals

The field of epidemiology remains of vital and growing importance as the "basic science" of public health. Along with the other proposed Departments within the Program of Public Health, the concepts, methods and discoveries covered by the proposed faculty are central to the public health mission of advancing knowledge of the causes, prevention and treatment of disease and disability at the population level and translating this knowledge into improved global public health. The larger community of public health practitioners and the particular discipline of epidemiology will be advanced by the novel, innovative and applied approaches that are the hallmark of learning and scholarship at Brown University. The proposed department is extremely well-positioned to be at the forefront of a new generation of training and discovery in the determinants and prevention of disease at the population level. We are enthusiastic to continue our growth and success as an independent department of epidemiology.

# Appendix A: Epidemiology Teaching Faculty (Tenure-track and Term Appointment) Peer-Reviewed Publications (2009-2010)

### **BUKA, STEPHEN**

- 1. Cradock AL, Kawachi I, Colditz GA, Gortmaker SL, **Buka SL**. Neighborhood social cohesion and youth participation in physical activity in Chicago. Soc Sci Med. 2009 Feb; 68(3): 427-35.
- Gilman SE, Rende R, Boergers J, Abrams DB, Buka SL, Clark MA, Colby SM, Hitsman B, Kazura AN, Lipsitt LP, Lloyd-Richardson EE, Rogers ML, Stanton CA, Stroud LR, Niaura RS. Parental smoking and adolescent smoking initiation: an intergenerational perspective on tobacco control. Pediatrics. 2009 Feb; 123(2): e274-81.
- 3. Saha S, Barnett AG, **Buka SL**, McGrath JJ. Maternal age and paternal age are associated with distinct childhood behavioural outcomes in a general population birth cohort. Schizophr Res. 2009 Dec.; (115): 130-135.
- 4. Cannon TD, Torrey EF, Yolken R, **Buka SL**. Decreased neurotrophia response to birth hypoxia in the etiology of schizophrenia. Biological Psychiatry. 2009: 64(9): 797-802
- 5. Saha S, Barnett AG, Foldi C, Burne TH, Eyles DW, **Buka SL**, McGrath JJ. Advanced paternal age is associated with impaired neurocognitive outcomes during infancy and childhood. PLoS Med. 2009 Mar; 6 (3): e40.
- 6. Stroud LR, Paster RL, Goodwin MS, Shenassa E, **Buka SL**, Niaura R, Rosenblith JF, Lipsitt LP. Maternal smoking during pregnancy and neonatal behavior: a large-scale community study. Pediatrics. 2009 May; 123 (5): e842-8.
- 7. Kubzansky LD, Martin LT, **Buka SL**. Early manifestations of personality and adult health: a life course perspective. Health Psychol. 2009 May; 28 (3): 364-72.
- 8. Ellman LM, Yolken RH, **Buka SL**, Torrey EF, Cannon TD. Cognitive functioning prior to the onset of psychosis: the role of fetal exposure to serologically determined influenza infection. Biol Psychiatry. 2009 Jun; 65 (12): 1040-7.
- Maselko J, Gilman SE, Buka SL. Religious service attendance and spiritual well-being are differentially associated with risk of major depression. Psychological Medicine. 2009 Jun; 39(6): 1009-1017.
- 10. Gardener H, Spiegelman D, **Buka SL**. Prenatal risk factors for autism: comprehensive meta-analysis. Br J Psychiatry. 2009 Jul; 195 (1): 7-14
- 11. Kahler CW, Daughters SB, Leventhal AM, Rogers ML, Clark MA, Colby SM, Boergers J, Ramsey SE, Abrams DB, Niaura R, **Buka SL**. Personality, psychiatric disorders, and smoking in middle-aged adults. Nicotine Tob Res. 2009 Jul; 11 (7): 833-41.
- 12. Shenassa ED, Graham AL, Burdzovic JA, **Buka SL**. Psychometric properties of the Wisconsin Inventory of Smoking Dependence Motives (WISDM-68): a replication and extension. Nicotine Tob Res. 2009 Aug; 11 (8): 1002-10.
- 13. Skeer M, McCormick MC, Normand SL, **Buka SL**, Gilman SE. A prospective study of familial conflict, psychological stress, and the development of substance use disorders in adolescence. Drug Alcohol Depend. 2009 Sep; 104 (1-2): 65-72.
- 14. Conron KJ, Beardslee W, Koenen KC, **Buka SL**, Gortmaker SL. A longitudinal study of maternal depression and child maltreatment in a national sample of families investigated

by Child Protective Services. Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 2009 Oct; 163 (10): 922-930.

