

Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

CONVOCATION



FALL 2022

Saturday, December 17, 2022

Centennial Hall



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Mel & Enid Zuckerman
College of Public Health

Welcome

December 17, 2022

Centennial Hall
Tucson, AZ

The University of Arizona

Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

2022 Fall Convocation

Processional

Welcome and Remarks

Iman Hakim MPH '94, MD, PhD

Dean

Recognition of Student Awards

Presentation of Graduates

Doctor of Public Health Graduates

Doctor of Philosophy Graduates

Master of Public Health Graduates

Bachelor of Science Graduates

Recessional

CONGRATULATIONS PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATES!

As Dean of the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, I am so proud of you all.

Each of you has worked hard to earn the degree you have achieved, and I celebrate your effort. Most of you have been pursuing your degree during the long and difficult COVID pandemic. The experience has tested our physical and mental endurance. I celebrate you for your resilience and determination to stay strong and focused during this challenging time. Even as we gradually start to leave the COVID-19 pandemic behind us, new public health challenges emerge.

Right now, our country is facing a mental health crisis, amplified by the COVID pandemic, with increasing rates of loneliness, depression, and anxiety. If we hope to improve health outcomes for our diverse communities in Arizona and beyond, we need effective mental health programs and services.

At the same time, climate change is now the single biggest threat facing humanity. Droughts, floods, and severe storms have already displaced millions of people, and at the same time many struggle with increased food insecurity. We must prepare for the climate-driven health risks, and we must prioritize health equity in our climate change response to build resilience for those most in need.

Now you are graduating, and you will go out into the world with the knowledge and skills you have gained at MEZCOPH. You will join so many of our other alumni who are working to improve health and wellness in diverse communities locally and globally. Together we will continue to push for health equity and social justice, so that all people have access to clean air, clean water, nutritious food, and the health services they need.

I wish you every success as you go forward into the world, with passion and dedication, to face the public health challenges of today and tomorrow...and always remember the three P's of Public Health: Prevention, Promotion and Protection!

Congratulations! Thank you! Bear Down!

All the Best,
Iman Hakim MD, PhD, MPH '94
Dean





ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA MEL AND ENID ZUCKERMAN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Established in the year 2000, the Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at the University of Arizona Health Sciences delivers top-tier public health education and research to build healthier communities locally, nationally, and globally. The only nationally accredited college of public health in Arizona, with campuses in Tucson and Phoenix as well as online programs, the college enrolls hundreds of students per year across degree programs at the bachelor's degree, master's degree and doctoral levels. As a leader in public health research and practice, the College receives significant federal grant funding and continues to find solutions to public health challenges through community-based research and service programs across the Southwest and globally, including tribal communities, Spanish-language communities, and border communities.



ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OF THE COLLEGE

The **Bachelor of Arts (BA)** in Wellness and Health Promotion Practice, launched in Fall 2021, is the newest undergraduate degree available in the Zuckerman College of Public Health. The major offers students the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills, ethics, and cultural competencies needed to provide professional wellness services and interventions. This degree, available for main campus and fully online students, includes emphasis areas in health education, health and wellness, or aging and population health.

The **Bachelor of Science (BS)**, with a major in Public Health, admitted its first students in fall 2009, and offers a broad-based public health curriculum with undergraduate emphasis area options in environmental and occupational health, global health, health promotion, health systems theory and practice, one health, and quantitative methods in public health.

An **Online Bachelor of Science (BS)** with a major in Public Health launched in fall 2016. Fully online students choose a public health emphasis area in environmental and occupational health, global health, health systems theory and practice, one health, or public health practice.

The **Master of Public Health Program (MPH)** offers a Master of Public Health degree on either the Tucson or Phoenix Campus with nine concentration areas: Biostatistics, Environmental and Occupational Health, Epidemiology, Family and Child Health, Health Behavior Health Promotion, Health Services Administration in Phoenix and Tucson, One Health, Public Health Policy and Management, and Public Health Practice in Phoenix.



The College's **Online Master of Public Health Program (MPH)** offers concentrations in Applied Epidemiology, Health Promotion, and Health Services Administration. The Online MPH program was initiated in fall of 2015.

For **Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) Program** offers an advanced, professional degree program for students who already have an MPH degree or its equivalent. Focused on developing future leaders in public health practice, this doctoral degree program offers two major concentration areas for DrPH candidates: Maternal and Child Health and Public Health Policy and Management.

