



Wake Forest
School of Medicine

PUBLIC
HEALTH
SCIENCES

Celebrating 30 years

1989 – 2019



It is my genuine pleasure to welcome you to celebrate with us the 30 years of Public Health Sciences at Wake Forest School of Medicine. Although the entities have

changed names, the spirit in which the Center for Prevention Research and Biometry was founded is still alive and well in the four departments and over 250 faculty and staff who make up Public Health Sciences today.

This document presents a series of vignettes showing some of the highlights in the evolution and achievements of Public Health Sciences. It is by no means inclusive of every accomplishment, and refining them into the document you see today was challenging. However, we also found it deeply rewarding to talk with leaders, staff, and faculty about their experiences as part of this remarkable team. They sat down for interviews, brought in photo albums, and shared anecdotes about excellence, hard work, and teamwork in and out of the office. The word many people used about their coworkers was “family.” We thank everyone who took the time to share their memories. This document is a tribute to their accomplishments and the truly unique environment that has given Public Health Sciences its international reputation for research excellence. We hope you enjoy traveling back through these 30 years and celebrating great people and great science.

Sincerely,

Lynne Wagenknecht

Special thanks to those who helped prepare this celebratory book: Wilson Somerville for editing, compiling and copywriting and Karen Klein for copywriting.

Celebrating great people and great science



PHS Executive Committee: Alain Bertoni, Lynne Wagenknecht, Scott Rhodes, Walter Ambrosius, Kristie Foley, Mara Vitolins.

Research into disease prevention at Wake Forest School of Medicine began in 1986 in the Center for Prevention Research and Biometry and expanded into the Department of Public Health Sciences in 1989.



DR. CURT FURBERG was the founder and initial leader of these efforts. In 1999, **DR. GREGORY BURKE** became the Department Chair. In 2006, the Department became the Division of Public Health Sciences, comprised of the Departments of Biostatistical Sciences, Epidemiology and Prevention, and Social Sciences and Health Policy. PHS added the Department of Implementation Science in 2017. **DR. LYNNE WAGENKNECHT** became Director of the Division in 2018.

1986-1989 *Center for Prevention Research and Biometry*

1989 *Department of Public Health Sciences established*

2006 *The Department became the Division of Public Health Sciences, and three previous Sections became Departments: Biostatistical Sciences, Epidemiology and Prevention, and Social Sciences and Health Policy*

2017 *Formation of a fourth Department: Implementation Science*

Above: Curt Furberg, MD, PhD, founder and chair of the Department of Public Health Sciences, 1989-1999.

Through the / **FIRST DECADE**

Cardiovascular Disease Research

PHS has designed and led numerous multi-site clinical trials, epidemiologic cohort studies, and longitudinal observational studies that have provided new and important information about the natural history and risk factors for cardiovascular disease and stroke. PHS scientists and staff have filled major leadership roles in many long-term NIH-funded studies, including the Atherosclerosis Risk In Communities (ARIC), Cardiovascular Health Study (CHS), and Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA) studies. PHS has served as a field center and coordinating center and provided national steering committee members for various studies, resulting in numerous ancillary studies and thousands of publications.



Above: Staff and faculty on the Cardiovascular Health Study (CHS), 1994. Row 1: Anna Jones, Beverly Tucker, Cynthia Hall; Row 2: Lorraine Shearer, Martha Ciofalo, Jean Callahan; Row 3: Beverly Vernon, Vicki Guschemand, Lata Menon, Corliss Cook, Roz Collins; Row 4: Sharon Jackson, Harriet Weiler, Greg Burke, Cathy Nunn.

Diabetes Research

In 1999, PHS strengthened its growing reputation in large, multi-center studies with two NIDDK-sponsored projects. The first, Look AHEAD, now in its 20th year, focused on weight loss interventions in participants with type 2 diabetes. The second, ACCORD, tested how to reduce heart disease risk in participants with diabetes. PHS expanded its diabetes research in 2000 with the launch of SEARCH, an ongoing CDC-sponsored trial researching factors contributing to the increase of diabetes in youth. Other PHS diabetes research included an international genetics consortium for type 1 diabetes, a lifestyle intervention addressing diabetes disparities, and a lay program that has become a model for diabetes prevention nationwide.

Members of the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Coordinating Center team, clockwise from lower right: Jeanette Stafford, Susan Moxley, Ken Wilson, Andrea Anderson, Ralph D'Agostino, Jr., and Ronny Bell.



December 1988 Holiday Party at the Furberg's home. From left: George Howard, Patricia Hogan, Ginny Howard, Mark Espeland, Bibbi Furberg, Curt Furberg, Bob Byington.

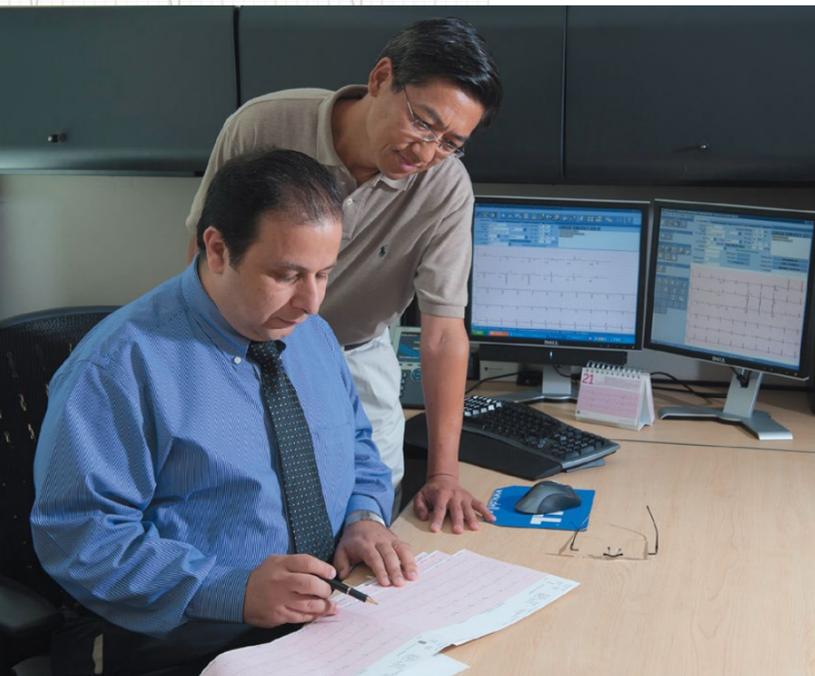
Collaborative Partnerships

PHS has established a long track record of collaboration within Wake Forest School of Medicine. PHS scientists were essential contributors to the Vitamin Intervention for Stroke Prevention (VISP) with the Department of Neurology and the Ginkgo Evaluation of Memory (GEM) with the Section on Gerontology and Geriatrics. Collaborating with the Department of Neurology, PHS faculty and staff were an instrumental part of the institution receiving one of the first five large pragmatic clinical trials funded by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, the Comprehensive Post-Acute Stroke Services (COMPASS) trial.

Cardiac Surgery and Cerebrovascular Complications

PHS pioneered interdepartmental collaboration at Wake Forest School of Medicine, well before integrating research across departments became the norm. For example, PHS collaborated on the Program Project on Cardiac Surgery and Cerebrovascular Complications (1991-1996), which examined postoperative cognitive issues following cardiac surgery. PHS faculty contributed analysis in the Statistical Core for this study, working closely with faculty from Anesthesiology, Cardiothoracic Surgery, and Neurology.