- 15. Torrey EF, **Buka SL**, Cannon TD, Goldstein JM, Seidman LJ, Liu T, Hadley T, Rosso IM, Bearden C, Yolken RH. Paternal age as a risk factor for schizophrenia: How important is it? Schizophrenia Res. 2009 Oct; 114: 1-5.
- 16. Xiao J, **Buka SL**, Cannon TD, Suzuki Y, Viscidi RP, Torrey EF, Yolken RH. Serological pattern consistent with infection with type I Toxoplasma gondii in mothers and risk of psychosis among adult offspring. Microbes Infect. 2009 Nov; 11 (13): 1011-8.
- LeWinn KZ, Stroud LR, Molnar BE, Ware JH, Koenen KC, Buka SL. Elevated maternal cortisol levels during pregnancy are associated with reduced childhood IQ. Int J Epidemiol. 2009 Dec; 38 (6): 1700-10.
- 18. Saha S, Barnett AG, **Buka SL**, McGrath JJ. Maternal age and paternal age are associated with distinct childhood behavioural outcomes in a general population birth cohort. Schizophr Res. 2009 Dec; 115: 130-135.
- Almeida ND, Loucks EB, Kubzansky L, Pruessner J, Maselko J, Meaney MJ, Buka SL. (Feb. 2010) Quality of parental emotional care and calculated risk for coronary heart disease. Psychosom Med. 2010 Feb; 72(2): 148-55.
- 20. Kao HT, **Buka SL**, Kelsey KT, Gruber DF, Porton B. The correlation between rates of cancer and autism: an exploratory ecological investigation. PLoS One 2010 Feb; 23; 5(2): e9372.
- Kahler, C; Leventhal AM; Daughters, SB; Clark, MA; Colby, SM; Ramsey, SE; Boergers, J.; Abrams, D; Niaura, R; **Buka, SL**. Relationships of personality and psychiatric disorders to multiple domains of smoking motives and dependence in middle-aged adults. Nicotine & Tobacco Research 2010 Apr; 2(4): 381-9
- 22. Ball SW, Gilman SE, Mick E, Fitzmaurice G, Ganz ML, Seidman LJ, **Buka SL**. Revisiting the association between maternal smoking during pregnancy and ADHD. J Psychiatr Res. 2010 Apr 20.
- 23. Woods ER, **Buka SL**, Martin CR, Salganik M, Howard MB, Gueguen JA, Brooks-Gunn J, McCormick MC. Assessing youth risk behavior in a clinical trial setting: lessons from the infant health and development program. J Adolesc Health. 2010 May; 46(5): 429-36.
- 24. Goldstein JM, **Buka SL**, Seidman LJ, Tsuang MT. Specificity of familial transmission of schizophrenia psychosis spectrum and affective psychoses in the New England Family Study's high-risk design. Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2010 May; 67(5):458-467
- Martin LT, Schonlau M, Haas A, Pitkin Derose K, Rudd R, Loucks EB, Rosenfeld L, Buka SL. Literacy Skills and Calculated 10-Year Risk of Coronary Heart Disease. J Gen Intern Med. 2010 Aug 31.
- 26. Molnar BE, LeWinn KZ, Borges G, **Buka SL**. Temporal ordering of the development of psychiatric and substance use disorders among urban adolescents. Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. (manuscript under review).
- 27. Kubzansky LD, Martin LT, **Buka SL**. Early manifestations of personality and adult health: A life course perspective. Health Psychology. (manuscript under review).
- 28. McCaffery J, Papandonatos G, Santangelo S, Lyons M, Platko J, Niaura R, Abrams D, Tsuang M, **Buka SL**. Serotonin transporter promoter polymorphism, early environmental adversity and risk of smoking in the New England Family Study. American Journal of Medical Genetics Part B: Neuropsychiatric Genetics. (manuscript under review).

- 29. Thermenos HW, Goldstein J, Milanovic SM, Gabrieli SW, **Buka SL**, Makris N, LaViolette P, Koch JK, Faraone SV, Tsuang MT, Seidman LJ. Altered emotional circuitry activation during working memory associated with bipolar disorder and genetic risk for bipolar disorder. Archives of General Psychiatry (manuscript under review).
- 30. Donatelli JL, Seidman LJ Goldstein JM, Tsuang MT, **Buka SL**. Children of parents with affective and non-affective psychoses: A prospective study of childhood internalizing and externalizing behavior. American Journal of Psychiatry (manuscript under review).
- 31. Kubzansky LD, Kawachi I, Gilman S, Martin LT, Appleton A, **Buka SL.** Educational attainment and adult health: potential confounding by child health and cognitive ability. American Journal of Epidemiology. (manuscript under review).
- 32. Betancourt TS, Earls FJ, Leaning J, **Buka SL**. Connectedness, social support and mental health in adolescents displaced by the war in Chechnya. Journal of Clinical & Consulting Psychology. (manuscript under review).

