Public Health & Preventive Medicine Department, OHSU

History

By

Katherine J. Riley, Ed.D., Assistant Professor Emerita

Through the Decades:

Early Years

The Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine (PHPM) was officially founded in 1941; however, its story and mission to promote optimum health and avoid disease and injury begins before that time and continues today. The University of Oregon Medical School was established in 1887 through a merger with Willamette University and it moved to Marquam Hill between 1913-1919. Infectious disease was taught in a single lecture. In 1919 when Dr. Harry J. Sears, Professor of Bacteriology, arrived, he began teaching a course in bacteriology and infectious disease. He was fascinated by the causes of and treatments for influenza, typhoid, and diphtheria. Adolph Weinzirl attended the medical school between 1922-25 and then went on to obtain a CPH from Johns Hopkins Medical School. He was hired as Portland City Health Officer in 1937. At 6’ tall he cut an imposing figure. Dr. Sears enlisted the aid of his former student as a volunteer faculty member to help teach his class and also recruited Frederick D. Stricker, M.D., the state health officer to participate. When the state health officer retired, Weinzirl assumed responsibility for teaching the entire class. Weinzirl was also tireless in his efforts as Portland Health Officer and during the 1938 smallpox epidemic he organized educational talks in the area and the vaccination of 6,000 school children. He also served as medical director for a hospital for children with serious communicable diseases who were refused treatment at local hospitals.

In 1939 a local ophthalmologist, E.C. Brown, passed away and since he had no heirs, left his money and land holdings (including city blocks in downtown Portland near the current Multnomah County Library) in a trust to focus on social hygiene (later known as public health), family life, and sex education, especially prevention of venereal disease. An advisory board was appointed for the trust and Weinzirl was named as Foundation Director, although he referred to himself as an interim director. Weinzirl resigned from his position as Portland Health Officer and was appointed as a full-time faculty member at OHSU. He established the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine when he accepted the position in 1941 and housed the E.C. Brown Foundation within the department, located in the Baird Hall basement. Weinzirl kept very active with the American Public Health Association, the Western Branch of APHA, and as a founding member of the Oregon Public Health Association in 1944. In 1945 he worked with state legislators to pass a law making health and physical education required subjects for all 12 grades of public school. The subjects were to include the structure and function of the human body, communicable diseases, mental health, personal hygiene, community health and sanitation, and nutrition. Oregon became widely known as the first state to require sex education in its schools. Weinzirl was officially appointed as Chair of the department in 1947.

In 1949 the department was able to receive enough state funding to pay for Weinzirl’s salary, a secretary, and to hire Carl Hopkins to teach biostatistics (Weinzirl had been teaching it part time). Two more courses were added.
The 1960's

It was not until 1960 that additional faculty were added to the department. Wesley Horton, Ph.D., a biochemist interested in the chemistry of carcinogens, and Raymond Suskin, M.D., a dermatologist, were hired—but not in the separate department they had been promised. They became the environmental medicine division of the PHPM department. They largely worked independently from Weinzirl.

Weinzirl was loved by the students for his exceptional lectures. A former student, Donald Austin, remembers that Weinzirl would talk about venereal disease by using examples of diseased characters from the Bible. His large jowls would shake as he shook his head to talk about the fascinating subjects. He was awarded the first Dr. Allan J. Hill, Jr. Award for Outstanding Teaching by the 1961 medical school graduating class. Weinzirl was also known as a natty dresser and one photo of him seated in the library shows him with his two-tone saddle shoes extended out in front. His wife, Elizabeth, was also well known—but for her tattoos. In her 40’s she began to obtain tattoos, knew the best tattoo artists from throughout the country, would attend tattoo conventions, and was not bashful about showing off her tattoos. She was even featured in Esquire magazine. It is not known how their two daughters felt about this hobby but Weinzirl was happy to pay for additional tattoos. She was personable, intelligent, and well-liked and received an honorary award from OPHA in 1967.