Elsayed Soliman, director of EPICARE, and Yabing Li reviewing an ECG tracing.



EPICARE

The Epidemiological Cardiology Research Center

(EPICARE) and its investigators have been engaged in population electrocardiographic research for more than three decades. EPICARE is currently the ECG reading core lab for more than 20 epidemiologic studies and clinical trials. Its mission is to continuously refine the methods of acquisition and analysis of ECGs in population studies. ECG remains the most commonly used investigative tool for diagnosis and prediction of cardiovascular disease in population studies. It is the only tool to detect cardiac arrhythmias, and the most convenient tool to detect silent myocardial infarction, which represents up to half of all infarctions.

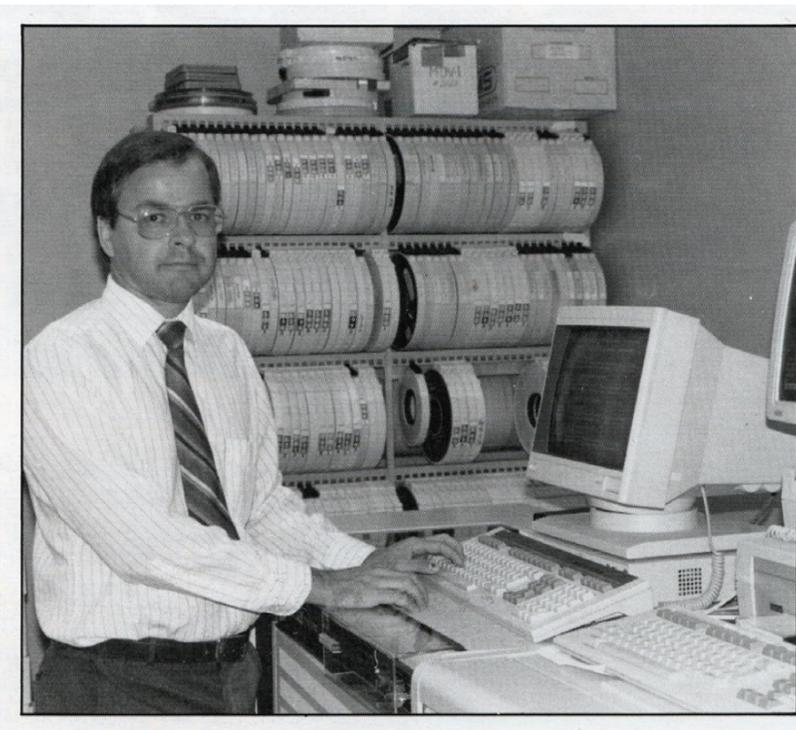


Tim Morgan, Ann Foster, Don Hire, and Doug Case helped launch the PHS bowling tradition in the early days of the Center for Prevention Research and Biometry, which preceded PHS.

Sports and Leisure

“All work and no play”

does not characterize the PHS community. PHS employees participate in a variety of activities. Besides winning multiple Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center softball and flag football championships, a flag football team including PHS members went to the 1999 national semi-finals. Since 2000, over 150 PHS members have participated in a lunchtime bowling league, which boasts 17 two-person teams at present. The Biostatistics staff even created a SAS software program for NCAA March Madness brackets and published their methods.



Dr. Timothy Morgan, head of the Section on Biostatistics, in the computer room of the Department of Public Health Sciences. The group of VAX computers makes analyses practical.

Staff photo by Alison Huff

From the medical center's publication *BioMed*, vol. 3, no. 2, Summer 1990, p. 2.

The entire Department of Public Health Sciences gathered for a retreat at Tanglewood Park in 1992.



Evolution of IT

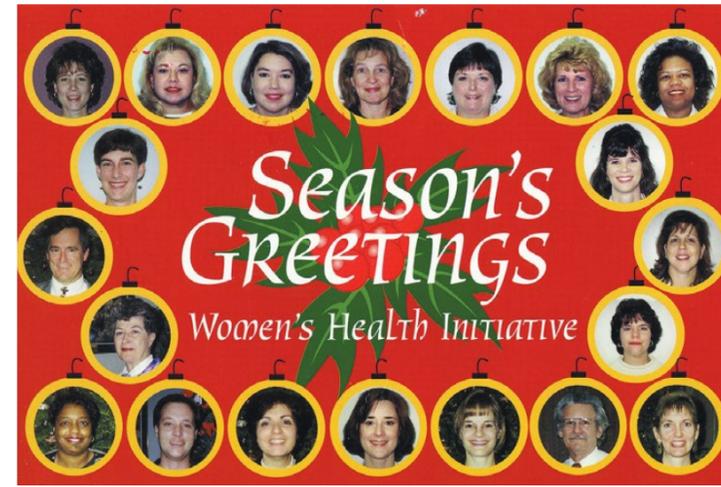
Information technology (IT)

in PHS has come eons since the Jurassic days of clunky mainframe terminals connected to a central computing system. PHS was an early adopter of "personal computing" when dual floppies allowed a whopping 720KB of space. Other early PHS innovations included offering research departments network-based access to computing systems and making the first use of email in the institution. Fast forward to today's virtual servers and petabytes of storage and cloud computing, and few could have imagined how far PHS's computing resources and support would evolve.

Into the / SECOND DECADE

Women's Health Research

Women's health / research has seen major breakthroughs thanks to work conducted in PHS. Notable NIH-funded trials include the Postmenopausal Estrogen-Progestin Intervention (PEPI) study and the Soy Estrogen and Atherosclerosis (SEA) Program Project, the first study to include parallel, randomized trials in nonhuman primates and women. PHS also played an instrumental role in founding and leading a top-ranked national Women's Health Center of Excellence (WHCOE), awarded in 1997. The WHCOE conducted community and statewide programs to engage the public on women's health research. The Center significantly increased the amount of women's health research and launched numerous programs, active today, which focus on women's leadership training and advancement.



A holiday card from the Women's Health Initiative (WHI), depicting study staff and faculty, which was mailed to participants.

Women's Health Initiative

PHS played / and continues to play a pivotal role in this groundbreaking NIH-funded project—first as a site in the large clinical trial and now as a regional coordinating center for following up on the cohort. WHI and the WHI Memory Study, a parallel study focused on cognition, changed clinical recommendations for hormone replacement therapy in postmenopausal women. Its follow-up phase continues to be informative about longitudinal effects of hormone therapy as cohort data collection is now into a third decade. PHS has pioneered telephone methods of cognitive assessment that make this important work possible.

Right: Members of the Women's Health Initiative Memory Study (WHIMS) team: Debbie Pleasants, Cheryl Summerville, Sally Shumaker, Sonya Ashburn, Ashley Lentz.





