



Greetings!

Congratulations to our graduates at this School of Public Health Commencement 2015!

We are extremely proud of the progress all our graduates have achieved as students, of the education you have shared with your peers and professors as you have pursued your studies, of the discoveries you have made through your research, and of the service you have contributed to communities.

We are living through an extremely difficult and challenging time in the history of our nation and the world. Our health and quality of life are threatened by the environments in our communities, schools, and workplaces. Despite our knowledge of the impact behavior has on health, we continue to lose too many lives to habits we could easily change. Responding to the accelerating prevalence of chronic diseases, such as obesity and diabetes, vies for limited resources with the growth of infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS and Ebola, along with a multitude of other threats to public health. Our health policies and programs still fall far short of the public health ideals of prevention, protection, and promotion.

Nevertheless, our students this year have been outstanding for their leadership, vision, and dedication to working on behalf of individuals, organizations, and communities in need. As our graduates, they will continue throughout their careers to contribute these gifts, as they address the challenges to the health of the public we serve.

I wish you all the very best for the future. I know the public health community will be better because of the many contributions you will make.

Finally, let me thank the parents, families, spouses, significant others, and children of our graduates. Without your support and understanding, our graduates would not be here today, and we would not be celebrating their achievements together.

Paul Brandt-Rauf, DrPH, MD, ScD

Dean, School of Public Health

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER**Dr. LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH**

Dr. LaMar Hasbrouck is a “passionary” (passionate-visionary) whose approach to life has taken him from innercity poverty to the highest levels of his profession. An experienced public health leader, he has consulted on health matters around the world, including South America, Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean. Dr. Hasbrouck is currently the executive director for the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), which represents the nation’s 2,800 local governmental health departments. NACCHO’s mission is to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice with local health departments working towards a vision of health, equity, and security for all people in their communities.

Formerly, Dr. Hasbrouck served as director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, an agency responsible for protecting the health and improving the lives of state’s 13 million residents. During his tenure, he championed population health innovations, repositioned the state’s maternal and child health program, and reinvigorated key strategic partnerships. He was one of the architects (and spokespersons) for healthcare reform and led efforts to produce statewide blueprints for health workforce development and population health integration.

Prior to this appointment, Dr. Hasbrouck served as the only county official in New York State to lead both the public health and mental health departments. He has held positions of increasing responsibility with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including active engagement in two of the largest global health initiatives in history: polio eradication and the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, where he served as the CDC director in Guyana, South America.

Dr. Hasbrouck is a former Epidemic Intelligence Service officer at the CDC, primary care health policy fellow at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the recipient of numerous awards for his governmental and nongovernmental work. He has served on faculties of medicine and public health, including the University of Illinois at Chicago.

He received his BA and MPH at the University of California, Berkeley; his MD at UCLA School of Medicine; and completed his residency training in internal medicine at the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center.

STATEMENT OF VALUES

We are a community of scholars, students, and staff, dedicated to creating a healthy society. In achieving this goal, we are committed to:

COMMUNITY

the basic unit of analysis for public health, enabling communities to address their own problems, share skills, lower barriers to action, and act as a catalyst for progress

KNOWLEDGE

the pursuit, development, and dissemination of which will improve the health of the public

PROFESSIONALISM

acting with integrity and collegiality in learning, teaching, research, and public service

STEWARDSHIP

of natural, human, and financial resources

IDEALISM

whether secularly or spiritually motivated

CARING

promoting compassion for and action on behalf of others

JUSTICE

whereby everyone is given access to the resources necessary to live a humane life and necessary to fulfill his or her full potential

DIVERSITY

celebrating unique contributions to the fabric of our community

RESPECT

for the members of this community and for those whom our efforts are intended to serve

HUMILITY

as we set our goals, as we work together to achieve them, and as we address the inevitable conflicts produced by those joint efforts

Class of 2015

FANFARE Northeastern Illinois University
Brass Ensemble

PROCESSIONAL

SINGING OF “AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL” Northeastern Illinois University
Brass Ensemble
Lyrics on page 47