Harold T. Osterud, M.D., M.P.H. was serving as Lane County Health Officer in 1961 when he was visited by Weinzirl and asked to become a member of the PHPM faculty. Osterud had already served as Wasco, Sherman, and Coos County Health Officers and had successfully lobbied the state legislature to establish a state medical examiner system. A wiry and energetic man with many interests, Osterud had been elected to Alpha Omega Alpha in medical school and had also received the Bronze Star from the US Army during the Korean War. He was successful in creating a system in Lane County to provide emergency psychiatric treatment for people in crisis and the first local mental health clinic. One of his interests involved research in sudden infant death syndrome. David W.E. Baird, M.D., Dean of the School of Medicine, interviewed Osterud and told Weinzirl, “Hire the squirt!” so Osterud began his employment on a $5.5 million grant with Weinzirl and the departments of cardiology, and internal medicine to look at congenital malformations and heart disease. This was the largest grant the university had received up to that date. In 1962 Osterud and Victor Menashe, M.D., of the Crippled Children’s Division discovered hypoplastic left heart syndrome.

Osterud liked to involve medical and nursing students in practical experiences. He taught the basic medical student course in epidemiology and statistics and always brought one or two medical students with him to clinics where he taught them to give immunizations. David (Dave) Phillips, Ph.D., a postdoctoral student in psychology, assisted Osterud in teaching statistics.

Weinzirl and Osterud were active during the '60’s in attending conferences and obtaining grants. Osterud received a grant to train 10-15 medical students every summer and he also was appointed to head health manpower studies by the Oregon Health Division. Osterud was appointed to chair the Health Manpower Committee for the state, one of only four such national study groups. Beatrice (Bea) K. Rose, M.D., M.P.H., was asked to be involved mid-way into the study and they agreed to co-chair the committee. After the report was finished, the committee became the Health Manpower Commission. Phillips was appointed half-time on a training grant in 1965 to teach statistics. Weinzirl was appointed head of the Portland Air Quality Advisory Committee. Osterud also organized crippled children’s clinics in all counties.
During these years Osterud established collegial relations with the Multnomah County Medical Society despite previous “town and gown” tensions. Positive relationships were maintained afterwards.

1967 brought changes to the department. William F. Morton, M.D., Dr.PH, was hired to teach epidemiology to first year medical students in the course taught by Osterud. Before Morton arrived Weinzirl suffered a stroke and stepped down as chair to devote more time to teaching. Within two months he suffered a heart attack and passed away.

Osterud was named interim chair and then permanent chair.

Osterud continued to teach environmental health in the first year course with Morton and Phillips. Although Morton’s research background was in cardiology, funding was not available so he began conducting research on cancer. He also assumed responsibility for the summer medical students.

The 1970’s

It soon became apparent to Osterud in his manpower studies that there were not going to be enough family physicians to take care of Oregon’s growing population. He worked with two family physicians, Laurel Case and Merle Pennington, staunch Multnomah County Medical Society and Oregon Medical Association members, to organize the department of Family Practice, later renamed Family Medicine, by going to the state legislature and bypassing the other medical school departments that opposed it. Laurel Case was appointed as the first chair of the new department.

PHPM also assumed responsibility for training Preventive Medicine residents when the Oregon Health Division decided to no longer be involved. Osterud organized treatment clinics for immigrants in cooperation with Multnomah County and the residents helped to staff them. Osterud often recruited physicians as Preventive Medicine residents who had been trained in their home countries of Vietnam and Russia and they were invaluable in assisting.

Providing health care to the community was a priority for Osterud. He encouraged establishing migrant health clinics for children that later became community health clinics. The first clinic was founded by Chris Williams, Director of the Crippled Children’s Division (CCD) and Morton in the basement of a church in Stayton. It was later moved to Woodburn. The second clinic was established by Elton Kessel, a former Preventive Medicine resident. Another was established in Cornelius in 1975 as the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Clinic with the help of Merwyn (Mitch) Greenlick, Ph.D., Director of the Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research (KPCHR) and a clinical (volunteer) faculty member.

Osterud continued to be involved in teaching and he received the Dr. Alan J. Hill, Jr. Award for Outstanding Teaching from the medical students. To assist in his teaching about disaster preparedness he recruited Rose. She staged a mock heart attack and rescue with Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT’s) applying cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). After the lecture both the first and second year students demanded to learn CPR. Osterud asked to do so and she, with the assistance of the Oregon heart Association, trained each class and certified every student. During this time Rose and her husband, Leonard Rose, M.D., a cardiologist, were in the forefront of training ambulance personnel to become Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT’s), which was occurring throughout the country. A
national conference on CPR was held in Washington, D.C., and standards were developed, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, and distributed throughout the world. This technique gained city and national attention when Portland’s mayor, Terry Schrunk, suffered a heart attack while conducting a meeting in city hall. A passing Buck Ambulance was hailed, CPR was administered, and the mayor’s life was saved. Despite these events, CPR was not taught at the medical school. Osterud was instrumental in pursuing its adoption by the Medical School Curriculum Committee.

