

Washington University School of Medicine

Digital Commons@Becker

---

Program Information

Master of Population Health Sciences

---

Spring 2011

## Bulletin, Spring 2011

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.wustl.edu/mphs\\_prog\\_info](https://digitalcommons.wustl.edu/mphs_prog_info)



Part of the [Medicine and Health Sciences Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

"Bulletin, Spring 2011" (2011). *Program Information*. Paper 1 Master of Population Health Sciences, Washington University School of Medicine.

[https://digitalcommons.wustl.edu/mphs\\_prog\\_info/1](https://digitalcommons.wustl.edu/mphs_prog_info/1)

This Bulletin is brought to you for free and open access by the Master of Population Health Sciences at Digital Commons@Becker. It has been accepted for inclusion in Program Information by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Becker. For more information, please contact [vanam@wustl.edu](mailto:vanam@wustl.edu).

# PROGRAM COMMITTEE *BULLETIN*

## Master of Population Health Sciences



**MPHS Leadership** | Program Director: Dr. Graham Colditz  
 Deputy Director for Residents and Fellows: Dr. Kate Wolin  
 Deputy Director for Medical Students: Dr. Lauren Arnold  
[www.mphs.wustl.edu](http://www.mphs.wustl.edu) | [mphs@wustl.edu](mailto:mphs@wustl.edu)

### PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S *UPDATE*

Thank you for serving on the MPHS Program Committee. As the end of our first academic year draws near, I would like to share some important updates using our new communication tool, the MPHS Program Committee *Bulletin*.

- We have established three concentrations, *Clinical Epidemiology*, *Health Services* and *Quantitative Methods*, that will be available to MPHS students starting in 2011-12. Learn more about these concentrations on page two.
- The program has gained new teaching faculty and elective course offerings for 2011-12. See a list of the seven new electives on page three.
- There are 11 students enrolled for the 2011-12 academic year, including two medical students.
- In our first year, 26 students enrolled from other programs took classes offered by the MPHS.

### FOCUS ON *FACULTY*..... **Dr. Pamela Owens**

Research Assistant Professor of Medicine

#### **Teaches two MPHS electives: *Using Administrative Data for Health Services Research* and *Comparative Effectiveness Research***



Dr. Owens has extensive experience with measuring and analyzing healthcare quality and utilization, using large administrative databases in observational studies, training investigators how to use administrative data, disseminating findings to relevant stakeholders, working collaboratively with national administrative data projects, and developing a strategic plan for the growth of a national administrative data project. With a background in government health services research, health policy, and epidemiology, Dr. Owens has trained researchers throughout the country on the use of data from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project for health services research, quality measurement and health policy. The focus of her research has been on comparative effectiveness research (CER) priority topics and populations, including, but not limited to, the quality of care for children, treatment for mental health conditions, quality of care in ambulatory surgery settings, quality of emergency care for low-income populations, and hospital readmissions. She currently serves as Co-Director of the KM1 Comparative Effectiveness Research Scholars Program and the ICTS liaison to the CTSA Key Function Committee on Comparative Effectiveness Research.

# PROGRAM COMMITTEE *BULLETIN*

## Master of Population Health Sciences

### A Guide to the MPHS Concentration Tracks

**MPHS students take these seven core courses, plus five electives in a chosen concentration track.**

Introduction to SAS

Ethical and Legal Issues in Clinical Research

Biostatistics I and II

Introduction to Epidemiology

Intermediate Epidemiology

Applied Epidemiology

#### Clinical Epidemiology

Focuses on rigorous clinical research study designs, the role of epidemiology in disease prevention, and clinical health outcomes including analysis of prevention and screening programs, evaluation of treatment and disease management programs, and the application of prediction rules.

##### Five Required Electives

- Randomized Controlled Trials
- Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis
- Three other electives with program director's approval

#### Health Services

Provides advanced methods training to evaluate and identify the most appropriate and effective approaches to clinical care, including prevention, early detection, and disease management. Research interests include cost-effectiveness analysis, decision analysis, health services research and quality improvement.

##### Five Required Electives

- Comparative Effectiveness Research
- Patient Safety, Quality Management and Improvement
- Decision Analysis and Economic Analysis
- Two other electives with program director's approval

#### Quantitative Methods

For students who need advanced methods and analytical skills for clinical and public health practice and research. Analysis of health services data, addition of biomarkers from plasma and DNA, and integration of these markers with other lifestyle risk factors to identify populations and targets for preventive services and programs is a priority.

##### Five Required Electives

- Students may customize this concentration with any five electives with approval from the program director

Note: 33 total credits are required for graduation



# PROGRAM COMMITTEE *BULLETIN*

## Master of Population Health Sciences

### MPHS STUDENT *PROFILE* .....

**Dr. Jeffrey Jim**

Assistant Professor of Surgery



**Why did you enroll in the MPHS program?**

My professional goals include a career in academic vascular surgery. My clinical research interests include the dissemination and effectiveness of endovascular procedures compared to standard open vascular techniques. I was fortunate that the MPHS program was an available option to me in order to learn the fundamental skills necessary to carry out that type of research.

**What has been your experience with the program and the classes?**

I enjoy the relatively small class sizes which allows more in-depth discussions of new topics. The interaction with my peers, as well as faculty members, has proved to be fruitful in generating new research ideas. The faculty and program directors have also been extremely supportive and understanding that I need to maintain my clinical duties as an attending surgeon. They have been very flexible and accommodating in helping me create a class schedule that blends well with my regular work week.

**How will the MPHS degree, and what you've learned, impact your career?**

The knowledge and experience gained from the program will certainly make it easier to pursue my research interests. Furthermore, having the formal MPHS degree will assist in application for grants and academic promotion.

### NEW MPHS ELECTIVES

- Applied Qualitative Methods for Health Research — *Dr. Aimee James*
- Comparative Effectiveness Research — *Dr. Pamela Owens*
- Development, Validation and Application of Risk Prediction Models — *Drs. Graham Colditz and Esther Liu*
- Chronic Disease Epidemiology — *Dr. Bettina Drake*
- Principles of Shared Decision Making and Health Literacy in the Clinical Setting — *Drs. Mary Politi and Kim Kaphingst*
- Advanced Epidemiologic Models— *Instructor TBN*
- Applied Epidemiologic Analysis Methods — *Instructor TBN*

### Going To A Conference?

You can help us recruit external students by distributing MPHS brochures and mentioning the program during your discussions. Don't worry about having to bring one more thing with you — we can have MPHS brochures waiting for you at your hotel. To make arrangements, email MPHS Program Coordinator Joyce Linn at [mphs@wustl.edu](mailto:mphs@wustl.edu). Thank you!