# BAYLIN, ANA (moved to University of Michigan)

- 33. **Baylin A**, Ruiz-Narvaez E, Campos H. Association between hepatic lipase -514 C/T promoter polymorphism and myocardial infarction is modified by history of hypercholesterolemia and waist circumference. **Nutrition, metabolism, and cardiovascular diseases (in press)**
- 34. Smit LA, Baylin A, Campos H. Conjugated linoleic acid in adipose tissue and risk of myocardial infarction. Am J Clin Nut (in press)
- 35. Dekker LH, Mora-Plazas M, Marin C, **Baylin A**, Villamor E. Stunting is related to poor socioeconomic and maternal nutritional status, and predicts symptoms of respiratory morbidity in Colombian school children. Food and Nutrition Bulletin. (in press)
- 36. Liu T, Gatsonis CA **Baylin A**, Buka SL. Prenatal exposure to cigarette smoke and benign breast disease. Epidemiology (in press)
- 37. Custodio E, Descalzo MA, Roche J, Molina L, Sánchez I, Lwanga M, Torres AM, Fernández-Zincke E, Bernis C, Villamor E, **Baylin A**. The economic and nutrition transition in Equatorial Guinea coincided with a double burden of over- and under nutrition. Economics and Human Biology. 2010;8(1):80-7
- Dibello JR, McGarvey ST, Kraft P, Goldberg R, Campos H, Quested C, Laumoli TS, Baylin A. Dietary pattern variation and the metabolic syndrome in adult Samoans. J Nutr. 2009;139:1933-43.
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- 40. Gilbert-Diamond D, **Baylin A**, Mora-Plazas M, Villamor E. The associations between sociodemographic factors, adiposity, and body shape perception among women from Bogotá, Colombia. J Womens Health (Larchmt). 2009;18(8):1145-51
- 41. Maslova E, Mora-Plazas M, Forero Y, López-Arana S, **Baylin A**, Villamor E. Are vitamin A and iron deficiencies re-emerging in urban Latin America?: A survey of school children in Bogota, Colombia. Food Nutr Bull. 2009;30(2):103-11
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- 43. **Baylin A**, Mora-Plazas M, Cobos-de Rangel O, Lopez-Arana S, Villamor E. Predictors of usage and fatty acid composition of cooking fats in Bogota, Colombia. Public Health Nutr. 2009;12(4):531-7
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- 46. DiBello JR, **Baylin A**, Viali S, Tuitele J, Bausserman L, McGarvey ST. Adiponectin and type 2 diabetes in Samoan adults. Am J Hum Biol. 2009;21(3):389-91

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### **Proposal for**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, POLICY AND PRACTICE

October 22, 2010

#### I. Department Mission and Vision

Health services research (HSR) is an emerging discipline that integrates perspectives from the social and economic sciences, epidemiology and medicine, and emphasizes the multiplicity of factors that influence population health. These factors operate at various levels of analysis, including the person, the health care provider, the organizational setting and the broader policy environment. Public health practice includes a broad range of functions such as assessing health risk factors in communities, restructuring delivery systems to improve health system performance, and evaluating the impact of public health interventions.

The *mission* of the Department of Health Services, Policy and Practice (HSP&P) in the Public Health Program is to conduct basic and applied research that advances scientific knowledge regarding the determinants of population health, to translate this scientific knowledge into improved public health policy and practice, and to train the next generation of researchers and practitioners. In pursuit of this mission, HSP&P faculty conducts a broad range of research funded by the NIH and other organizations, and has undergraduate, graduate, medical student and post-doctoral fellowship educational programs. In addition we have developed relationships with a wide variety of individuals and organizations in Rhode Island state agencies, such as the Department of Health, that allow our faculty and trainees to both provide needed services and be active participants in the policy making process.

Our *vision* is to grow and diversify our faculty and research base such that we are nationally and internationally recognized in selected areas of health services research, and can consistently attract doctoral and post-doctoral students of the highest caliber. Central to this vision is deepening and broadening our research and teaching relationships with Brown undergraduates, with other Brown departments such as Economics and the Population Studies and Training Center, with the Alpert School of Medicine, with Brown-affiliated teaching hospitals, with state and national governmental organizations, and with industry.

## II. Background and History

The Department of Community Health has been the focal point of Health Services Research at Brown since the early 1980's, with a focus on aging and chronic disease management. The second Chair of Community Health was Dean Emeritus David Greer. The Department was the home of the National Hospice study, a landmark study conducted in the early 1980's which paved the way for the establishment of hospice care as a Medicare benefit. Later studies examining "age bias" in the patterns of treatment for cancer set the stage for many future HSR studies focused on cancer prevention, screening and treatment as well as variation in AIDS treatment patterns early in the epidemic. Subsequent Chairs of Community Health built on these themes and their related methods. David Lewis, who founded the Center for Alcohol and Addictions, studied and sought to influence health policies of private and public insurers concerning the addicted population. Lois Monteiro undertook HSR studies of nursing supply and nurse interventions targeting frail patients at home post-hospital care. Vincent Mor, who was Chair from 1996 to 2010, greatly expanded HSR studies of Medicare beneficiaries and long term care.