In 1975 Osterud asked Rose to write a hospital infection control manual because he was on the infection control committee and the hospital had received warnings from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals (JCAH) and a JCAH inspection was pending. Although she was an internist, she quickly set to work and developed a manual. JCAH was impressed with the manual and the hospital received accreditation. Rose was appointed to the faculty full time in 1976 to also assist with the Law and Medicine course and serve as the preceptor for a new program with the Housing Authority of Portland (HAP) in which medical students lived in HAP apartment buildings, provided health counseling for the inhabitants, and met weekly with Rose who oversaw their interactions.

During this time Morton met with other faculty members to plan an Oregon Cancer Center. They did not receive funding but Morton later was successful in receiving funding to study the relation of broadcast energy (non-ionizing radiation) to cancer incidence.

An arrangement was made with the University of Washington (UW) for Preventive Medicine residents to receive their MPH training through a federal grant. Since the amount of funding was limited, Osterud decided to give it all to UW.

In 1978 Michael J. Garland, D.Rel.Sc., joined the department through a grant from Oregon Physicians Service (Oregon’s Blue Shield program) to teach medical students about health care costs and ethical decisions. Garland also teamed with Rose, Thomas Fox, M.D., J.D., and Stanley Welborn, M.D., J.D., to teach the Law and Medicine course to medical students.

The 1980’s

During this period several changes developed with financial implications. Osterud received a state salary for the first time after being funded solely by grants since he had arrived. Morton was asked to establish a diagnostic clinic for occupational illnesses that often were heard as Workers Compensation cases -- but payment was often not forthcoming. The department also moved to the Children’s Development and Rehabilitation Center (CDRC-West) building. The medical school launched a revision of the basic science curriculum for medical students and served on an ethics subcommittee of the Curriculum Committee but he also organized panels of speakers on health care access, cost, and ethics. PHPM teaching was decreased and integrated into the core Principles of Clinical Medicine Course (funded in the 1990’s by a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant). The department’s existence as a separate entity was questioned.

While the department struggled internally, members continued to provide service in the community. As an outgrowth of a Health Commission chaired by Senate President John Kitzhaber, M.D., Garland teamed with clinical (volunteer) faculty member, Ralph Crawshaw, M.D., to form Oregon Health Decisions. A conference on health policy was sponsored by the Oregon Bioethics Conference, Inc. (later renamed “Oregon Health Decisions”), a non-profit foundation established by the State Health Coordinating Council (SHCC). The first conference involved community meetings throughout the state
and culminated in a Health Care Parliament (1983) and report to the SHCC, *Society Must Decide*. The Oregon Health Decisions (OHD) model inspired similar organizations in other states during the 1980s. These eventually formed a coalition group called American Health Decisions. In 1987 John Kitzhaber, M.D., then President of the Oregon Senate, chaired the steering committee for a third Oregon Health Decisions program, *Health Priorities for the 1990s*. The goal was to develop public input regarding values to set priorities for health care. A series of community meetings were held throughout the state to gather public input on health values. A second Health Care Parliament met in Portland and generated a report about determining priorities for health care, *Quality of Life in Allocating Health Care Resources* (1988). This project contributed to ideas that led to the Oregon Health Plan and its internationally known prioritized list of health services. In the formative period of the Oregon Health Plan, Oregon Health Decisions again organized community meetings to develop public input on values to guide the prioritized list being developed by the Oregon Health Services Commission (*Health Care in Common*, 1990). Crawshaw, Garland, and Kitzhaber gave presentations on the Oregon Health Plan throughout the nation and the world.

In 1989 Garland and Tolle worked together to found the Center for Ethics in Healthcare with Tolle as the Director and Garland as the Associate Director.

Also in 1989 Osterud announced that he planned to retire at the end of 1990 and Dean John Kendall, M.D., considered combining PHPM with the departments of psychiatry or family medicine. A group of PHPM faculty discussed what to do to save the department. Rose was delegated to talk with Greenlick to see if he might be interested in chairing the department. Unbeknownst to the PHPM faculty, Kendall had already participated in a meeting with Greenlick, was impressed by him, and offered him the chair position. Greenlick agreed to become chair if the faculty wanted him and the decision was unanimous. In the first of many key financial arrangements, Greenlick arranged for his salary to be paid by KPCHR while he continued to serve as their director as well as chair of PHPM and he received a nominal amount from the university. As a further condition of his acceptance, Greenlick insisted that his OHSU salary be allocated to establish tenure for Garland.

