



### Director's Message

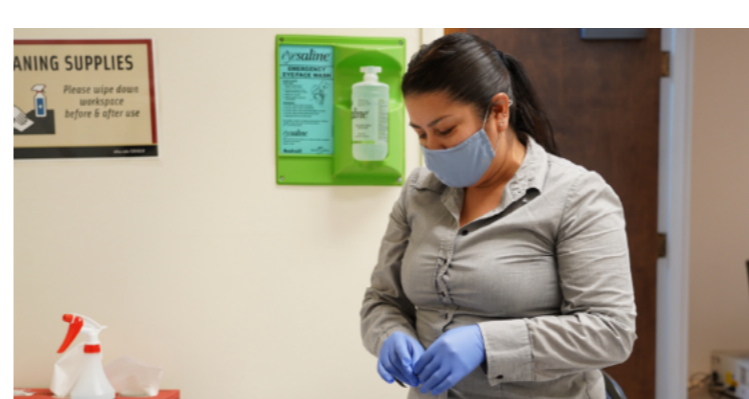
As our semester comes to a close, we recognize the stress, anxiety and strain due to a pandemic, busy schedules and the challenges of work-life balance. At the same time we are finding many reasons to celebrate. At least at the time of writing, COVID-19 cases are down in our community and our campus has shown great vibrancy and resilience. Our School of Public Health is celebrating a rise to the top 20 in the [U.S. News & World Report Ranking](#) (No. 19) and to No. 10 among public universities in the United States out of 190 graduate programs in the U.S. accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health. This is an extraordinary achievement for a small school and I want to thank all of our alumni, students, staff, faculty and supporters for your continued positive impact on the world. We will be honoring numerous individuals for their outstanding contributions through the year (see our Distinguished Alumni profiled below) and we will be celebrating in-person graduation for the first time in two years for both our undergraduates and graduates. Thank you again for your support. We look forward to seeing many of you soon.



*Eyal Oren, Ph.D., MS*  
Interim Director, SDSU School of Public Health

#### UG Involved Undergraduate Student Conducts Research and Outreach for "Girls Invest"

"Girls Invest" is a mobile-technology-based economic empowerment program to reduce economic vulnerability and improve sexual and reproductive health outcomes among Latina adolescent girls.



#### EPI/EH Epidemiology Professor Gets Funding From the California Tobacco Research Foundation

Dr. Wu is interested in health disparities related to smoking and whether smokers are more susceptible to an acid-producing diet.

#### HMP Ana Seda, SDSU Graduate's Career in Public Health and Community Service

She is passionate about working with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias because she finds there is a tremendous amount of work to be done to connect underserved communities into clinical research studies.

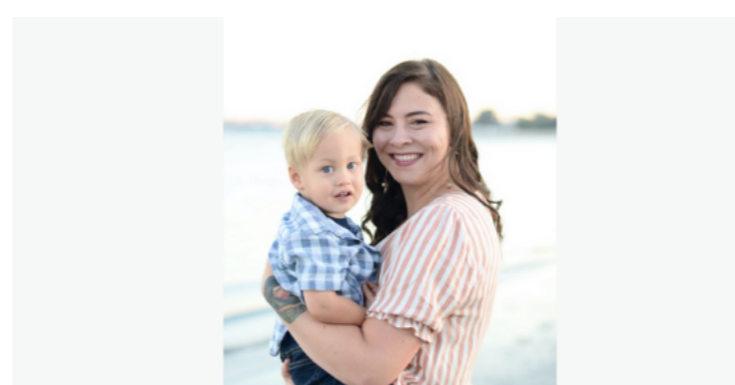


#### HPBS HPBS Professor Selected as the Inaugural Health Equity Co-Chair for the Society for Research on Nicotine & Tobacco

Dr. Smiley is passionate about building the next generation of tobacco control scholars. We take for granted that students in this field have access to the experiences, resources, and mentors to advance their career, but many may not, especially students who are of low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented racial/ethnic backgrounds.

#### JDP Joint Doctoral Student Works on Dissertation Focused on East African Women's Diets

Nicole's dissertation will be part of Dr. Anderson's research on underrepresented populations in San Diego and will implement a community-based behavioral intervention study to optimize healthful dietary intake and improve cardiovascular health.



#### Alum Stephanie Galia, Director of Well-Being of Health Promotion, Recipient of the 2022 SPH Distinguished Alumni Award

Stephanie Galia is the current Director of Well-Being & Health Promotion at San Diego State University. She is a graduate of San Diego State University's School of Public Health, having received her Master's of Public Health in Health Promotion and Behavioral Science in 2011.

#### Global Campus MPH Global Campus Student, Passionate about Preventive Care and Service in Marginalized Communities

Deanna's interests lie in wanting to become a public health program director at a health organization that serves to implement intervention programs to eliminate barriers to access to healthcare.

