

Alumni Newsletter

Welcome to the first NDPH Alumni Newsletter of 2017.

This newsletter is one of a number of new initiatives aimed at supporting and developing an engaged, active and growing alumni community. We will inform you of the department's news, feature graduates and inform you of events designed to support your career development. Please contact us if you would like to be featured in the newsletter or if you have any ideas to develop this alumni group.

We wish you a happy and prosperous New Year.

[Sasha](#) and [Sarah](#), Directors for Graduate Studies.

Research highlights



Diabetes shortens adult lifespan in Mexico City

A [study of 150,000 people in Mexico City](#) has shown that diabetes accounted for at least one third of all deaths between the ages of 35 and 74. This alarming figure is twice previous estimates.

Working night shifts has "No association with breast cancer risk"

Despite an assessment in 2007 that night shift work was probably carcinogenic, [data from three new studies](#) and from a review of currently available evidence indicate that night shift work has little or no effect on breast cancer incidence.

New Lancet review on statin use published

[The Lancet has published a review](#) to help doctors and patients make informed decisions about statin use. Led by NDPH, authors warn that the benefits of statin therapy have been underestimated and the harms exaggerated. The review sets out the benefits and risks of statin use from reliable scientific evidence provided by randomised trials undertaken around the world over the past two decades.

Visit the [NDPH website](#) for all research news.

Campus news

Big Data Institute (BDI) to officially open in 2017

The BDI will officially open its doors in spring of 2017. This interdisciplinary research centre will focus on large data sets to understand the causes, prevention and treatment of disease. Staff will include new employees and members of the Nuffield Department of Population Health, Nuffield Department of Medicine and other departments from across the University. Further information about the launch and the work of the Institute is available on its [website](#).



Awards

Congratulations to Dr Premila Webster, who was appointed MBE for services to public health in the New Year Honours 2017, and also to Sir Richard Peto, who was recently awarded the CDC Foundation Hero Award .

MRC Population Health Research Unit is officially launched at Oxford

The MRC PHRU launch event took place in November 2016 in the RDB lecture theatre with talks from Professor Sir John Savill, Director of the MRC; Professor Lousie Richardson, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University; and the unit's director, [Professor Colin Baigent](#). The new unit represents a continuation of the support by the MRC and the University that has led to a wide range studies and trials that have had a major impact on international health.



What's on

International Careers Day
Sat 21 Jan 2017
11am-3pm
Blavatnik School of Government

Exhibitors' details can be found at www.careers.ox.ac.uk/fairs. There is an event from 10am for alumni 'Alumni @ International Careers Day' which needs to be pre-booked – log on to [Career Connect](#) to find out more > search under *Events*.

NDPH Graduate Careers Day
Thu 1 Jun 2017
Richard Doll Building

The Department is planning an interactive day with briefing sessions by the [Careers Service](#) and a panel discussion of alumni members to help you plan your future career decisions. Places are limited, so [email now](#) to register.

Oxford graduates - Careers support for life

All Oxford graduates have access to the [Careers Service](#). Resources available include vacancy lists, careers fairs, talks, workshops, employer presentation plus one-to-one support. For more information contact [Claire Chesworth](#) (@careers.ox.ac.uk).

Where are you now?

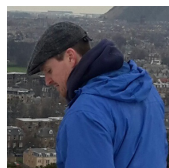


Taslim Savji
MSc Graduate, 2015

Bupa

I completed my MSc at NDPH in Oxford in 2015. I was then selected for the BUPA Healthcare Analytics Graduate Scheme in London where I am analysing large data sets, summarizing spending patterns, identifying potential cost-savings and presenting findings to develop policies for efficient use of resources and optimal health outcomes.

These experiences have equipped me to pursue my long-term goal of improving health at a population level. The quantitative expertise built through the Masters programme was integral in my selection.



Paul Kelly
DPhil, 2010 - 2013

Edinburgh University

I am a lecturer in Physical Activity for Health. I teach physical activity epidemiology and run courses (modules) across a number of degree programmes. I also conduct research into the health effects of physical activity and exercise, as well as the impact of measurement validity in epidemiological research design.

I really enjoy teaching, supervising and lecturing. It is fun, challenging and interesting. I also enjoy the research we get to do here: our current main project is a natural experiment investigating the impact of a 20mph speed limit on attitudes and health behaviours at a city wide level.

Christopher Wong
MSc Graduate, 2015



Royal Adelaide Hospital

I am a Cardiology Registrar at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. I also have an academic appointment as a Clinical Senior Lecturer at the University of Adelaide and South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute.

Clinical training in cardiology has been a great experience. The mix of patient contact, exposure to acute and chronic medical conditions, and experience in invasive cardiac procedures makes for interesting days. I am also continuing in my attempt to combine clinical medicine with research, focussing particularly on heart rhythm disorders. Academia and the thrill of discovery remain addictive, and research allows me to continue to practice the skills and experience gained from my time in Oxford.

Graduate Studies Office news

Alumni profiles on NDPH website

We hope to feature our alumni on our website to showcase your achievements and research. If you would be willing to be profiled, please [get in touch](#).

Keep in touch

Our alumni database will help keep you in touch with the department, research news, fellow graduates, and new career development opportunities. Do [keep us informed](#) of changes to your personal details.



Staff update

Elinor Smith has replaced Phil Barber as Administrative Officer (DPhil). Terry Scott is the new Administrative Assistant (MSc) and Alison Cheshire is the Clinical Course Administrator supporting teaching for the medical school.