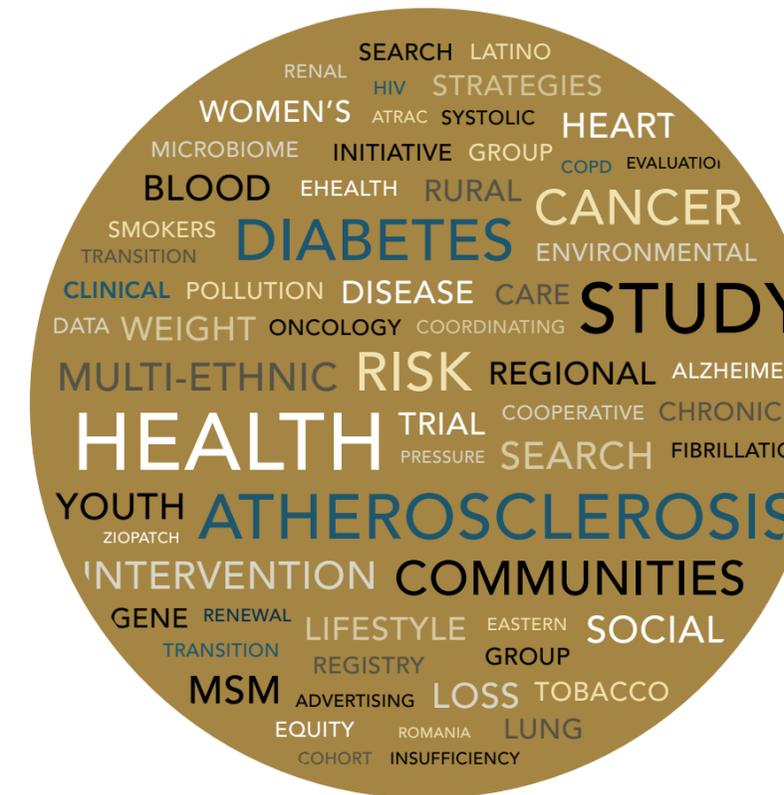
Holding steady at the 2001 Biostatistical Sciences Retreat at Camp Hanes: Walter Ambrosius (positioning board), Terri Windham, Linda Allred, Stephanie Beck, Augy Thiel, Margie Troxler, Melinda Hire.



PHS investigators meeting to discuss a dietary intervention to help lower blood pressure in African American communities: Sara Quandt, Mara Vitolins, Alain Bertoni, and Melicia Whitt-Glover.

Funding Success

Faculty in the Center for Prevention Research and Biometry, PHS's precursor, began applying for NIH grant funding, but with limited success. With patience, persistence, and the continued expertise of existing research teams, the tide turned. By 2005, the Division was first in NIH funding among departments of preventive medicine across the country, and over the last decade has ranked in the top 10 among similar departments. In 2018, the Division received more than \$49 million in extramural research funding from 173 collaborative research projects headed by PHS faculty.



Total Funding





Team competition winners at the 2003 Epidemiology retreat at Triad Park in Kernersville: Jodi Felice, Shannon Golden, Barbara Anderson, Cynthia McQuellon, Margie Lamb, Sharon Jackson, Patricia Wittmer.

Research Programming

PHS has created / one of the foremost clinical trial database management systems in the U.S. Its members have provided the database infrastructure for many of the prominent multicenter clinical trials and cohort studies described here. Collectively, these studies have resulted in thousands of journal articles and greatly influenced medical practice. As research has transitioned from paper-based approaches to novel web-based and hand-held device approaches, PHS faculty and staff have navigated the changing requirements for heightened privacy and security.

PHS programmers Jerry Barnes, Julia Robertson, and Bobby Amoroso discussing programming for a study's process flow.

Coordinating Centers

PHS has built / a national reputation for successfully directing coordinating centers for large multi-site studies. Its faculty and staff offer great experience in the many skills required to direct such large centers, such as clinical trials design and oversight, biostatistical analysis, data protection and management, participant safety, regulatory affairs, internal reporting, and publications. PHS's database and web architecture is key to integrating these functions. With its experienced personnel and custom infrastructure, PHS keeps pace with changes in the technical and regulatory landscape and continues to produce innovations in directing coordinating centers.

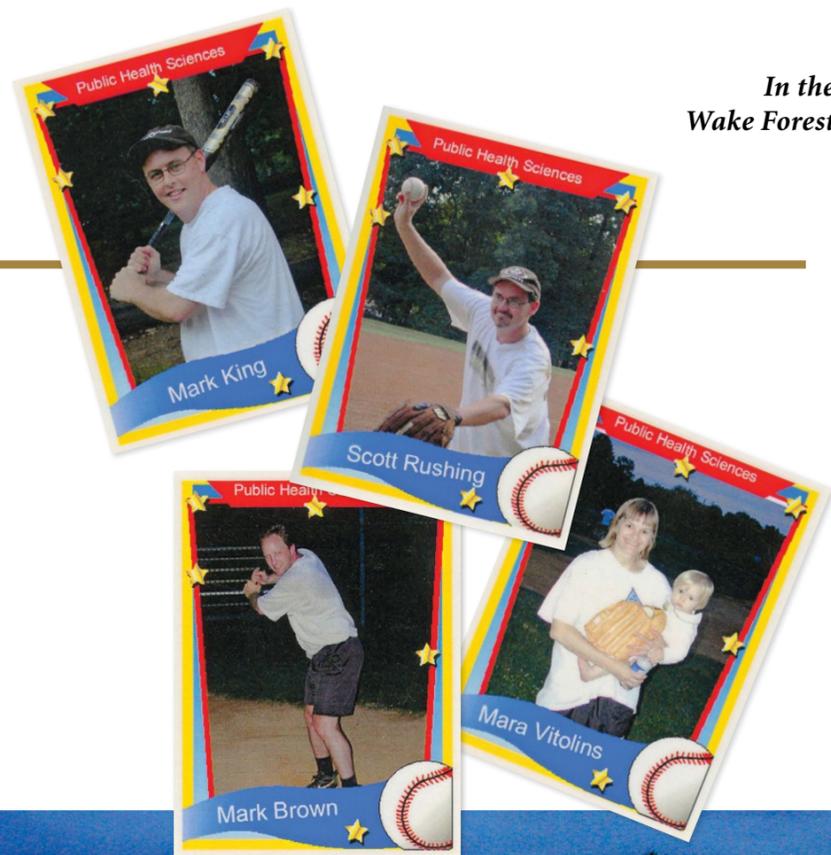
Kathy Dotson, Mark Espeland, and Judy Bahnson discussing issues regarding the Look AHEAD Data Coordinating Center, which began in 1999.



Softball Champions

In the Wake Forest

Baptist Medical Center softball league competition in the early 2000s, PHS fielded a veteran lineup against much younger teams. Nonetheless, PHS's softball championship in 2006 was its fourth in a row and the sixth since 2000. In 2006, they beat the Pediatrics team, their nemesis at the time, in an 18-7 slugfest. With 7 of its 17 players over 40, the PHS team was living the words of Olympian Jackie Joyner-Kersey, "Age is no barrier. It's a limitation you put on your mind." Dating from a 1989 start, PHS softball carries on, with some of its legends still out on the field.



Greg Burke, chair and then director of PHS, 1999-2017, leading a CPTS summer course in grant writing.



Our faculty have greatly benefited from this [CPTS] training, and the training program fosters strong collaborations with PHS faculty that last for decades.

— Chadwick Miller, MD, MS, professor and chair of Emergency Medicine

Graduate Programs

PHS designed its Master of Science degree in Clinical and Population Translational Science (CPTS) for health professionals and researchers. Primarily taught by PHS faculty, coursework emphasizes biostatistics, epidemiology, and applied clinical and population research methods, as well as responsible conduct of research and scientific communication. A summer course in grant writing includes a mock study section that is popular across the institution. Since its start in 1989, the program has awarded 138 master's degrees and four certificates.



