

SDSU

College of Health and Human Services
School of Public Health

**Monthly Newsletter
August 2023**



Director's Message

Welcome back to a new semester at SDSU! The start of the academic year is a special time on campus and at SPH, with new scholarship, courses and conversations. Looking forward to the rewarding semester ahead, we will also continue to be faced with many public health issues, and I encourage our SPH students and community to get engaged!



In this issue of the newsletter, we highlight some of our faculty and student engagement, including exciting [public health curricular](#) and [research efforts at SDSU's Imperial Valley campus](#). We highlight a [new research award](#) that will train volunteers who are already distributing harm reduction resources within their social circles to provide HIV self-tests and education. We also profile an [SPH student who received the Mundt Peace Scholarship](#), meant to help create "future new leaders who will make a difference in the world." Kudos go to Dr. Eunha Hoh for receiving the [Alumni Distinguished Faculty Award](#) and to [our doctoral University Grant Fellowship recipients](#). We have also added a new Reading Corner feature where we profile one of our faculty or student's recent work.

If you are no longer at SDSU, please continue to stay in touch with us! For updates on the SPH and our events, please check [our website and online calendar](#), [our LinkedIn Alumni pages](#), and make sure you update your information in our [alumni database](#).

I am grateful to our SPH community for all you do and look forward to an exciting and fulfilling academic year!

Eyal Oren, Ph.D., MS

Director, SDSU School of Public Health

Welcome Home, SDSU!



SDSU Celebrates Progress, Shared Values at All-University Convocation

Faculty and staff gathered to recognize academic triumphs, including SPH faculty awardee [Eunha Hoh](#), campus unity and reaffirm goals during the official fall welcome event ahead of the first day of classes.

SDSU Imperial Valley is launching a new Public Health major

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health, set to start Fall 2024, will examine environmental health issues that are prominent in Imperial Valley. Check out [KYMA's coverage](#) of this story!



SDSU and SDSU Imperial Valley to Produce Tool to Improve Region's Air Quality

SDSU faculty received a grant from the California Air Resource Board (CARB) to improve air pollution emission estimates from biomass burning activities.

Rising to \$192.2M, SDSU Earns Record-Breaking Research Funding for Second Year in a Row

Three hundred sixty-eight researchers garnered eight hundred five awards from three hundred thirty-one funding sources.



Student Spotlight



I Am Because We Are: Mundt Peace Scholarship Recipient Dana Patterson's Experience in Cape Town, South Africa

Funded by the [Mundt Peace Scholarship](#), MPH student Dana Patterson supported staff at [Ikamva Labantu](#) with childhood development programs and after-school initiatives.

Awards

SDSU HIV Researchers Initiate Novel HIV Self-Testing Intervention

[Heather Pines](#) and [Erik Storholm](#) received new funding to train "Prevention Ambassadors" to distribute HIV self-tests and educate on prevention and treatment resources among people who inject drugs in Riverside, California.



JDP Students Awarded University Graduate Fellowship

This year's five SPH awardees' work spans a variety of projects both US-based and global. Two incoming students in the SDSU/UCSD Joint Doctoral Program (JDP) are profiled [here](#).

Podcast

Joseph Payne (Rerun)

In this episode, we are joined by Joseph Payne, Founder and CEO of Arcturus Therapeutics. We discuss the vaccine approval process, the many pathways to vaccine evaluation, and the successful technology behind the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines.

This episode was recorded in 2021.



Fall 2023 Volunteers Needed!

Help shape public health locally and nationally, research and disseminate information, meet interesting guests, and more. Familiarity with A/V production helpful but not necessary! Please contact Jennifer Munday, Ph.D. MPH at jmunday@sdsu.edu.

Events



Each fall, the university welcomes new and continuing students back to campus with activities that showcase the many ways to get involved in campus life.

[Aztec Nights](#), which provide late-night on-campus activities, kick off during Welcome Week and will continue on weekend nights.

[Welcome Week events](#) are FREE for SDSU students with a valid Red ID.

Reading Corner

Psychological Costs and Administrative Burdens Produce Systemic Service Avoidance among People Experiencing Homelessness

MPH-HPBS Global Campus alumna Tiffany Hoang was recently published in the Journal of Health and Human Services Administration as first author in a collaborative effort between faculty from the School of Public Health and the School of Public Affairs.



[Click here to tell us about your recent publications!](#)



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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](#).

Thoughts or suggestions? Contact us with any stories you would like to share!

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