The **Biostatistics MS and PhD Programs** prepare students who have demonstrated excellence in mathematics and the sciences with the skills to become research biostatisticians in academia, industry, or government.

The **Environmental Health Sciences MS and PhD Programs** were developed for graduate students who want to gain expertise in topics related to climate change, water quality and quantity and their impacts on health, and other environmental health issues. The programs launched in Fall 2010.

The **Epidemiology MS and PhD Programs** provide multi-disciplinary collaborations among program faculty and university departments, and engage state and national health institutions to provide classroom and community training opportunities.

The **PhD in Health Behavior Health Promotion (HBHP)** offers a diverse and challenging curriculum that addresses health behavior health promotion theory, knowledge and skills needed to work on health issues within the diverse communities of the Southwest U.S. Launched in 2014, the program trains students to use mixed qualitative/quantitative research methods, statistics, and grant development skills to improved community health.



RECOGNITION OF STUDENT AWARDS

Outstanding Senior Awards

The *Outstanding Senior Award* is awarded to undergraduate students who have demonstrated exceptional achievements in: academic performance, internship performance, commitment to the College of Public Health and/or the College's mission statement and values, community service.

Aisha Fregoso

Outstanding Master of Public Health Student Award

The Outstanding Master of Public Health Student Award was established to recognize graduating MPH students from both the main and online campus who have demonstrated outstanding achievements in the following areas:

(1) Academic Performance, (2) Internship Performance, (3) Commitment to the College of Public Health, (4) Community Service.

Caroline Elmer

David Guttman

Undergraduate Academic Honors

Undergraduate students recognized below have achieved academic excellence in their studies, based on the grade point averages going into the spring 2022 semester.

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Meaning with highest great honor—gold honor cord

Awarded to candidates whose grade point average is 3.90 or higher

Kelsie Miller

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Meaning with high praise and honor—red honor cord

Awarded to candidates whose grade point average is 3.75 or higher

Meredith Gnezda

Fatma Khalaf

Madelyn Hardy

Bahozhoi

Riley Holmes

Kinsel-Gishie

CUM LAUDE

Meaning with praise or honor—blue honor cord

Awarded to candidates whose grade point average is 3.500 or higher

Erika Barton

Kali Duarte

Sophia Bishop

Aisha Fregoso

Collin Bright

Lillian Mullis

Cheryl Nguyen

Public Health Ambassadors

We are delighted to recognize our talented graduating Public Health Student Ambassadors. Our ambassadors, who are wearing salmon honor cords, provide tremendous assistance to the College of Public Health in our recruiting and admissions efforts, assist the College with our social media presence; provide outreach to campus clubs and organizations; and generally represent the College of Public Health as public health students and professionals.

GRADUATE AMBASSADORS

Breanna Lameman Amy Nematollahi

Dasy Resendiz



DOCTORAL GRADUATES

Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) *with Dissertation Topics*

Public Health Policy & Management

Sheila Soto**

Topic: Health Status of Arizona Farmworkers

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) *with Dissertation Topics*

Environmental Health Sciences

Amy Nematollahi

*Topic: Occupational Exposures to Per- and Polyfluoralkyl Substances (PFAS):
Evaluating Serum PFAS Concentrations in Municipal Firefighters and the relationship
Between PFAS and COVID-19 Severity in Essential Workers*

Epidemiology

Magdiel Habila*

*Topic: Barriers to Health Equity in
Human Papillomavirus Vaccination and
Cervical Cancer Prevention*

Stephanie Lashway*

*Topic: Skin Cancer and Sun Exposure
Patterns*

MASTER GRADUATES

Master of Public Health (MPH)

with Internship Projects and Sites

Biostatistics

Samuel Farrow

Project: Longitudinal Analysis of HIV-Positive Patient Acuity Score Collection at Baseline in Relationship to Program Retention

Site: Petersen HIV Clinics

Epidemiology

Kaitlyn Aoki

Project: Characteristics of COVID-19 Testing and Monkeypox Vaccination in Hawaii

Site: Hawaii Department of Health - Disease Outbreak Division

Health Behavior Health Promotion – Main Campus

Geneva Frank

Project: Pap Smear Perceptions, Education, and Promotion in African Refugee Populations

Site: Family Medicine Refugee Clinic - College of Medicine, University of Arizona

Dasy Jazmin Resendiz Torres

Project: Tackling the Social Determinants of Health by Cultivating a Community of Care in Rural Communities of Sonora, Mexico