Above: Cards of PHS softball team members, created by Mark Brown after their 2001 championship season.

Left: The championship 2001 PHS softball team, bottom row: Mike Miller, Laura Lovato, Andrea Anderson, Scott Rushing, David Reboussin, Shannon Golden, Kim Wagoner, Talsi Case (in lap), Mara Vitolins; top row: James Lovato, Jessica Sheedy, August Case (in arms), Doug Case, Shana Palla, Greg Russell, Mark King, Mark Espeland, Mark Brown.

Across the / THIRD DECADE



Sean Simpson, researcher in brain network science.

Brain Network Analysis

One PHS team is helping develop statistical methods to understand how regions of the brain communicate with each other. These novel methods explain how the systemic properties of the resulting communication network (brain network) relate to brain function and various health and behavioral outcomes. Brain network analysis holds great promise, from helping us better understand cognitive processes to giving us information about various diseases. By providing more insight into the mechanistic causes of disease, brain network analysis will inform more accurate diagnoses, better treatment options, and better prevention methods.

Mobility and Healthy Aging

PHS has collaborated on multiple studies about maintaining mobility in the elderly with Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine and Health and Exercise Science. PHS was the data coordination and analysis center for the LIFE (Lifestyle Interventions and Independence for Elders) study, in which a structured, moderately intense physical activity program improved mobility in sedentary older adults. Now underway is the ENRGISE (ENabling Reduction of low-Grade Inflammation in Seniors) study, which tests the anti-inflammatory effects of fish oil with or without a blood pressure drug, among older adults at risk for mobility loss. Other PHS studies have examined how functional independence in older women relates to home environmental modifications and how mid- and late-life physical activity is associated with the risk of falls.



Members of the data coordination and analysis center for the LIFE study: Lea Harvin, Mike Walkup, Mike Miller.

Farmworker Research

Attending a chance meeting on migrant farmworker health led to a research program at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, cited in 2018 as the most productive research program on international migrant worker health in the world. Using a community-based participatory approach, the team's initial research on pesticide exposure, now in its 22nd year, spawned additional research with immigrant workers in agriculture, poultry processing, and construction. The team directs findings to policy makers and has received awards for impacts on occupational and environmental justice.



Sara Quandt (standing) training public health workers in Granville County, NC, for collecting data on green tobacco sickness among migrant and seasonal farmworkers.

Community-Based Participatory Research

PHS is a long-time leader in community-based participatory research (CBPR), which focuses on health issues important to our region and involves community members in study planning, implementation, and evaluation. An important theme in this research has been HIV prevention and engagement in care. For example, HoMBReS: Hombres Manteniendo Bienestar y Relaciones Saludables (Men Maintaining Wellness and Healthy Relationships) was a unique intervention involving lay health advisors to promote community health. HoMBReS was recognized as the first best-evidence community-level HIV prevention intervention in the CDC's *Compendium of Evidence-Based Interventions and Best Practices for HIV Prevention Intervention*. Since then, PHS has continued to apply CBPR to develop numerous efficacious interventions to promote community and population health.



HoMBReS project members: Scott Rhodes, Mario Downs, Vicente Medina, Apolinar Tapia.

Cancer Survivorship

PHS is a leader in research to improve the lives of cancer survivors, a rapidly growing population. PHS focuses on areas that include health-related quality of life, late effects of cancer diagnosis and treatment, adolescent, young adult, and rural cancer survivors, and integrative and complementary interventions to improve symptom management. Since 2006, PHS has conducted an NCI-funded postdoctoral training program in cancer survivorship that has trained 14 postdoctoral fellows who now have academic positions in cancer control research.



Cancer survivorship researchers: Doug Case, Nancy Avis, Suzanne Danhauer, Stephanie Sohl.

Community Service

PHS members have long been committed to volunteer service. In 2001, the PHS ROCK (Reaching Out to the Community with Kindness) Committee began facilitating local volunteering. They have promoted volunteering for the Second Harvest Food Bank's food drives and backpack programs, Habitat for Humanity house builds, and gardening at the Food Bank Garden. Other PHS employees held a golf tournament for several years to help offset a staff member's health care costs. Several in the Division help lead local fund-raising efforts for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation; the rest of us eat the desserts sold at their bake sales!



Participants in a Habitat for Humanity house build, front row: Jeannie Pfeiffer, Kate Weaver, Debbie Booth; back row: Ashley Lentz, Donna Lawler, Pat Boggs, Sonya Ashburn, Cheryl Summerville.

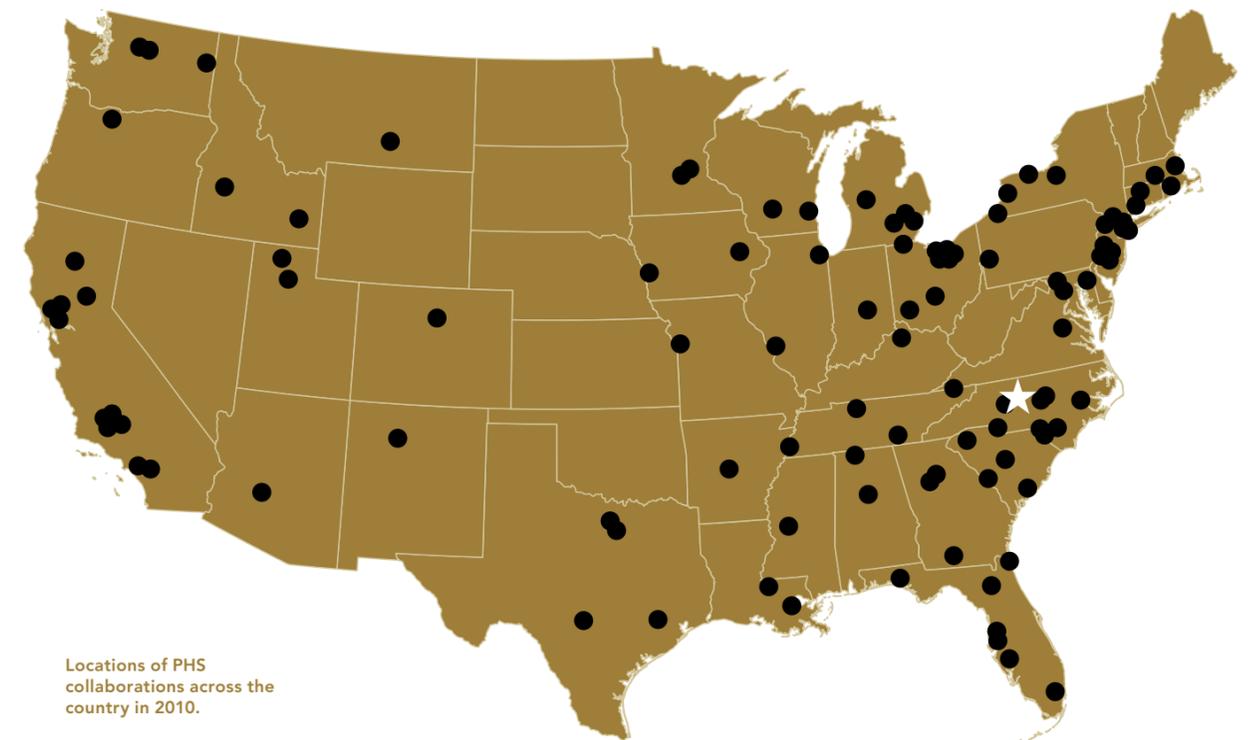
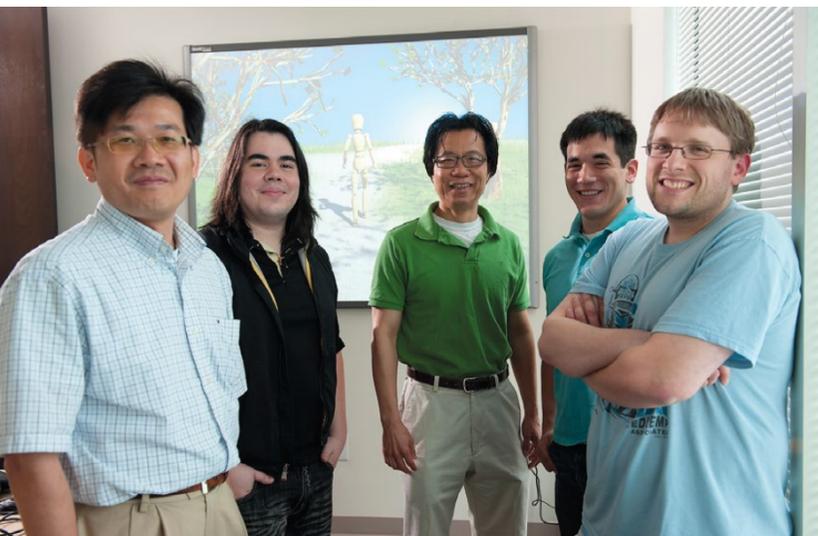
PHS as a Catalyst