Over the last two decades, faculty from several different disciplines whose primary interest was in HSR joined the Department of Community Health. For example, Constantine Gatsonis, a statistician whose methods work encompassed HSR-related topics such as clinical trials, metaanalysis and studies of variation in health services use, came to Community Health in 1995 to build the section on Biostatistics. Several Brown-trained post-doctoral students interested in HSR have been able to secure external funding and remained at Brown as (research) faculty. As part of the expansion of public health faculty in the middle of the last decade additional health services researchers were recruited. A physician with research training was recruited as an Assistant Professor. His success in securing early career development funding and his integration into Brown's Veteran's Administration medical center education, research and clinical programs has helped to cement the relationship between campus based health services researchers and those at the VA to the mutual benefit of each of these groups. Most recently we recruited a health economist as a tenure track junior faculty member who can teach courses our graduate students need in this area and pursue his independent health services research agenda. Finally, we have recruited a senior physician health services researcher to provide future leadership to the faculty in the proposed Department of Health Services, Policy & Practice. In 2006, when it became clear that there was a critical mass of health services researchers in the Department of Community Health, the Section of Health Services, Policy & Practice was formed. Currently the Section has 16 full time tenure track and (research) faculty who bring in over \$6M/year in research funding.

The expansion and maturation of the educational mission of the Section paralleled this growth in faculty size and in research funding. The Department of Community Health's undergraduate concentration has evolved. We have introduced additional required courses on the US Health Care system, research methods and the public health infrastructure. In 1986, a post-doctoral training program in HSR designed to train doctorally trained clinicians and non-clinicians in issues and methods related to chronic disease management and aging was first funded. Around the same time a doctoral program in Epidemiology and an MS in Epidemiology were instituted, with a commensurate expansion of courses and faculty. From the outset of the doctoral degree program in Epidemiology, there was a recognized track in health services research that relied upon epidemiological and biostatistical methods to address questions pertinent to understanding the outcomes of health care delivery systems. A decade later, in 2007, the faculty and the Corporation voted to establish an independent doctoral program in HSR.

Over the years the extensive collaborative relationships between Community Health and campus based and hospital based Departments have resulted in a number of faculty from other Departments having joint appointments in Community Health. In the Department of Economics Professor Andrew Foster was the first to have a joint appointment in Community Health and he was followed by Professor Aizer and most recently Professor Chay. In the Department of Sociology Professor Mary Fennell has held a joint appointment in Community Health since she was recruited to Brown and Professor Logan has collaborated extensively with Community Health investigators. For several years the Taubman Public Policy Center and the Department of Community Health had a joint junior faculty member and we anticipate that this relationship could emerge again. Several faculty in the Department of Medicine have joint appointments in Community Health and serve as investigators and Co-PI's on Community Health faculty funded research. Most of these individuals have their hospital affiliation at the VA hospital where they

do their own research and even support and supervise Department graduate students working with VA hospital data as a part of their training.

# III. Department Faculty

# A) Faculty research strengths

Faculty in HSP&P have broad interests, although most study some aspect of the care of patients with chronic conditions. Gerontology researchers in the section are interested a variety of topics including service utilization, nursing home care guality, organizational feature of nursing homes, hospice care quality, the use and outcomes of specific technologies such as feeding tubes, improving the care of seriously ill and dying patients, medication adherence, physician-patient communication, and understanding the impact of different Medicare care systems (i.e., traditional fee-for-service versus private plans such as HMOs) on patients' experiences and health outcomes. Related to these topic areas, HSP&P researchers have studied variations in care, disparities in care, the relationships between cost and quality and between guality and patients' health outcomes. An important focus of this gerontology work has been the development of new measures, including measures of nursing home and hospice guality that have been adopted as national standards. Another important focus has been the development of new methods, including the development and implementation of innovative ways to link administrative data that allows patient and their service utilization to be tracked longitudinally and risk adjustment approaches that facilitate causal inference from observational data.

Another area of expertise is the care of persons with HIV, and faculty members are studying adherence with antiretroviral medications, physician-patient communication, and HIV prevention in high risk groups. Investigators have developed new methods in the self-report of medication adherence, new methods to analyze audio recordings of physician-patient visits for medication adherence content, and are conducting trials that apply techniques from behavioral economics such as conditional economic incentives to improve medication adherence and reduce sexual risk behaviors.

Total HSPP&P research funding for 2008, 2009, and 2010 was \$4,513,550, \$4,657,841, and \$6,083,226, respectively.

## B) Current full-time faculty (tenure track, term, and (research) and areas of interest

## Tenure track faculty

**<u>Susan M. Allen, PhD</u>**: paid and unpaid home care; unmet home care needs; characteristics of and trends in family caregivers; use of assistive technology and home accommodations

<u>Omar Galarraga, PhD</u>: international health; cost effectiveness; impact of conditional economic incentives on HIV risk behaviors

<u>Vincent Mor, PhD</u>: aging and long term care, organization features of nursing homes and care delivery; nursing home care quality; regional variations in resource utilization;

<u>Amal Trivedi, MD, MPH</u>: quality of care and health care disparities; impact of patient and provider incentives on care quality, drug treatment adherence

**<u>Terrie (Fox) Wetle, PhD</u>**: qualitative methods; end of life care; the experiences of patients, caregivers and providers during end of life care

**<u>Ira Wilson, MD, MSc</u>**: impact of care system design on health outcomes, medication adherence, improving patient-provider communication, quality of medication management

#### Term faculty

Joan Teno, MD, MS: care of seriously ill and dying patients; improving end of life care; quality of hospice care; use of and outcomes associated with feeding tube placement