Site: Clinica Integral Almas

Breanna Lameman

Project: Program and Evaluation Planning for the Nurturing Plants Program: Using Innovative Hydroponics Technology to Connect Rural Navajo Families to Contemporary Food Systems

Site: Navajo Ethno-Agriculture

Public Health Policy & Management

Sue Kim

Project: Improving Access to Epinephrine Auto-Injectors in Maricopa County Schools and Restaurants

Site: Kyah Rayne Foundation

Applied Epidemiology

Mariah Albertie*

Project: Evaluation and Planning for Arizona Youth Partnership & Marana Prevention Alliance

Site: Arizona Youth Partnership

Nelson Barba*

Project: Literature Review and Data Analysis of NAFLD in Hispanic Adults

Site: STEP-UP Summer Research Program

Master of Public Health (MPH) *with Internship Projects and Sites*

Jordon Belton*

Project: Biomarker and phenotypic expression in cancer and their relationship with cancer severity
Site: Indica Labs | Quantitative Pathology

Martin Caudillo*

Project: Sober Living Homes & Medication Assisted Treatment Best Practices
Site: Arizonas Center for Rural Health

Mireya Furman

Project: Title Arizona School Based Sealant Program, a highly effective intervention to Prevent Dental Caries Among School-Aged Children
Site: Arizona Department of Health Services, Phoenix Arizona

Iris Elizabeth Lococo*

Project: Influencing Factors on Rural Americans' Willingness to Vaccinate Against COVID-19: An Exploratory Study
Site: Arizona State University

Danielle Love

Project: Exploring the odds of COVID-19 infection in profit and non-profit skilled nursing homes, Washington State 2020 and 2021.
Site: Washington State Department of Health

Samantha Pear*

Project: Biostatistics of Cancer Epidemiology
Site: The Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation

Emily Rodriguez*

Project: Newborn Attachment and Wellness Study
Site: School of Social Work, Arizona State University – Tucson Campus / Remote

Brendan Thomas

Project: How to Make a Vaccine: A Comprehensive Look at the Development Process of a Bacterial Vaccine.
Site: BacVax

Hannah Leigh Blake Veloz

Project: Cervical Dilatation at Admission and Birth Outcomes: The Role of Midwifery-Led Care
Site: American Association of Birth Centers

Saige Williams

Project: Evaluating the Operationalization of COVID-19 Nonpharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs) in K-12 Schools
Site: School of Geography, Development and Environment, University of Arizona

Malcolm Lamaah Wilson

Project: Effective Recruitment Methods for Cancer-Focused Population Health Assessment
Site: University of Arizona Cancer Center

McKenna Byrne

Project: Investigating Social Determinants of Health within the Differences of Sex Development (DSD) Community
Site: Phoenix Children's Hospital

Brooke Manor

Project: COVID-19 Case Investigations, Contract Tracing, and Research: Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic through Research and Practice
Site: Student Aid for Field Epidemiology Response (SAFER)

Tanya Sumner*

Project: A United States Public Health Service Commissioned Officer Dental Hygienist Officership Activities
Site: United States Public Health Services

Health Behavior Health Promotion – Online Campus

Ayodele Adeyemi*

Project: Arizona CEAL COVID Consortium: Promoting Health Equity during the COVID Pandemic
Site: Mayo Clinic Arizona

Javeria Ahmad

Project: Effect of Bioactive Citrus Peel Compounds (D-Limonene) on Diabetes: A Scoping Review Protocol and Synthesis
Site: Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, University of Arizona

Seren Emma Armstrong*

Project: Supporting Mental Health Care Awareness and Destigmatization Among University of Arizona Athletes
Site: CATS Clinical and Sports Psychology, University of Arizona

Karyn Bloxham*

Project: Promoting Health and Wellness and Understanding of Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Running & Walking Community of Southern Arizona
Site: Southern Arizona Roadrunners (SAR)

Brandon Bowers*

Project: LifeSTEP Mentor Research Training Internship
Site: Life Skills Training and Enhancement Program (LifeSTEP)

Linalicia Campbell*

Project: Latinx and Childhood Obesity
Site: The Grow 2B Fit Foundation

Sophia Eastwood*

Project: Childhood Obesity
Site: The Grow 2B Fit Foundation

Rachel Franco

Project: Development of a Public Health Curriculum for an International Health and Wellness Company
Site: Virgin Pulse

Lucynda Gorman Dahozy

Project: Trauma Informed Care Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation for Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives (MMDR)
Site: Office of Environmental Health - Injury Prevention Programs and Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives

Stephanie Henry*

Project: Title V Maternal & Child Health Needs Assessment Dissemination of Findings
Site: Arizona Department of Health Services

Araceli Loera*

Project: Evaluation of the National Kidney Foundation's (Arizona Affiliate) Medication Assistance Program for End Stage Renal Disease and Kidney transplant Patients
Site: Arizona Kidney Foundation

Elsa Loya*

Project: Growing Girls: Estes Elementary School and Quail Run Elementary School Zuckerman Family Center for Prevention and Health Promotion
Site: Estes Elementary School and Quail Run Elementary School in Marana, AZ

Casey McCormick*

Project: Wildcat Marathoners Program's Impact on Health Behavior
Site: Southern Arizona Roadrunners

Belen Alejandra Mejia*

Project: CIELO Public Health Programming Intern
Site: Cultural & Inclusive Experiential Learning Opportunities (CIELO)

Nancy Song

Project: Nutritional Risk Screening in Community Settings to Improve Nutrition Security in Los Angeles County
Site: American Heart Association

Master of Public Health (MPH) *with Internship Projects and Sites*

Calli Stewart

Project: Health Education Course Development for Food Allergy Prevention and Treatment with the Kyah Rayne Foundation

Site: Kyah Rayne Foundation

Italia Trejo*

Project: Drinking Water Quality - Developing a PFAS and Ethylene Oxide Assessment Report

Site: Southwest Environmental Health Sciences Center

Camille Akpofome Ayanruoh

Project: Database Implementation and Evaluation with the San Francisco Homeless Outreach Team

Site: San Francisco Homeless Outreach Team

Taylor Hedges

Project: Zip Code Analysis of Kind Campus Programing

Site: Ben's Bells

Health Services Administration

Jordyn Bommarito*

Project: Healthy Families Pima County Program Internship

Site: Child & Family Resources

Jeannette Domask

Project: Development of Resources for Evaluation of Covid-19 Case Investigators for University of Arizona, and Pima and Pinal County Health Departments

Site: SAFER – Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

Eduardo Estrada*

Project: Catalyzing Communities – Tucson Child Health Working Group

Site: University of Arizona Health Sciences

Natalie Munoz*

Project: Trio Student Support Services Recourse Coordination

Site: Trio Student Support Services, Arizona State University.

Tony Reinosa*

Project: Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Public Health Response to the Sars-CoV2 outbreak

Site: Camp Pendleton

Aleece Richter*

Project: Collaboration; Leadership; Cultural Awareness

Site: California Department of Food and Agriculture: Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Division (CPDPD)

Corrin Schweer

Project: Optimizing Patient Access to Outpatient Rehabilitation Services

Site: Phoenix Children's: An Operational Improvement Plan

Briana Villegas

Project: Creating Screening Test through The First Three Program that Examine Knowledge of Parents on early Childhood Brain Development

Site: Chiricahua Community Health Centers

David Guttman*

Project: Educational Campaign Regarding the Association Between Covid-19 Virus Infection and the Development of Pulmonary Embolism

Site: Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, University of Arizona

BACHELOR GRADUATES

Bachelor of Science (BS)

with Internship Sites

Environmental & Occupational Health

Sophia Bishop

*Site: SAFER – Mel and Enid Zuckerman
College of Public Health*

Meghan Dunaski

Site: Integrative Touch for Kids

Global Health

Kayla Allender

Site: Arizona Youth Partnership

Erika Barton

*Site: Tucson Village Farm, Pima County
Cooperative Extension*

Tiffanie Cruz-Plevin

*Site: Primary Prevention Mobile Health
Unit – Mel and Enid Zuckerman College
of Public Health*

Alexia Flores

*Site: miRNA Role in Breast Cancer
Research – Mel and Enid Zuckerman
College of Public Health*