Wake Forest's institutionally and externally supported research centers are important foci of excellence, and many rely extensively on the expertise of PHS. PHS began its work in NIH-supported centers with the Wake Forest Baptist Comprehensive Cancer Center. The division's expertise then became a high-value asset for other NIH-funded centers, such as the Claude Pepper Older Americans Independence Center, the Clinical and Translational Science Institute, and most recently, the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and the Translational Alcohol Research Center. PHS has catalyzed the creation of new internally supported centers, such as the Center for Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism, and the Center for Research on Substance Use and Addiction.

Shyh-Huei Chen, Paco Saldana, Eddie Ip, Santiago Saldana, Ryan Barnard. PHS team members work on developing the Mobility Assessment Tool (MAT), an animation-based instrument.

Novel Methods

PHS investigators also innovate in biostatistical methodology. They have been leaders in propensity score analyses, a widely applied class of methods, and in evaluating the importance of adding predictors to such equations. They have contributed to many fields of research through insights into modeling latent variables—factors that underlie and define inter-variable relationships—and to the design and analysis of longitudinal studies using the multivariate hidden Markov model. PHS investigators have also made breakthroughs in assessment of physical activity by designing and applying measurement error methods and by rigorous methods for assessing dietary intake.



Locations of PHS collaborations across the country in 2010.

Nomadic Times

From its start / in 1989 on the 8th floor of the Hanes Building, PHS expanded to seven locations around Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center by the early 2000s. PHS work units gradually consolidated into downtown Winston-Salem at One Technology Place and then the Wells Fargo tower. Over 25 years, PHS conducted its work in 11 different buildings (excluding its Greensboro clinics). In 2014, all PHS departments were finally reunited into the newly renovated 525@vine building in the Innovation Quarter.



Above: PHS leadership, Alain Bertoni, Lynne Wagenknecht, Doug Easterling, Greg Burke, and Steve Leonhardt, architect, associate principal with Gaudreau, Inc., in the 525@vine building.



Right: Mementos from the 2014 move from the Wells Fargo Building to 525@vine, including the two locks that Margie Troxler and Lynn Myers used to secure research files in two trailers on a lot overnight.



Left: In 2014, PHS moved into the state-of-the-art 525@vine building, a former tobacco factory building, as one of the Wake Forest Innovation Quarter's first tenants.



Brenda Brewer demonstrating a lung function test in a research clinic in Piedmont Plaza I.

Research Clinic Space

A key part / of PHS's footprint is its space devoted to clinical studies. The Division currently maintains office and exam space in two Piedmont Plaza Buildings. As of spring 2019, 23 PHS staff were managing eight studies focused on atherosclerosis, diabetes, and cognition. One of the longest of those projects is the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) study. Recruitment for the ARIC cohort of over 4,000 Forsyth County residents began in 1987, and its clinic was at one time located in a building on Beach Street.



A scavenger hunt team at the 2015 SSHP retreat, BB&T Field: Carol Corum, Jan Lawlor, Jorge Alonzo, Kristie Foley, Katherine Batt, Mario Downs.



Left: Mark Wolfson, substance use researcher, discusses a proposed study of states' opioid prescribing policies with team member Maria Parries and Mark Hall, law professor specializing in health care law and public policy.

Substance Use Research

Few institutions can match the broad expertise PHS provides for research on substance use and misuse. PHS's extensive body of work on alcohol use and public policy, especially in teens and young adults, has pioneered new approaches in data collection and analyses. With the recent explosion of opioid abuse, a new direction of research has emerged that focuses on rural communities and involves new community partners throughout the region. The goals of this work are to gain insights into behavior that can inform interventions and care and influence state and national public health policy.

Right: Erin Sutfin, researcher in tobacco prevention and control, describing the prevalence of hookah smoking in young adults.

New Tobacco Research

Newer forms of tobacco such as snuff, chewing tobacco, electronic cigarettes, snus, dissolvable tobacco, and flavored tobacco are rapidly evolving and are especially popular among young people. The patterns of use, sales, and possible health consequences of alternative forms of tobacco are new territory. A multi-disciplinary team in PHS has become a national leader on this topic. Importantly, this cutting-edge work incorporates mixed methods and novel approaches in order to influence state and national public health policy.



Genomics

PHS genomics research has evolved from studies of single nucleotide polymorphisms to linkage studies, genome-wide association studies, whole genome sequencing, and various genomic, proteomic, and epigenomic studies. This trend mirrors the field's increasing breadth and acuity in analyzing the complex interplay of genetic and related cell networks in human disease. PHS studies have included an earlier landmark coordinating center for an international type 1 diabetes genetics consortium. The division's recent work has focused on DNA modifications involved in cardiovascular disease and mapping genetic traits to prevent and treat chronic disorders such as diabetes, lupus, end-stage renal disease, and asthma.



Below: PHS genetics research collaborators: Lingyi Lu, Mindy Marion, Jasmin Divers, and Carl Langefeld.



Earlier PHS activities remind just how far removed we are now from hard copy data and text management. In the days that PHS resided in the Hanes Building, programming reports were on accordion-fold dot matrix paper. Staff came into the Hanes printer room one morning to find a tumbled sea of that paper across the floor, the overnight output of a program caught in a printing loop. Also, the first local area network (LAN) billing required 10 sheets of paper taped together, followed by hand calculations. Staff would wheel carts of journal volumes through the library to photocopy articles for faculty members. Seminars used transparencies viewed on overhead projectors. Last-minute slide requests went to 1-hour shops. Investigators sometimes used couriers to drive (or fly) to Bethesda with NIH applications.