Patrick Vivier, MD, PhD: impact of primary care practice on outcomes in pediatrics

#### (Research) Faculty

**<u>Zhanlian Feng, PhD</u>**: institutional long term care for the elderly; state and federal policies related to nursing homes; emerging elder care institutions in China

**Pedro Gozalo, PhD**: theoretical and methodological aspects of care utilization; cost effectiveness; outcomes of influenza vaccination policies in nursing homes

<u>Orna Intrator, PhD</u>: tools for quality measurement in geriatric patients; care utilization in nursing homes; impact of organizational features of nursing homes; new methods development

<u>Sylvia Kuo, PhD</u>: access to care for vulnerable populations; appropriateness and quality of care; appropriateness of feeding tube insertion

<u>M. Barton Laws, PhD</u>: health literacy; qualitative research; improving the quality of physicianpatient communication; novel methods in understanding physician-patient communication

**Susan Miller, PhD**: nursing home end-of-life care; long-term care utilization; care quality; culture change in nursing homes

**Linda Resnik, PhD**: rehabilitation outcomes measurement, rehabilitation service delivery, prosthetics, amputation, community reintegration after combat

#### C) Faculty with other appointments

## Investigators:

Shubing Cai, Shailender Swaminathan, Denise Tyler, Michael Lepore

Full time faculty with primary appointments in Economics:

Kenneth Chay, Andrew Foster, Anthony Lancaster (emeritus)

*Full time faculty with primary appointments in the Department of Medicine:* Richard Besdine, David Dosa, Peter Friedmann, Michael Stein

*Full time faculty with primary appointment in Sociology:* Mary Fennell

### Adjunct faculty:

Annlouise Assaf, Judy Bentkover, David Dore, Edward Feller, Giovanni Gambassi, David Grabowski, Edward Miller, Patricia Nolan, Ellen Salvatore

#### Clinical faculty:

Utpala Bandyopadhyay, Fred Ferri, Michael Follick, Marie Gamin, Dierdre Gifford, Linda Laliberte-Cote, Robert Marshall, Donald Murphy, Renee Shield, Valerie Wilson

#### Teaching associate:

Jacquelyn Kung, Rosa Baier, Christopher Koller,

## D) Academic year 2010-1011 Faculty searches

There is a search currently underway for an Assistant Professor (tenure track) to join HSP&P. We are encouraging applications from scientists with advanced training from all relevant disciplines, including physicians. Arrangements can be made for hospital based academic appointments for clinicians, including the Providence VA Medical Center where there is a funded health services research program. The successful candidate will have an established research program. Preferred areas of research focus include pharmaco-epidemiology/economics, cost-benefit & cost-effectiveness, health care delivery, organization and management and health insurance, but all substantive areas will be given full consideration.

## E) Selected faculty awards, honors, and recognitions

**Susan M. Allen, PhD**: Fellow, Gerontological Society of America, Social and Behavioral Sciences Section, 2002-present; Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award, Brown University/Women & Infants Hospital National Center of Excellence in Women's Health (Maureen Phipps, MD, PI), US DHHS Office of Women's Health, 2008

<u>**Omar Galarraga, PhD</u></u>: Summa Cum Laude, University of D.C., 1994; Phi Beta Kappa, Johns Hopkins University, 2006; Mexican National Researchers System ("SNI"), 2007-2010; International Research Scientist Development Award (K-01), NIH, 2008-2010</u>** 

<u>Vincent Mor, PhD</u>: Health Policy Investigator Award, 1996-1999, from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Plenary address on the future of geriatrics at the 2003 annual meeting of the American Geriatrics Society; The 2006 Bennett J. Cohen Memorial Lecture at the University of Michigan Institute of Gerontology; Florence Pirce Grant Professor of Community Health

<u>Amal Trivedi, MD, MPH</u>: 2006 Most Outstanding Abstract, AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting; 2005 Mack S. Lipkin, Sr. Associate Member Award, 2005 Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting

**Terrie (Fox) Wetle, PhD**: Docteure Honoris Causa, University of Geneva, School of Medicine, Switzerland (2005); President, American Federation for Aging Research (2005-2010); President, Gerontological Society of America (2003-2004); Joan Quinn Award for Outstanding Leadership in the Field of Aging and Long Term Care (1998); APHA Key Award.

Ira Wilson, MD, MSc: Picker/Commonwealth Scholar's Award; Robert Wood Johnson Generalist Physician Faculty Scholar; awarded Tufts University School of Medicine Excellence in Teaching Award on four occasions **Joan Teno, MD, MS**: 2010 American Geriatrics Society Outstanding Excellence in Geriatrics Award; 2009 Distinguished Researcher Award from NHPCO; 2006 American Geriatrics Society Best Paper in Health Services Research; American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) Award for Excellence in Scientific Research;

**<u>Patrick Vivier, MD, PhD</u>**: Robert Wood Johnson Generalist Physician Faculty Scholar Award,1997-2002; Medical Student Teaching Award , Brown University Pediatric Residency Program, 1992

**<u>Zhanlian Feng, PhD</u>**: Alden Speare, Jr. Memorial Award in recognition of outstanding M.A. thesis and excellence in research, Department of Sociology, Brown University,1999

**Orna Intrator, PhD:** Outstanding Abstract, Annual Meeting of the Academy for Health Services Research, 2004; Fellow InterRAI, 2001; Golda Meir Scholar, Hebrew University, 1995

## **IV.** Department Curriculum and Instruction

## A) Substantive curriculum areas

*Undergraduate curriculum*: HSP&P plays an integral part in the inter-departmental Community Health Concentration and the curricular focus is broadly on how healthcare systems function in the US and internationally.