**The 1990’s**

The decade of the 90’s ushered in stabilization and growth for the department. Although Osterud retired, he agreed to be the Clackamas County Health Officer on a volunteer basis, offered a medical student elective, and provided training for a Preventive Medicine resident in Clackamas County. Greenlick was appointed as interim chair in March, 1990.

Initially, the department needed a great deal of attention. Morton assumed leadership for the Residency and discovered that the program would be site visited for accreditation but records had not been kept up to date. The program was placed on probation and a former resident and newly appointed investigator at KPCHR, Evelyn K. Whitlock, M.D., M.P.H., was asked to assist in getting the Residency organized. The department was also moved from CDRC-West to the Campus Services Building which had recently been vacated by the School of Nursing when they moved to their new building next door. PHPM occupied most of the 6th floor. Greenlick, Garland, and Morton began planning for the epidemiology, statistics, ethics, and health delivery portions of the new Principles of Clinical Medicine course.

Greenlick realized that a key to a strong Residency program was having an MPH program located closer than Seattle or Berkley and he began holding talks with representatives from the School
of Nursing (SON), Portland State University (PSU), Oregon State University (OSU), and the University of Oregon (UofO) to form a collaborative Oregon MPH program. Due to the passage of Measure 5 in 1990 the UofO determined in 1992 that funding was insufficient to continue their public health department and the department dropped out of the discussions.

At this time the department housed 6 faculty members (Greenlick, Garland, Morton, Phillips, Rose, and Osterud) and one secretary. Greenlick began to recruit for a department administrator and in late 1992 hired Katherine (Katie) J. Riley, Ed.D., as department administrator and adjunct faculty member. She had been a department administrator at UCLA and had taught classes there and at community colleges. She was charged with establishing the financial budget and records for the department, assisting with development of Residency records, goals, and objectives, and helping to develop the educational offerings, including the MPH program. Whitlock had already assembled a large amount of material for the Oregon MPH (OMPH) proposal to the Oregon University System. Riley drafted the proposal by the end of the year and also drafted a proposal for the Oregon Health Policy Institute (OHPI); another vision of Greenlick’s to involve the department in health policy analysis and applied research for the state legislature and other local and national agencies. The OHPI was submitted as another partnership among OHSU, OSU, and PSU.

Dean John Benson had launched a national search for a permanent chair but Greenlick was officially appointed as chair in 1992. Greenlick actively recruited many new clinical faculty members and joint faculty members in other departments as a means of strengthening department teaching and in preparation for a strong proposal for the new Oregon MPH program. As part of that effort Donald F. Austin, M.D., M.P.H., newly returned to the state through an appointment with the Oregon Health Division, was recruited as a clinical faculty member to help plan the new epidemiology series of courses and the epidemiology portion of the Principles of Clinical Medicine Course with Morton. Faculty meetings were held weekly with heated debates about curriculum content. A monthly Grand Rounds series featured popular speakers and lunch.

MPH courses were planned with almost all faculty members teaching, Phillips serving as Epidemiology and Biostatistics Track director, and Riley developing a course numbering system and assisting in developing educational goals and objectives and standardized syllabi. Gary Sexton, Ph.D., a joint appointee taught the Biostatistics 3 course. The new courses were launched in fall 1993 and the Oregon MPH (OMPH) program was approved by the Oregon University Board in October. The first eight students were officially admitted in January 1994. Blue Cross/Blue Shield donated funds for a computer lab and a conference room was quickly converted. It was apparent that all students and faculty needed to be computer proficient. The new track in Epidemiology and Biostatistics included a practical internship and a thesis project.

A strong tradition of department gatherings started including annual Christmas/winter holiday and Halloween potlucks.
Costumes worn by faculty, staff, and students highlighted the Halloween parties.

Greenlick believed strongly that all physicians should have a public health background and should understand their population-based clinical practice obligations. He and Garland advocated for medical students to obtain a “community health habit of mind” that would enable them to see patients within the context of their total environment. Plans and discussions were initiated for an MD/MPH joint degree and the first seven students for the 5-year program were admitted in fall 1995.