The Paper Trail

SPRINT

The Systolic / Blood Pressure Intervention Trial (SPRINT), research that had a huge impact on public health and health care practice, had its coordinating center and one clinical network directed by PHS. SPRINT found that targeting systolic blood pressure below 120 mmHg significantly reduced cardiovascular events, which helped change high blood pressure guidelines internationally. In 2019, the SPRINT MIND team, led by the Wake Forest School of Medicine's Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine Section in collaboration with PHS, reported that systolic blood pressures below 120 mmHg also significantly reduced the risk of mild cognitive impairment (MCI). SPRINT is the only trial that has demonstrated an intervention effect on MCI.



SPRINT Central Training, 2014. Dave Reboussin, Marjorie Howard, Laurie Russell, Tisha Perdue, Nicolle Puccinelli-Ortega.



Members of the Implementation Science team attending a fundraiser: Rebecca Stone, Kristie Foley, Whitney Davis, Donna Lawler, Milena Duque.

π and Other Parties

PHS has regular / get-togethers that celebrate themes such as an irrational number (Pi), a movie (*Star Wars*), and a masked parade (Mardi Gras), among other interests. Food is always a key element, and food-centered socializing in PHS includes chili cook-offs, monthly birthday cake parties, brunches for new and departing colleagues, holiday lunches, and the autumn "Soups and Stews" event, which combines a cooking competition with the annual recognition of staff with the longest service.

Implementation Science

In 2017, / PHS launched its fourth department: Implementation Science, the first medical school department of its kind nationally. The department aims to catalyze the adoption of evidence-based practices into real-world settings to improve population health. This growing team seeks to reduce the gap from research discovery to practical implementation. Faculty direct research that includes deployment of a clinical decision aid to identify patients with chest pain who can safely be discharged without objective cardiac testing, and implementation of a mobile health system for colorectal cancer screening.



A recent PHS Soups and Stews celebration recognizing staff with significant length of service to the institution.

Public Health Sciences Leadership



David G. Altman, PhD
Section Head, Section on Social Sciences and Health Policy
2000-2003



Walter T. Ambrosius, PhD
Chair, Department of Biostatistics and Data Science
2012-present



Kristie L. Foley, PhD
Interim Chair, Department of Implementation Science
2017-2018
Chair, Department of Implementation Science
2019-present



Curt D. Furberg, MD, PhD
Chair, Department of Public Health Sciences
1989-1999



Michael E. Miller, PhD
Section Head, Section on Biostatistics
2000-2004



Nancy E. Avis, PhD
Section Head, Section on Social Sciences and Health Policy
2003-2005



Alain Bertoni, MD, MPH
Chair, Department of Epidemiology and Prevention
2013-2019
Associate Director for Population Health, Division of Public Health Sciences
2019-present



Gregory L. Burke, MD, MSc
Chair, Department of Public Health Sciences
1999-2006
Director, Division of Public Health Sciences
2006-2017



Robert P. Byington, PhD
Section Head, Section on Epidemiology
1996-2001



Timothy M. Morgan, PhD
Section Head, Section on Biostatistics
1989-1993, 1998-2000



Scott D. Rhodes, PhD
Chair, Department of Social Sciences and Health Policy
2015-present



Sally A. Shumaker, PhD
Section Head, Section on Social Sciences and Health Policy
1992-2000



Doug Easterling, PhD
Section Head, Section on Social Sciences and Health Policy
2005-2006
Chair, Department of Social Sciences and Health Policy
2006-2015



Mark A. Espeland, PhD
Section Head, Section on Biostatistics
1993-1998
Chair, Department of Biostatistical Sciences
2006-2012



Gregory W. Evans, MA
Interim Section Head, Section on Biostatistics
2005-2006



David C. Goff, Jr., MD, PhD
Chair, Department of Epidemiology and Prevention
2007-2012



Grethe S. Tell, PhD
Section Head, Section on Epidemiology
1989-1995



Mara Z. Vitolins, DrPH
Interim Chair, Department of Epidemiology and Prevention
2012-2013, 2019-present



Lynne E. Wagenknecht, DrPH
Section Head, Section on Epidemiology
2001-2006
Chair, Department of Epidemiology and Prevention
2006-2007
Associate Director, Division of Public Health Sciences
2007-2017
Director, Division of Public Health Sciences
2018-present

Current PHS Faculty

as of July 1, 2019

Walter Ambrosius, PhD
Jamy Ard, MD
Nancy Avis, PhD
Michael Bancks, PhD, MPH
Daniel Beavers, PhD
Alain Bertoni, MD, MPH
Gregory Burke, MD, MS
Goldie Byrd, PhD
Ramon Casanova, PhD
Haiying Chen, PhD
Shyh-Huei Chen, PhD
Laura Coker, PhD
Teresa Cutts, PhD
Ralph D'Agostino, Jr, PhD
Margaret Dailey, MPH, PhD
Suzanne Danhauer, PhD
Jasmin Divers, PhD
Emily Dressler, PhD
Doug Easterling, PhD
Mark Espeland, PhD
Kristie Foley, PhD
Capri Foy, PhD

Sabina Gesell, PhD
Gary Gunderson, MDiv, DMin,
DDiv
Mark Hall, JD
Kathleen Hayden, PhD
Fang-Chi Hsu, PhD
Edward Ip, PhD
Elizabeth Jensen, PhD
Nancy King, JD
Carl Langefeld, PhD
Iris Leng, MD, PhD
Kristina Lewis, MD, MPH
Michael Miller, PhD
Morgana Mongraw-Chaffin,
MPH, PhD
Chandlyen Nightingale, PhD
Nathaniel O'Connell, PhD
Nicholas Pajewski, PhD
Sara Quandt, PhD
Beth Reboussin, PhD
David Reboussin, PhD
Lindsay Reynolds, PhD

Scott Rhodes, PhD
Jennifer Ross, PhD
John Salsman, PhD
Sally Shumaker, PhD
Sean Simpson, PhD
Anna Snavely, PhD
Beverly Snively, PhD
Stephanie Sohl, PhD
Elsayed Soliman, MD, MSc, MS
Jaime Speiser, PhD
Jing Su, PhD
Erin Sutfin, PhD
Janet Tooze, PhD
Mara Vitolins, DrPH
Lynne Wagenknecht, DrPH
Lynne Wagner, PhD
Kimberly Wagoner, DrPH
Kathryn Weaver, PhD
Brian Wells, MD, PhD
Mark Wolfson, PhD

