Dear Fellow UNMC College of Public Health Alumni:

I had the pleasure of introducing myself during this year's Fall Student Orientation. I was able to provide basic information about the Alumni Council, mentioned upcoming events, and explained how student can become involved. I emphasized to students the importance of developing relationships with alumni and explained how alumni can be a valuable resource for students, potentially even assisting them in finding future employment opportunities. I also recommended gaining as much experience as possible outside of the classroom (shadowing, interning, working, etc.) in order to be better prepared and more marketable after graduation.

Our work is made possible by generous donations to our College of Public Health Innovation Fund. We have a new goal this year to raise funds to support student capstone projects. Give Now.

You can also learn more about our Innovation Fund in our recent Impact Report.

COPH Alumni Host Fall Social

The College of Public Health Alumni Council held its 3rd annual Alumni & Student Networking Event on October 19th in the Blackstone District. The evening offered the opportunity for attendees to socialize and build off of one another for continued success.
Alumni Welcome New Students

On August 16th new students participated in an orientation meet and greet with COPH faculty and staff where students could ask questions and network. Students were also welcomed by the UNMC COPH Alumni Council President Chad Wetzel as he gave some insight into his first year as a student.

College of Public Health News
Update from the Dean, Ali S. Khan, MD, MPH

I recently spent ten days in China visiting eight universities in four provinces recruiting students and binding sites for global fellowship placements. When I returned, it was fall! We were able to kick off our new master’s of health administration program, which will provide an opportunity for people interested in leadership programs in the ever-changing health care landscape. This was a collaborative effort between UNMC, UNO, Kearney, and UNL to develop this rigorous two-year program with Dr. Fernando Wilson doing much of the heavy lifting for UNMC. Many thanks to Fernando and his team for all of their work!

Recently, our Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH), along with collaborators, launched a grant-funded project, a new farm safety website, “Telling the Story Project”. Farmers and their families are encouraged to “tell a story, save a life” by sharing their experiences related to traumatic farm incidents with the purpose of teaching others how to avoid farming related injuries. Please take time to read some of their powerful stories.

The annual Berggren Lectureship events took place last month. The Lectureship is thanks to the College’s good friend, Dr. Carol Swarts, whose endowment honors the work of Dr. Gretchen Berggren and her husband, the late Dr. Warren Berggren. Every year I think the events can’t get
any better, and every year I’m proven wrong. Our faculty, staff, and students are fortunate to have experiences with such global health legends.

The Student Experience Expo, a first for the College, took place the week of October 8. This was a great opportunity for students to learn about many different kinds of employment and association opportunities. There was also an alumni/student panel and a meet and greet featuring Kyra Crepin, M.S., Abby Hughes, MPH, Emma Schultz, MPH and Sam Woodruff, MPH.

Follow Dean Khan on Twitter.

Brandon Grimm, Ph.D., named to public health leadership role

Brandon Grimm, Ph.D., has been named the new associate dean of practice of the College of Public Health. The appointment was effective July 1. Dr. Grimm will take on new responsibilities in addition to his current role as the interim director of the master's programs and associate professor of health promotion. Continue Reading

UNMC honors endowed faculty and benefactors

UNMC recently held its Circle of Distinction event to celebrate the 108 endowed chairs, professorships and fellowships that are held by 105 of its faculty members and recognizing the benefactors who have made the awards possible. The Sept. 12 program also recognized the 36 additional endowed stipend awards to be conferred in the coming years. The four chairs honored from the College of Public health were:

- Jesse E. Bell, Ph.D. - Claire M. Hubbard Professor of Health and Environment generously given by the Claire M. Hubbard Foundation (pictured)

- David A. Dzewaltowski, Ph.D. - Endowed Community Chair for Physical Activity, Nutrition, and Obesity Prevention in partnership with the Buffett Early Childhood Institute
Student Feature | Lucy Finocchiaro

Meet Lucy Finocchiaro, a master's student in the College of Public Health.