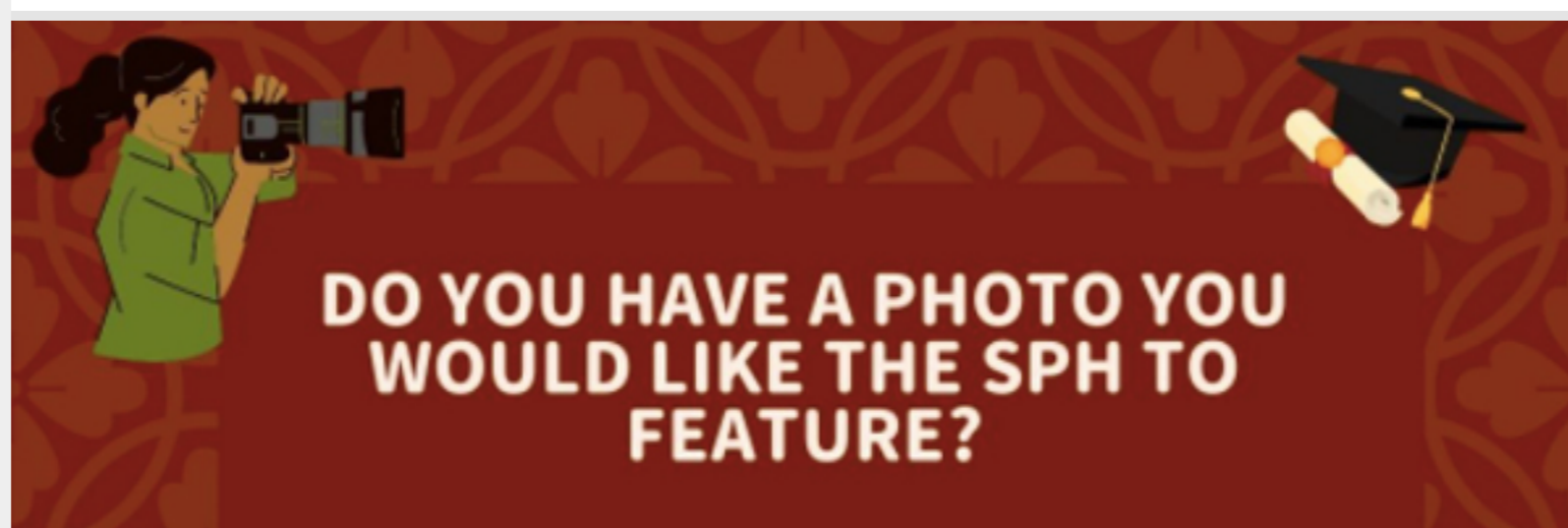


### New Podcast Episode



#### Sarah Steenhausen

In this episode, we explore the California Master Plan of Aging, and its goals and objectives to benefit the growing aging population in California. Our guest, Sarah Steenhausen, is the Deputy Director of Aging Policy, Research, and Equity at the California Department of Aging. We discuss the kind of impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has had on this plan, and the growing needs of older adults.



The SPH would love to promote the success of our students. Achievements such as awards, careers after graduation, and more can be highlighted on our social media! [Fill out the form.](#)

### Events


#### Mock Advocacy Day April 18, 2022

Have you ever talked with an elected official about policies and programs that you feel passionate about? The 2nd year Health Policy MPH students had the opportunity to participate in a Mock Advocacy Day making their best pitches for support of actual legislation circulating in the state capitol. Current and former staff members to members of the Legislature came to campus, volunteering their time to simulate a "Lobby Day" as if the class had flown to Sacramento for the day. Look for more details on this innovative policy experience next month.



### Graduations

#### Undergraduate Graduation



College of Health and Human Services  
School of Public Health

## Public Health Class of 2022 Graduation Celebration

Thursday, May 12, 2022

4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

[Crown Point Park North 700 Corona Oriente Rd. San Diego, 92109](#)

Please join public health students, faculty, and staff for a picnic celebration! Light refreshments will be served. Please bring a blanket or lawn chair to sit on. Friends and family are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Please [RSVP](#).

#### Graduate Graduation



YOU ARE INVITED TO A

## Graduation Banquet

Thursday, May 12th, 6 p.m.

Venue: Lot 8  
1201 Hotel Cir S, San Diego, CA 92108

Students: \$25 Ticket/ person (limit 3 guests per student)  
Faculty: \$35 Ticket/ person (limit 1 guest per faculty member)

Dinner included with ticket price!  
Dress to impress! (Cocktail dinner attire)

[RSVP](#) by May 1st



To submit an abstract, [click above](#)



### DONATE TO THE SDSU SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

For SDSU SPH updates and our events, please check our website and our online calendar, our Alumni LinkedIn Pages, and make sure you update your information in our [alumni database](#).

The SPH Alumni Board is searching for new members to participate in alumni engagement events and initiatives for the SPH. To learn more, please contact Dr. Emily Schmied at [eschmied@sdsu.edu](mailto:eschmied@sdsu.edu). Alumni, to update your contact information, please go here: [Alumni Updates](#)