*MPH Curriculum*: Courses taught by HSP&P as part of the MPH curriculum include courses on how healthcare systems function in the US and internationally, quality improvement in health care and public health, and qualitative research. An MPH track in Health Services is also offered.

*PhD Curriculum*: There are three specialty tracks available to students in the doctoral degree program in Health Services Research: Pharmaceutical Health Services Research, Health Economics, and Health Care Organizations and Management Research. Within each of these specialties a wide variety of courses are offered.

#### B) Degree programs

Bachelor's Degree in Community Health (AB). Community Health is an undergraduate interdisciplinary concentration in which HSP&P is heavily involved. Community Health is a concentration that examines: patterns of, and explanations for, population health and disease; health policy; cross-cultural and international aspects of health; the organizational and social structures through which health services are delivered/received; and the public health system. Courses in the concentration allow students to explore the ways in which the social, political, behavioral and biological sciences contribute to the understanding of national and international health care systems, resource allocation, and patterns of population distributions of health and disease. There are 12 course requirements for all concentrators, with 2 additional independent studies for those pursuing Honors. The concentration also provides students with courses in basic research methods and statistics necessary for problem solving and critical thinking in the emerging emphasis on evidence-based health care and public health. The Community Health concentration is relevant for students with career interests in public health; disease prevention and health promotion; health policy and epidemiology; clinical health care delivery; health care

administration; international health, and health law. The Concentration was established in 1979, current enrollment is 48 students, and the total number of graduates is 324 (from spring 1984 to present).

*Master's in Public Health (MPH)*: HSP&P plays a critical role in the Master's in Public Health program. HSP&P faculty teach four required or selective courses, one on the US health care system and the other a course on comparative health care systems. Additionally, HSP&P faculty teach several additional highly subscribed elective courses taken by many MPH students, one focused on quality improvement in health care and public health and the other a methods course on conducting qualitative research. The MPH was established 10 years ago, current enrollment is 66 students, and the total number of graduates is 148.

Doctoral Degree in Health Services Research (PhD): The Health Services Research Department offers a Graduate Program leading to a Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) degree in Health Services Research that was approved by the University faculty and the Corporation in 2007. Current enrollment is 11 students, and the first student is expected to graduate in May 2011.

Course Number	Course Name	Course Instructor
· · · · ·		
Undergraduate		
PHP0310	Health and Society: Health Care in the United States	Ira Wilson, Sylvia Kuo
Undergraduate/Graduate		
PHP1100	Comparative Health Care Systems	Susan Allen
PHP1320	Survey Research in Health Care	Susan Allen
PHP1530	Case Studies in Public Health	Robert Marshall, Patricia Nolan
PHP1680D	Ethical Perspectives in Environmental Health	Valerie Wilson
Graduate		
PHP2019	Measurement Issues in Health Care	Vince Mor
PHP2060	Qualitative Methods in Health Research	Terrie Wetle
PHP2070	Public Health/Community Service Internship	Patrick Vivier
PHP2080	Ethical & Legal Issues in Public Health	Linda Laliberte-Cote, Terrie Wetle
PHP2090	Scientific Writing in Public Health (Grant Writing)	Michael Stein
PHP2350	Decision Analysis, Public Health Policy and Practice: The Economics of Medical Therapies	Judith Bentkover
PHP2400	Changing US Health Care System	Christopher Koller, Vince Mor

## C) Courses and Teaching Activities

PHP2410 ±	Pharmaco-Epidemiology	David Dore
PHP2420	Evaluating Public Health Programs and Policies	Susan Miller
PHP2430	Analysis of Population Based Datasets	Omar Galarraga
PHP2450	Measuring and Improving the Quality of Health Care	Amal Trivedi
PHP2950	Doctoral Seminar in Public Health	Amal Trivedi

± Bi-annual course last offered in 2009-2010

*Medical, Postdoctoral, and other teaching.* Members of the HSP&P regularly participate in 2 courses as a part of medical education: BIOL372 Medical Education Quantitative Methods, and BIOL5400, the Community Health Clerkship. The Community Health Clerkship is a 6-week course that is required of all students at the Warren Alpert School of Medicine. Brown University has operated a highly productive AHRQ training site for nearly 50 interdisciplinary post-doctoral health services researchers focusing on chronic disease management and aging. Over 80% of past trainees serve in academic/research settings, nearly 60% have been PI on numerous grants and hundreds of publications produced. We attribute our past success to: 1) recruitment approaches which attract high quality, diverse applicants; 2) individualized training experience to meet trainee goals; 3) mentoring strategy consistent with multidisciplinary work; 4) extensive research portfolio (exceeding \$30 million per year) providing experiential training opportunities; 5) an organizational culture which promotes synergy between training and research missions; and 6) an extensive multidisciplinary faculty committed to training.