When Rose retired in 1993, Bruce Goldberg, M.D., replaced her as preceptor of the HAP program. Unfortunately, the Housing Authority chose to discontinue the program in 2000.

Pamela Spohn (Hanes), Ph.D., was hired as the Director of OHPI in 1994. She quickly initiated meetings to develop projects.

Garland led a strategic planning effort during the same year and the department established goals and objectives. Goals and objectives were updated annually through 2001. In addition, the department compiled and published annual reports during the same period.
In an effort to decrease tobacco use, Austin founded and was the first president of the Tobacco Free Coalition of Oregon (ToFCO). This group was active in passing an increase in the tobacco tax.

In 1995 the efforts to revitalize the Residency program under Whitlock were rewarded when full accreditation was received through 1998. Whitlock returned to KPCHR as an Investigator and accepted a clinical appointment. Jay Kravitz, M.D., M.P.H., a former resident and the Washington County Health Officer, was hired part-time as Residency Director. A coordinated residency program was established with Family Medicine.

Austin and Morton participated in planning for the Oregon Cancer Center. Austin had been awarded a grant to establish an Oregon Cancer Registry, first housed in the department and then moved to the Oregon Health Division. Previously, he had founded the California Cancer Registry. He was appointed Associate Director of the Cancer Center when it received funding.

Merwyn (Mitch) Greenlick, Ph.D.

When Morton retired in 1996, recruitment began to fill his position with another epidemiologist. Thomas M. Becker, M.D., Dr.PH, and Austin were finalists for the position. Greenlick took the opportunity to launch one of his many “stone soup” coups. Greenlick decided to hire both since Becker would be able to bring most of his funding with him and PHPM could get two epidemiologists for the hard-money price of one. Becker’s research involved work on the Human Papiloma Virus that was later a factor in development of the HPV vaccine. He also offered training programs for American Indians to develop research skills to apply in their home communities to prevent disease and injury.

The department worked with KPCHR to obtain NRSA funding for a postdoctoral training grant in health services research. The program was launched in 1996 with KPCHR providing matching stipends, office space, and research mentoring and PHPM administering the grant and offering MPH enrollment. Janice Alexander, Ph.D., an epidemiologist from the University of Iowa was appointed as the first scholar. In 1999 a second postdoctoral program in Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) was launched in partnership with KPCHR and the Craniofacial Complimentary and Alternative Medical Center. Ultimately, seventeen fellows were trained in the two programs.

Various aids were developed for students to ease their progress in the MPH. An MPH Handbook and a website were developed as well as course requirement and thesis checklists. Training seminars were provided to advisors. In addition, curriculum reviews were conducted by epidemiology and biostatistics faculty and the core courses were revised accordingly. A scholarship fund was established for MD/MPH students to cover their tuition during their year off from medical school to finish their MPH courses and work on their theses. Funding was received from Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Providence, and donors to the Harold T. Osterud MD, MPH Scholarship. As students prepared to graduate, exit interviews were developed. The first five students received their MPH degrees in 1997 with Greenlick serving as OHSU’s Commencement speaker.
In 1998 Phillips retired and Becker assumed the track directorship of the Epidemiology and Biostatistics track and attended meetings for the OMPH Coordinating Council and the SOM Graduate Council.

Jodi A. Lapidus, Ph.D. was hired to teach biostatistics. The department also received additional space for offices another seminar room and an updated computer lab.

Greenlick had chaired an Institute of Medicine (IOM) committee on bridging the gap between research and its application to substance abuse treatment in 1997. When the National Institute for Drug Abuse opened a national research effort to implement the IOM’s recommendations, the department received funding as the Oregon Node (OR Node) of the national Clinical Trials Network in 1999 for approximately $12 million, including 7 subcontracts with participating treatment and research partners.

PHPM also explored initiatives that were not able to reach fruition including seeking to have a coordinated health system database and offering a biostatistics consulting service. In addition, while the OHPI logged more than $25 million in research, its promise to have coordinated research projects among OSU, PSU, and OHSU was not fully implemented.

The 2000’s

A contract from the Oregon Health Division enabled Eldon Edmundson, Ph.D., to work with Greenlick on an OHPI project to review the effect of motorcycle helmets on safety.