GREETINGS

Paul Brandt-Rauf, DrPH, MD, ScD Dean

OPENING REMARKS

Michael D. Amiridis, PhD Chancellor of the University of Illinois
at Chicago

Jonathan J. Art, PhD Associate Dean of the
Graduate College

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH Executive Director for the National
Association of County and City
Health Officials (NACCHO)

APPRECIATION AWARD

Presenter Paul Brandt-Rauf, DrPH, MD, ScD

Recipient LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Michael D. Amiridis, PhD Chancellor of the University of Illinois
at Chicago

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES (see list on page 45)

Paul Brandt-Rauf, DrPH, MD, ScD Dean

DIVISION DIRECTORS

Jesus Ramirez-Valles, PhD Community Health Sciences

Linda Forst, PhD Environmental and Occupational
Health Sciences

Ronald Hershov, PhD Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Jack Zwanziger, PhD Health Policy and Administration

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Patrick Lenihan, PhD	Doctor of Public Health in Leadership
Karin J. Opacich, PhD, MHPE, OTR/L, FAOTA	Bachelor of Arts in Public Health

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

Richard Sewell, MPH	Associate Dean, Health Policy and Administration
-------------------------------	--

AWARDS

SILVER CIRCLE AWARD

Presenter	Emalee Pearson President, Public Health Student Association
Recipient.	Linda Rae Murray, MD, MPH Adjunct Assistant Professor, Health Policy and Administration

BERNARD H. BAUM GOLDEN APPLE AWARD

Presenter	Emalee Pearson
Recipient.	Saria Awadalla, PhD Clinical Assistant Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics

ALAN W. DONALDSON MEMORIAL AWARD

Presenter	Geri R. Donenberg, PhD Associate Dean for Research
Recipient.	Marisa Young

CLASS OF 2015 REMARKS

Speaker	Marisa Young
-------------------	--------------

READING OF THE SCHOOL STATEMENT OF VALUES

Speaker	Marisa Young
-------------------	--------------

WELCOME FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Speaker	Tracie L. Smith, MPH President, School of Public Health Alumni Board
-------------------	---

RECESSIONAL

Marshals	Olivia Desormeaux Nathaniel Lewis Valerie Mouser
--------------------	--

DOCTORAL GRADUATES

Student	Degree Conferred	Dissertation Title	Committee Chair
Magaly Angeloni	DrPH	Approaches TRAIN Affiliates Are Taking to Evaluate Public Health Training	Michael Fagen
Amanda C. Bennett	PhD	Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Breastfeeding and Potential Mediation by Hospital Practices	Deborah Rosenberg
Nicole Marie Brennan	DrPH	Men's Health and Wellbeing Policy in the United States: A Transformative Cross-National Policy Analysis	Michael Fagen
Susan Brandeis Cahn	DrPH	A Study of the Organizational Readiness of Local Health Departments to Use Electronic Health Information for Surveillance	Patrick Lenihan
Kenneth Robert Carson	PhD	Evaluation of Racial Disparities in United States Veterans with Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma	Elizabeth Calhoun
Gerard Michael Castro	PhD	Classification of Health Information Technology-Related Contributing Factors to Patient Safety Events	Ross Mullner
R M A Priyanthi Shyamalee Dassanayake	PhD	Legacy and Emerging Environmental Organic Pollutants in Human Placenta and Blood	An Li
Stephanie Anne DeFlorio-Barker	PhD	Severity and Economic Burden of Recreational Waterborne Illness in the United States	Samuel Dorevitch
Jessica Carroll Dirkes	PhD	Sexual Identity Development, Stigma, and Health in Sexual Minority Women and Men	Jesus Ramirez-Valles
Mayra Lorell Estrella	PhD	Place Attachment, Civic Engagement, and Collective Well-Being among Chicago's Puerto Rican Youth	Michelle Kelley
Christine Marie Gall	DrPH	Implementation of a Pediatric Mass Casualty Triage Plan during Crisis Standards of Care Deployment	Bernard J. Turnock
Vincent J. Haufle	DrPH	The Public Health Value of Healthcare Claims for Understanding Chronic Disease and Healthcare Utilization	Michael Cailas
Lara Lamprecht	DrPH	An Exploration of Policy Activities by Local Health Departments to Improve Population Health	Bernard J. Turnock
Jacqueline Brunell Lanier	DrPH	The Health Educator's Role in the Implementation of Community Transformation Work in Rural Illinois	Christina Welter
Brittany R. Lapin	PhD	Relationships among Prenatal Risk Factors, Early Life Events, and Asthma in At-Risk Children	Victoria Persky
Hong Li	PhD	Three-Level Mixed-Effects Location Scale Model With Modeling Random Scale Variance	Li Liu