Curt Furberg, MD, PhD 1986-2012 Retired
Ann Geiger, PhD 2005-2013 Deputy Assoc Dir, Healthcare Delivery Research Program,
Div of Cancer Control & Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute
David Goff, MD, PhD 1996-2012 Director, Division of Cardiovascular Sciences, NHLBI
Robert Goodman, PhD 1996-1999 Retired; Former Dean, Indiana Univ School of Public Health-Bloomington
Emily Gower, PhD 2011-2016 Dept of Epidemiology, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health
William Hansen, PhD 1989-1996 Retired
Satoru Hayasaka, PhD 2005-2015 Dept of Psychology, University of Texas at Austin
Joan Hilner, MS 2002-2008 Dept of Biostatistics, UAB School of Public Health
George Howard, DrPH 2988-1999 Dept of Biostatistics, UAB School of Public Health
Wenke Hwang, PhD 2005-2009 Dept of Public Health Sciences, Penn State College of Medicine
Sharon Jackson, PhD 1995-2005 Contractor, Northrup Grumman
Kathy Kemper, MD, MPH 2011-2012 Director, Integrative Health & Wellness, Ohio State Univ Med Ctr
Ann Lambros, PhD 2004-2013 Health and Exercise Science, Wake Forest University
Ethan Lange, PhD 2000-2004 Div of Biomedical Informatics & Pers Med, Dept of Med, CU School of Med
Leslie Lange, PhD 2000-2004 Div of Biomedical Informatics & Pers Med, Dept of Med, CU School of Med
Timothy Lash, PhD 2011-2013 Chair, Dept of Epidemiology, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory Univ
Claudine Legault, PhD 1991-2013 Retired
Doug Levine, PhD 1994-2003 Dept of Psychology, UNC Greensboro
Wennuan Liu, PhD 2006-2010 Program for Pers Med Cancer Care, NorthShore Univ Health System
Yongmei Liu, MD, PhD 2004-2018 Duke Molecular Physiology Institute, Department of Medicine
Charles Longino, PhD 1991-2019 Deceased
Janeen Manuel, PhD 2002-2007 Unknown
Elizabeth Mayer-Davis, PhD 1994-1997 Chair, Dept of Nutrition, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health
Maria Mirabelli, PhD 2009-2012 National Center for Environmental Health, CDC
Maurice Mittelmark, PhD 1987-1995 Dept of Health Promotion & Development, University of Bergen
Lorna Moore, PhD 2007-2012 Dept of Ob/Gyn, University of Colorado School of Medicine
Timothy Morgan, PhD 1988-2017 Retired
Michelle Naughton, PhD 1991-2014 Dept of Internal Medicine, The Ohio State University
Electra Paskett, PhD 1989-2001 Dept of Internal Medicine, The Ohio State University
John Preisser, PhD 1995-1999 Dept of Biostatistics, UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health
Ronald Prineas, MBBS, PhD 1999-2009 Retired
Pentti Rautaharju, MD, PhD 1995-2002 Deceased
Stephen Rich, PhD 1994-2007 Dir, Ctr for Public Health Genomics, Dept of PHS, UVA School of Med
Carlos Rodriguez, MD, MPH 2011-2019 Dir, Clinical Cardiology Research, Dept of Med, Albert Einstein Coll of Med
Jacqueline Ryu, PhD 1989-2000 Deceased
Mark Ann Sevick, PhD 1995-2001 Dept of Population Health, NYU Langone Health
Brent Shelton, PhD 1994-1999 Div Chief, Cancer Biostatistics, Markey Cancer Ctr, Univ of Kentucky
Maurice Shils, PhD Deceased in 2015
Mark Smith, PhD 1995-1998 Epidemiologist, Guilford County Health Department
Alison Snow-Jones, PhD 2000-2009 Deceased
Beverly Spray, PhD 1993-1999 Arkansas Children's Research Institute
Grethe Tell, PhD 1987-1995 Dept of Global Public Health & Primary Care, University of Bergen
John Uebersax, PhD 1992- Unknown
Leslie Vaughan, PhD 2011-2016 Unknown
Bradley Wells, PhD 1987-1998 Deceased
Melicia Whitt-Glover, PhD 2003-2009 President & CEO, Gramercy Research Group, Exec Dir,
Ctr for Excellence in Eliminating Health Disparities, Winston-Salem State University
Jingfeng Xu, MD, DrPH 2000-2010 VP, Translational Research; Dir, Program for Pers Cancer Care,
NorthShore University HealthSystem, Evanston, IL
Zhu-Ming Zhang, MD, MPH 1997-2018 Retired
Beiyao Zheng, PhD 1997-2000 VP, Biometrics, CytomX Therapeutics, San Francisco, CA

Past PHS Faculty

	YEARS IN PHS	CURRENT AFFILIATION
David Altman, PhD	1994-2003	COO, Center for Creative Leadership, Greensboro, NC
Randy Anderson, PhD	1989-1994	VP, Captains Ventures, Inc., Wilmington, NC
Roger Anderson, PhD	1993-2007	Dept of Public Health Sciences, UVA School of Medicine
Sunday Azagba, PhD	2016-2018	Family & Preventive Medicine, Univ of Utah School of Medicine
Rajesh Balkrishnan, PhD	1999-2003	Dept of Public Health Sciences, UVA School of Medicine
Bettina Beech, PhD	2009-2013	Dean, Bower School of Population Health, UMiss Medical Center
Ronny Bell, PhD, MS	1996-2016	Chair, Dept of Public Health Science, ECU School of Medicine
Denise Bonds, MD	2002-2006	Dept of Public Health Sciences, UVA School of Medicine
Roberd Bostick, MD, MPH	1994-1998	Dept of Epidemiology, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University
Robert Byington, PhD	1987-2018	Retired
Jeff Carr, MD, MS	2010-2013	Vice Chair, Informatics, Dept of Radiology, Vanderbilt Univ Med Ctr
Doug Case, PhD	1987-2018	Retired
John Chen, PhD, MD, MPH	1997-2005	Director, Division of Health Services, Research, Univ of Kansas Med Ctr
Stuart Cohen, PhD	1993-	Retired
Kim-Ahn Do, PhD		Chair, Dept of Biostatistics, Div of Basic Sciences, MD Anderson Cancer Ctr
Therese Dolecek, PhD	1989-1993	Dept of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, Univ of Illinois at Chicago
Elizabeth Dugan, PhD	1997-2001	Dept of Gerontology, McCormack Grad School, Univ of Mass Boston
Cam Enarson, MD, MBA	1990-2003	Vice Dean, Strategic Initiatives, UNC School of Medicine
Fanny Ennever, PhD	1991-1994	Research Compliance Officer, Boston Medical Center
Greg Evans, MS	1987-2019	Retired