Meredith Gnezda

Site: Planned Parenthood of Greater Ohio

Emily Goldberg

Site: HealthImpact

Riana Hain-Gachiri

Site: The Tucson Family Food Project

Charlotte Ching Yee Lam

*Site: American Association of Birth
Centers Perinatal Data Registry*

Lora Moussalem

Site: The Garden Kitchen

Cheryl Nguyen

Site: Healthy 2B Me Camp, ZFCPHP

Pilar Vellante

*Site: SAFER – Mel and Enid Zuckerman
College of Public Health*

Health Promotion

Collin Bright

Site: City of Scottsdale Adaptive Services

Ryan Carlo

*Site: Midwifery Learning Collaborative
of Arizona*

Valeria Enriquez

*Site: American Association of Birth
Centers*

Madelyn Hardy

*Site: MEZCOPH Healthy Schools and
Wildcat Marathoner's Program*

Riley Holmes

Site: Kyah Rayne Foundation

Michelle Martinez

*Site: Boys & Girls Club of Tucson and
Roy Drachman Clubhouse*

Jada Sanchez

*Site: Casa Alitas, Catholic Community
Services*

Madison Wood*

*Site: American Association of Birth
Centers - Perinatal Data Registration*

Health Systems Theory & Practice Emphasis

Amanda Avalos

Site: American Association of Birth Centers

Kali Duarte

Site: El Rio Health

Fatma Khalaf

Site: American Association of Birth Centers

Bahozhoi Kinsel-Gishie

Site: Project Healthy Community – Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

Justine Leiva

Site: American Association of Birth Centers Perinatal Data Registry

Peyton McNeely

Site: UArizona and ASU Sleep Study

Kelsie Miller

Site: College of Medicine – Tucson, University of Arizona

Gabriela Paco

Site: Autism Society of Southern Arizona

Citlally Salazar

Site: American Association of Birth Centers

Kourtney Trough

Site: Arizona Youth Partnership

Alexandro Vasquez

Site: Davis-Monthan AFB Health Promotion

One Health

Julieann Fonseca*

Site: Community, Environment & Policy – Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

Michael Gibbons

Site: Community, Environment & Policy – Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

Quan Le

Site: American Association of Birth Centers

Lillian Mullis

Site: Edge Integrative Wellness

Public Health Practice

Briana Cota

Site: Graham County Health Department

Quantitative Methods in Public Health

Aisha Fregoso

Site: FRONTERA, UAHS Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion and American Association of Birth Centers



Congratulations Graduates!

The Office of Student Services and Alumni Affairs wishes you the best of luck in all your future endeavors. Go forth and make good things happen. We will miss you!

Mariah Albertie

Kim Barnes

Melanie Fleck

Melissa Garcia

Nicole Johnson

Elsa Loya

Tanya Nemec

Samantha Pierce

Michael Tearne

Chris Tisch

Abba Kris Maria Versace

Special thanks to...

**Commencement and
Ceremonies Team**

GradImages

Centennial Hall Team

Shipherd Reed

Paula Hayes

Buds Blooms

Our Wonderful MEZCOPH Volunteers:

Hamza Butt

Vanessa Madrid-Resendiz

Amber Richmond

SCHOLARSHIPS & ENDOWMENTS

- Arizona Prevention Center Scholarship
- Carlos “Kent” and Elizabeth “Liz” Campbell International Internship Endowment
- Chicanos Por La Causa Scholarship
- Cliff and Penny Crutchfield Scholarship
- College of Public Health Community Advisory Board Scholarship
- Drachman Prevention Fellowship
- Reva T. Frankle Scholarship
- Hispanic Women’s Corporation / Zuckerman Family Foundation Student Scholarship
- Lorraine H. Lee Chicanos Por La Causa Scholarship
- Maureen and Edward Mangotich Memorial Scholarship
- Joel S. Meister Endowed Scholarship
- Elbridge and Genevieve Morrill Memorial Scholarship
- Charlotte and Buddy Mullis Native American Scholarship
- Andrew W. Nichols Initiative Scholarship
- Pascua Yaqui Tribe Scholarship
- Helen and Raymond Sarocco Scholarship
- SueBob Scholars Endowment
- Russell H. Swanson Public Health Scholarship
- Quidel Global Health Scholarship
- U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona Distinguished Public Health Preparedness Scholarship
- Joel Valdez Scholarship
- J & J Vosila Scholarship
- Anthony and Joan Vuturo Scholarship
- Walderon-Herrera Scholarship
- Zuckerman Family Foundation African American Scholarship
- Zuckerman Family Foundation Hispanic Scholarship
- Zuckerman Family Foundation Native American Scholarship
- Zuckerman Family Foundation Scholarship Endowment

Learn more about the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health's Scholarship programs and how you can donate at:

PUBLICHEALTH.ARIZONA.EDU/SUPPORT



The University of Arizona
Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

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Associate Dean for Research

Cecilia Rosales '76, MS '00, MD
Associate Dean, Phoenix Campus

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Amy Zuckerman

Nicole Zuckerman-Morris JD

The UArizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health is the only nationally accredited college of public health in the state of Arizona, with campuses in Tucson and Phoenix.



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