Cara Tuyet Mai	DrPH	Assessment and Framework for Population-based Surveillance of Birth Defects in the United States	Michael Fagen
David James Morton	PhD	Statistical Methods for Classifying Hospital Quality Using Hierarchical Nonlinear Mixed-Effects Models	Dulal Bhaumik
Jason Eric Orcena	DrPH	For a Few Dollars More: The Case for Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing in Ohio's Local Health Departments	Michael Petros
Margaret M. Sietsema	PhD	Analysis of Respiratory Program Practices and Simulated Workplace Protection Factor Studies	Lisa Brosseau
Young Soon Song	DrPH	Developing a Healthy Aging Teaching Curriculum Model	Eve Pinsker
Evi Sukmaningrum	PhD	HIV Disclosure Experience Among Women with HIV/AIDS in Jakarta, Indonesia	Judith Levy
Griselle Torres	DrPH	A Retrospective Case Series Analysis of Capacity Building Services in HIV Prevention Programs	Michael Petros
Susanna Nicole Visser	DrPH	School Climate and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder among Adolescent Medicaid Recipients	Arden Handler
Marisa Rogers Young	PhD	Scaling-up Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention in Western Kenya: Risk Compensation and Infant Male Circumcision	Robert Bailey

Alan W. Donaldson Memorial Award

The Alan W. Donaldson Memorial Award is presented annually to one graduating student who is selected for academic excellence, quality of leadership, and community service. This is a memorial to Alan W. Donaldson, ScD, a founding father of the school and its first associate dean.

Golden Apple Award

The Golden Apple Award is presented each year to a faculty member in recognition of outstanding teaching and extraordinary service to students at the School of Public Health.

Silver Circle Award

The Silver Circle Award is presented each year to a faculty member in recognition of outstanding teaching in the undergraduate program at the School of Public Health.

Delta Omega Society

The Delta Omega Society is a national honorary public health fraternity established to recognize and encourage scholarship and research among those undertaking postbaccalaureate study in public health and to recognize academic achievement in the field.

Noel Chavez, PhD, RD, LDN President

Students

Julia Anglen	Janna Kerins	Pamela Roesch
Valerie Bangs	Sheewin Pananookooln	Allison Rosenthal
Darcy Benedict	Shruti Patel	Joanna Tess
Nicole Brennan	Molly Paul	Mary Verro
Alyssa Budoff	Lindsay Pluff	Marisa Young
Stephanie Garcia	Kalysa Porter	Lindsay Zeman
Michele Hom	Michael Ray	

Faculty

Joy Getzenberg, MA

Student Leadership: 2014–2015 Officers

Public Health Student Association (PHSA)

President: Emalee Pearson
 Secretary: Molly Paul
 APHA Student Liaison: Nicole Mayer
 Vice President: Daniel Finn
 Treasurer: Micaella Verro

Minority Students for the Advancement of Public Health (MSAPH)

President: Jamel Russell
 Treasurer: Shruti Patel
 Public Relations: Nathaniel Lewis
 Vice President: Lakeisha Watson
 Secretary: Timeah Rogers
 Events Chair: Erin Raymond

Award recipients are privileged to receive red leadership cords to wear at their respective commencement ceremonies.

ALL GUESTS ARE ASKED TO PLEASE REMAIN SEATED UNTIL THE LAST GRADUATE HAS EXITED THE ROOM.

*Music by: Mostly Music at NEIU Brass Quartet
 Reception to Follow: Rochford Tent*