- **Name:** Lucy Finocchiaro
- **Hometown:** Omaha
- **Program/Year:** Master of Public Health, second year

**What sparked your interest in public health?**
I studied animal science as an undergrad at Kansas State University, where I was introduced to the concept of "One Health" -- the interconnectedness of the health of humans, animals and the environment. I've always been passionate about serving others, humans and animals included, and thought the field of public health was the perfect opportunity to allow me to do both! I love that public health puts research directly into practice and allows for interdisciplinary areas of health care to take large strides in making improvements.

**Three things people may not know about you.**
- I've been playing the piano since I was in second grade and performed at an international piano concert when I was 14.
- I work for an agricultural safety organization on campus (Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health), where I do research on the health and safety of bison workers.
- I am crazy about horses and am especially passionate about the field of equine therapy.
UNMC researchers have set a new record -- bringing in $135.6 million in research funding for fiscal year 2018, up 15.8 percent from $117 million the previous year. "Kudos to our research community for their success and hard work," said Jennifer Larsen, M.D., vice chancellor for research at UNMC. "Everyone contributed to this accomplishment. We have recruited and mentored outstanding faculty, successfully competed for large grant awards, and many people -- from administrators to research technicians and coordinators -- have worked hard alongside the investigators to make this happen." Continue Reading

Continues on next page.
UNMC Outlines plan to improve Rural Health

UNMC’s Rural Health 2030 Task Force has released its "Rural Health 2030: 2018-2019 Action Plan." The plan details how UNMC, its partners, and rural Nebraskans can together shape a new vision for a healthy rural future. Continue Reading

Med Center Responds to international call for aid

In response to the second outbreak of Ebola virus in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) this year, UNMC and Nebraska Medicine have responded to a request from an international agency to send a team of infectious diseases experts to the East African nation of Uganda to help prevent the spread of the deadly disease. Continue Reading
Get Involved
Submit an award nomination

We are now accepting award nominations. Click here to submit a COPH nomination.

Submit your news for Class Notes
The UNMC Alumni Relations Office publishes class notes in the UNMC CONNECT magazine. We want to hear your stories. Please consider using this link to provide your personal or professional news, including:

- Employment news: new job, promotion, or retirement
- Awards: Professional or service related recognition
- Personal: Weddings and births

Submit your class notes and based on publication space, we will share your good news in an upcoming issue of Connect.

Join the University of Nebraska Advocates
The University of Nebraska Advocates program is a coalition of individuals who are passionate about their University, informed about the issues impacting higher education, and prepared to raise awareness of the University's contributions to the state of Nebraska and beyond. If you'd like to participate, can sign up for the University of Nebraska Advocates program.

Apply for the COPH Alumni Council
If you would like to get involved in our Alumni Council, please send us an email.

Go Next Travel Opportunities
The UNMC Alumni Association has partnered with Go Next to offer exceptional travel opportunities for you, your family, and your friends in 2019. Join fellow alumni and experience the camaraderie of exploring the world with like-minded travelers. Each Go Next trip has been thoughtfully selected and they will take care of the details, so you can relax and enjoy your trip. To learn more about these trips or to book, please visit the UNMCAA’s group website.
Masterpiece Montage
September 30 - October 11, 2019
Rome to Barcelona Oceania Cruise
Discover enduring masterpieces along the Mediterranean coast during an incredible ten-night cruise aboard Oceania Cruises’ Sirena.

Cuba Charms
October 29 - November 9, 2019
Miami to Miami Oceania Cruise
Discover the true depth and beauty of the once-forbidden country of Cuba on this impressive ten-night voyage, with an included one-night pre-cruise Miami stay, aboard Oceania Cruises’ elegant Insignia.

Engage With Us On Social Media
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College of Public Health on Twitter
College of Public Health Alumni on Facebook
UNMC Alumni Association on Twitter