Current PHS Staff

Megan Adkisson	Yasmina Cruz	Heather Kiger	Laurie Russell
Hannah Ainsworth	Danielle Cunio	Lynn Kiger	Margaret Scales
Amir Alexander	Claudine Curran	Rhonda Kimball	Kristine Shook
Tammy Alley	Joseph Curran	Caroline Kimes	Suzanne Simpson
Catherine Allred	Rupal Dadhania	Jessica King	Regina Smith
Jorge Alonzo	Heather Dailey	Mark King	Susan Smith
Robert Amoroso	Jonna Daniel	Staci King	Kenneth Smooth
Alyssa Anderson	Eleanor Davidson	Carol Kittel	Eunyoung Song
Andrea Anderson	Brittany Davis	Kristin Lenoir	Ha Sprinkle
Barbara Anderson	Janet Davis	Ashley Lentz	Hannah Sprinkle
Carol Andrews	Patricia Davis	Beverly Levine	Jeanette Stafford
Sonya Ashburn	Alexandra Dest	Yabing Li	Joseph Stanfield
Nicole Augustine	Kimberly Dezern	Denisha Little-Greene	June Steede
Bria Backman	Sharnita Duren	Jon Loer	Debra Steinberg
Judy Bahnson	Ethan Evans	Shaunessy Lofton	Cynthia Stowe
Ryan Barnard	Joshua Evans	James Lovato	Tyler Strachan
Jerry Barnes	Deborah Felton	Laura Lovato	Cynthia Suerken
Deborah Barr	Kate Furgurson	Lingyi Lu	Cheryl Summerville
Mary Barr	Ann Furstenberg	Lilli Mann-Jackson	Jennifer Talton
Patricia Beatty	Santiago Gadea	Miranda Marion	DeNina Tate
Tara Beckner	Jesus Garcia	Martha Martin	Tonya Taylor
Beverly Belle	Katelyn Garcia	Carol Massa-Fanale	Carol Thomas
Denise Bennett	Sarah Gaussoin	Laura McDuffee	Katrina Tindall
Cheryl Bentley	Jenna Gerosa	Christopher McLouth	Margaret Troxler
Bridgette Blackwell	LeeAnn Gleiser	Laurie McLouth	Mary Trumps
Caroline Blackwell	Andrea Glenn	Kathryn Melius	Beverly Tucker
Rhonda Blaine	Shannon Golden	Brianna Merritt	Julie Turner
Ryan Bodamer	Maureen Goldstein	Sherri Moore	Tatyana Tymchishyn
Debbie Booth	Jennifer Greene	Lynn Myers	Thania Del Valle-Fagan
Mark Brown	Dakota Greenwalt	Rebecca Neiberg	Tammy Vogler
Paula Brown	Angela Grubb	John Nichols	Jennifer Walker
Sarah Bruschi	Eden Gurganus	Amy Nuttall	Stephannie Walker
Harold Bryant	Darrin Harris	Jason O'Connor	Michael Walkup
Nancy Buchheimer	Lea Harvin	Margaret O'Mara	Christopher Webb
Brian Burney	Gabrielle Hellinger	Beatriz Ospino-Sanchez	John White
Lynn Callahan	Leora Henkin	Melinda Pankratz	James Willard
Charles Campbell	John Hepler	Maria Parries	Adrienne Williams
Dell Campbell	Melinda Hire	Margaret Pearce	Carrie Williams
Lauren Carroll	Katlyn Hodges	Letitia Perdue	Kenneth Wilson
Bradley Caudle	Jerry Holbrook	Jeannie Pfeiffer	Kimberly Wiseman
Jeff Chou	Anjuna Holloman	June Pierce	Shan Wong
Tina Church	Li Hou	Emily Pipkin	Ruth Wright
Doris Clark	Xueling Hu	Katherine Pleasant	Frances Yates
Loretta Cloud	Lynn Huang	Debra Pleasants	Kip Zimmerman
Christy Collins	Scarlett Hutchens	Paula Riddle	
Mary Comeau	Scott Isom	Wesley Roberson	
Delilah Cook	Robert James	Julia Robertson	
Lenore Crago	Emily Johnson	Christine Robinson	
Timothy Craven	Leonard Jordan	Jennifer Rosdhal	
Karen Craver	Deborah Kampman	Scott Rushing	
Arnetta Crews	Lisa Keasler	Gregory Russell	

MS Program Graduates

1990 Mark Heuser	2003 Sonia Crandall	2013 Billy Chacko
1990 James Wofford	2004 Abdellhamed Ibrahim	2013 Valery Effoe
1991 Duaine Murphree	2004 Christopher Graham	2013 Michael McCrory
1991 William Renfroe	2004 Capri Foy	2013 Robert Riley
1991 Stanley Smith	2004 Randy Clinch	2013 Matthew Sellers
1992 Charles Cefalu	2005 James Cnota	2014 Pelbretton Balfour
1992 Kate Gledhill	2005 Susan Lakoski	2014 Kathryn Callahan
1992 Lois Hart	2005 Annmarie Relyea-Chew	2014 Alison Gardner
1992 Catherine Messick	2005 Marta Thakkar	2014 Michael Hall
1992 William Moran	2005 Ayana Roberts	2014 Jennifer Jordan
1994 Michael Rocco	2006 Deidre Bland	2014 Xanthia Samaropoulos
1995 Mary Anthony	2006 Philip Mellen	2014 Julie Williams
1995 Anthony Bleyer	2006 Mandeep Kaur	2015 Shivani Aggarwal
1995 Robert Bloomfield	2007 Kurt Daniel	2015 Martinson Arnan
1995 Herb Giebel	2007 Jerry John	2015 Michael Cammarata
1995 Mark Smith	2007 Joseph Yeboah	2015 Farah Dawood
1996 Ronny Bell	2007 Raquel Watkins	2015 Andrea Doud
1996 Juhaeri Juhaeri	2008 Hal Atkinson	2015 Waqas Qureshi
1996 Lizette Sanchez-Lugo	2008 Sharon Castellino	2015 Matt Whitlock
1996 Gianfranco Valle	2008 Matthew Corriere	2015 Justin Hurie *
1997 Jason Connelly	2008 Heidi Klepin	2015 Angela Kimel *
1997 Julie Dubisson	2008 Elsayed Soliman	2016 Mohamed Almahmoud
1997 Katherine Pearce	2008 Sylvia Holcombe	2016 Jennifer Check
1998 J. Jeffrey Carr	2008 Darryl Prime	2016 Ashleigh Gibson
1998 Kevin High	2009 Stewart Allen	2016 William (Adam) Gower
1998 Karen Oles	2009 Beatrice Stefanescu	2016 Elizabeth Halvorson
1998 Heather Smith	2009 Kevin Addison	2016 Rachel Weaver *
1999 W. Vaughn McCall	2009 Jennifer Helderman	2017 Adam Leigh
1999 Charles Woods	2009 Chadwick Miller	2017 Abdullahi Oseni *
2000 Doreen Hughes	2009 Richard Stacey	2018 Ashmitha Raja *
2000 Gretchen Kimmick	2009 David Miller	2018 Thomas Reeve
2000 W. Robert Lee	2010 Sidharth Shah	2018 Erin Barnes
2000 Angela Barbara	2010 Joseph Skelton	2018 Matthew Goldman
2000 Nancy Jackson	2010 Rebecca Slager	2018 Yuan Yifang
2001 Tara Cothran	2010 Rajyalakshmi Gadi	2018 Christine Velazquez *
2001 Beniot Pineau	2010 Elizabeth Chmelo	2019 Muhammad Imtiaz Ahmad
2002 Matthew Edwards	2011 Gretchen Koontz-Binney	2019 Amer Aladin
2002 Jill Endres	2011 Letitia Perdue	2019 Jason Stopyra
2002 Laura Loehr	2011 Subhashish Agarwal	2019 Parag Chevli
2002 Girish Nair	2011 Jennifer Anderson	2019 Christopher Schaich
2002 Dawn Schwenke	2011 Manish Jain	2019 Samuel Yates
2002 Werner Bischoff	2011 Michael Ross	
2002 Abe Sahmoun	2012 Michael Cartwright	
2002 Margaret Harper	2012 Mac Robinson	
2003 Mamta Agarwal	2012 Elvis Akwo	
2003 Anshu Shrestha	2012 Imo Ebong	
2003 John White	2012 Megan Irby	
2003 Rachel Everhart	2012 Simon Mahler	
2003 Kim Hutchinson	2012 Khalil Murad	
2003 Marla MacRae	2012 Hamza Rana	
2003 Richard Mansfield	2013 Amir Azeem	
2003 Admed Abdel-Raouf	2013 Robert Becher	

*Certificate
Year of graduation noted in gold



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