# D) Undergraduate instruction, advising, and research in 2009

What follows are selected examples of the type of involvement that HSP&P faculty have with undergraduates. During the 2009-2010 academic year members of HSP&P were thesis supervisors for 6 students, independent study advisors for 3 students, and academic advisors for between 80 and 100 students. Susan Allen is Director of undergraduate Community Health Concentration, and as such advises approximately 70 Community Health concentrators. She is also is the Honors Advisor for the department and is currently advising 11 seniors in the development and implementation of their Honors Projects, and advises 5 sophomores who have not yet declared a concentration. Susan Miller served as Neal Cohen's Community Health honors theses advisor. Patrick Vivier served as Samantha Marder's Community Health honors theses advisor. Amal Trivedi served as a primary advisor for Jasmine Leonard, an undergraduate student on a senior Capstone project focused on minority participation in clinical trials. Renee Shield was a thesis advisor for Sarah Chodakewitz. Linda Resnik was and advisor for Charles Kambe in and independent study. Robert Marshall advised Angela Villanueva on both an independent study and her undergraduate thesis.

# E) Graduate program teaching and student contact (outside HSP&P) in 2009

Susan Allen and Pedro Gozalo served as the MPH thesis advisors to Heather Ross. Joan Teno was an advisor for the MPH thesis of Aaron Cherniak, and a clerkship supervisor for Amy Hsu, Ian Lee, and Eric Palecek (medical students). Pat Nolan was MPH thesis advisor to Brian Ferrer Young. Vince Mor was MPH thesis advisor to Hank Wu and Hidemi Ito. Robert Marshall was MPH thesis advisor to Brian Young. Patrick Vivier was MPH thesis advisor to Kristine Fortin, Michael Kelly, and Marc Evan Schaefer.

#### V. Department Structure and Governance

*Structure.* The current Section head of HSP&P is Ira Wilson, who will become the Inaugural Department Chair. The Director of the Center for Gerontology and Health Care Research, which is located in HSP&P, is Richard Besdine.

*Governance.* The Section currently holds monthly department meetings, and this will continue when the Section becomes a Department. Department meetings are generally attended by full time faculty based at the academic campus at 121 S. Main St., and faculty who are teaching courses. Routine issues are decided by a simple majority vote. In all tenure and promotion issues the Department will rigorously follow University policies and procedures.

## VI. Collaborations: Research and Training

Alpert Medical School. The Department of Health Services, Policy & Practice (HSP&P) will take leadership in coordinating aspects of the Department of Community Health that relate most closely to the administrative and educational connection to the Alpert Medical School, and will engage Epidemiology, Behavioral and Social Sciences, and Biostatistics as appropriate. That is, the Department of Community Health has always been a "hybrid" Department, being part of the Medical School and part of non-medical school functions in the same manner as is the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Sciences. The Community Health Chair attended the monthly meetings of the "clinical" Department Chairs as well as the Provost's monthly meetings of academic program heads. The Chair of HSP&P will attend the Medical School Clinical Chair's meetings, and in so doing serve as the liaison to the other Public Health Departments. Additionally, HSP&P assumes the responsibility for coordinating relevant public health/analytic methods medical education in the pre-clinical and clinical years. While leadership of HSP&P may call upon faculty from other Public Health Departments to assist in medical education teaching, responsibility for coordinating the content will lie with HSP&P.

*Economics.* Faculty in HSP&P collaborate extensively with faculty in Economics, and several Economics faculty have joint (or courtesy – non-voting) appointments in Community Health. Professor Andrew Foster was the first to have a joint appointment in Community Health and he was followed by Professor Aizer and most recently Professor Chay.

*Sociology.* In the Department of Sociology Professor Mary Fennell has held a joint appointment in Community Health since she was recruited to Brown and Professor Logan has collaborated extensively with Community Health investigators.

*Taubman Public Policy Center.* For several years the Taubman Public Policy Center and the Department of Community Health had a joint junior faculty member and we anticipate that this relationship could emerge again.

*Medicine*. Several faculty in the Department of Medicine have joint appointments in Community Health and serve as investigators and Co-PI's on Community Health faculty funded research. Most of these individuals have their hospital affiliation at the VA hospital where they do their own research and even support and supervise Department graduate students working with VA hospital data as a part of their training.

*The Population Studies and Training Center.* The Population Studies and Training Center has a close working relationship with HSP&P faculty both structurally and substantively. Joint research proposals have been submitted in the area of the demography of aging. Dr.Allen has

a joint appointment in Sociology and Community Health. The Population Studies and Training Center also has an NICHD pre-doctoral training grant as well as a P-30 grant for institutional core support which benefits the AHRQ funded post-doctoral fellowship program because of the types of lectures and infrastructure support and data bases that are available. Now that the Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences initiative (S4) has been incorporated into the administrative structure of the Population Studies Center, the investment that HSP&P faculty have made in learning geo-spatial systems and analytic techniques will continue to pay off as collaborations between Public Health and Population Studies Center investigators.

Veterans Administration. HSP&P has also established a fruitful educational collaboration with the Veteran's Administration's Research Enhancement Award Program (REAP) which has been functioning for 6 years at the Brown affiliated Providence VAMC under the direction of Peter Freidmann, MD, MPH, who has a joint appointment in HSP&P. Many HSP&P faculty are participating investigators in this program and one of our former AHRQ post-doctoral fellows, Linda Resnik, PhD, PT is a funded VA HSR&D investigator with both an Investigator Initiated Research (IIR) grant and several service projects. Dr. Trivedi is a tenure track Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Health and a full time VA physician scientist with a Career Development Award. Dr. Wu, a junior faculty member in Medicine at the VAMC, just graduated from our MPH program having been mentored by Dr. Mor. He too has several Investigator Initiated Research grants focusing on cardio-vascular disease health services research and behavioral interventions amongst high risk population. The REAP provides a great opportunity for our fellows, graduate students and two of our current students are using VA data for their dissertations.

State of Rhode Island. There are many examples of how HSP&P is collaborating with the State of Rhode Island. For example, through HSP&P, Brown faculty and students are working with the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office targeting and evaluating the impact of the lead paint abatement initiative. Extensive collaborations with the Rhode Island Department of Human Service over the years include work on Medicaid expansion and quality improvement efforts. Collaborations with the state Department of Health have ranged from diabetes education to assessing nursing home quality. In addition, HSP&P has provided leadership to the Department of Health's Coordinated Health Planning Council, the Community Policy Group and several other standing and ad hoc committees. This rich network of connections amongn University based Departments and Centers, hospital based faculty and clinical programs and state government public health and policy offices provides great opportunities for students at all levels to translate research findings into practice. Christopher Koller, the Heath Insurance Commissioner of Rhode Island is a faculty member and teaches a course for graduate students titled "The Changing US Healthcare System."

## 7. Future Goals

Our future goals relate back to the mission and vision statements on the first page of this document, and fall in three broad areas: excellence in research, teaching and training, and collaborations.

**Excellence in research.** HSP&P faculty are already nationally and internationally renowned researchers in gerontology. They have been pioneers and innovators in the development of new quality measures, new ways to link and analyze administrative data. This work has had concrete policy impact. For example, the work of HSP&P researchers led to the development of national payment policy regarding the Medicare hospice benefit, and has informed the development of national quality standards for nursing home and hospice care. One important

goal is to develop similar strength in one or more related areas of research. Pharmacoepidemiology and pharmaco-economics are two areas that are closely linked to HSP&P's gerontology expertise because of the advent of Medicare Part D in 2006, which funds pharmacologic therapy for Medicare beneficiaries, and we are focusing our search for a tenure track junior faculty member in this direction. Related areas of potential growth that provide synergies with existing expertise and with Economics include behavioral economics. Current faculty members are using approaches from behavioral economics to address both physician and patient behaviors, and this is another area in which we would like to grow.

Teaching and Training. We feel strongly that interest in the topics and methods related to health services research needs to begin at the undergraduate level, and we are deeply committed to helping the Community Health concentration thrive. Our new section head, who will become the inaugural Department Chair, Ira Wilson, is a physician with extensive teaching experience, will take over the leadership of PHP0310, an undergraduate course on the US Healthcare system. This course usually attracts 150 students, and we hope that this number will grow. An important objective of the growth of our research program is to continue to improve our capacity to attract the most talented students to both or pre-doctoral and postdoctoral programs. The quality of the students that we have been able to attract is improving, and we are confident that this trajectory will continue. An area in which we would very much like to grow is physician post-doctoral training. As part of training in specialties such as obstetrics/gynecology and orthopedics, and subspecialties such as cardiology and endocrinology, trainees often have the opportunity to do research. Traditionally these research experiences are in basic science labs. We would like to collaborate with these clinical departments and divisions to offer rigorous training in clinical research topics such as evidencebased medicine, study design, clinical trials, clinical epidemiology, and biostatistics, with the goal of preparing trainees to compete successfully for K23's and later R-series awards. Such collaborations build on the areas of strength and expertise in HSP&P and other Departments in Public Health, and can fill currently unmet needs in Brown Clinical Departments.

**Collaborations.** HSR is a field, not a discipline *per se*, and thus by its very nature is an interdisciplinary endeavor. Continuing to grow and develop as a vital and innovative Department requires that we seek out and develop collaborative relationships with other Brown Departments and Centers; with clinicians and clinical researchers at Brown-affiliated teaching hospitals; with local, state, and national health and public health organizations (e.g., the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services or CMS); with successful national research organizations (e.g., RAND, RTI, Mathematica) that have expertise in areas that are complementary to ours; and with industry (e.g., CVS/Caremark).

# APPENDIX: HSP&P PUBLISHED PAPERS, 2009-to date.

## 2009 (N=87)

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