Greenlick retired in 2000 and Becker was appointed Acting Department Chair. The Oregon MPH program had a major accomplishment the same year when accreditation was received from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

Motomi Mori, Ph.D. received a joint appointment with the department to add strength to the biostatistics faculty. The biostatistics curriculum was reviewed again and a data consulting practicum
course and data analysis course were added to increase graduation rates. Information on available databases was gathered and posted on the website for students.

To improve the success of the MD/MPH portion of the track a summer Epidemiology 1 (Epi 1) seminar was offered in the first month before the students started medical school and additional advising was built in to the program. John Stull, M.D., M.P.H., a former Resident and postdoctoral scholar, was hired in 2001 to teach Epi 1 to the MD/MPH and regular students, teach Current Issues and Ethics, and be the Director of the MD/MPH component.

Teaching assistants were hired to assist faculty teaching the epidemiology and biostatistics core courses.

New appointments increased the faculty strength. Dennis McCarty, Ph.D., former Director of the Massachusetts Drug and Alcohol Treatment program and a faculty member at Brandeis as well as a member of Greenlick's IOM committee, was hired and designated as the Principal Investigator for the OR Node grant. William Lambert, Ph.D., an environmental epidemiologist, was hired by the Center for Research on Occupational and Environmental Toxicology (CROET), and received a joint appointment in the department. He was a colleague of Becker’s in New Mexico and participated in teaching Becker’s summer institute for native researchers. Riley was asked to become a full-time faculty member. She became part of McCarty’s grant projects on substance abuse treatment and developed and taught courses in Women’s Health Epidemiology and Adolescent Risky Behavior Epidemiology. She also became the Director of Education for the Department. To fill her previous functions, Daniela Scortzaru, M.B.A., was hired as the Financial Manager and Debra Howes, M.S.Ed., was hired as Department Administrator in 2002. In 2003, when Howes became ill and had to resign, Scortzaru assumed the duties of both positions and became Department Administrator. To address the need for more biostatistics faculty Dongseok Choi, Ph.D., was hired.

When Garland retired in 2002, Yvonne Michael, Sc.D., was hired from her faculty position at PSU to teach Epi 1. Garland was the first of several faculty honored by the students’ request to hood graduates at the hooding ceremony. He also received an educational leadership award. Others receiving teaching awards were Austin, Becker, and Lapidus.

The Graduate Council added an award for Outstanding Master’s Thesis to graduation ceremonies and Micah Thorpe, M.D., M.P.H., was the first recipient.
To assist student research Greenlick endowed a grant for research funding for master’s theses. The first recipient was Jennifer Wisdom, Ph.D., a participant in the department’s postdoctoral training grant. Greenlick also was elected as a State Representative to the Oregon House in 2002.

Becker decided to establish 3 divisions within the department to assist him in his work as department chair. Austin was appointed Vice Chair for Epidemiology, McCarty for Behavioral Health, and Mori for Biostatistics.

The MD/MPH students also became organized in 2004 and formed a student council with Amanda Hayman as coordinator. A network of peer advising was implemented.

During this period Osterud became ill and Kravitz assumed responsibility for teaching the International/Global Health class. Osterud passed away in 2004 and was mourned widely by his students throughout the world for his devotion to public health and extensive medical and public health knowledge that he portrayed in energetic stories.

Goldberg left full time employment with the university to become Director of the Department of Human Services (DHS) in 2005 but maintained a clinical joint appointment with PHPM. He continues to participate in departmental activities.

Several biostatisticians were hired during the decade including Dongseog Choi, Ph.D., Dawn Peters, Ph.D., Nichole Carlson, Ph.D., Rochelle Fu, Ph.D., Mike Lasarev, M.S., Thuan Nguyen, M.D., Ph.D., and Yiyi Chen, Ph.D. Carlson left after four years because her husband obtained employment in Colorado. Lori Lambert, M.S., taught Biostatistics Survey for several years on a part-time basis.

Retired faculty continued to stay active. Morton continued to teach new classes and James continued to serve.

Michael received a job offer elsewhere and left in 2009. Carrie Nielson, Ph.D., was hired to replace her.

The MPH track explored various options throughout the decade. International Health and Maternal and Child Health (MCH) tracks were actively investigated. An MCH seminar was held for credit in 2005. In 2006 a subcommittee of the MPH Committee explored implementing a non-thesis option for the track but funding for the additional faculty needed to teach a capstone course was not available.

In 2006 Stull was asked to assume responsibility for the Residency program in addition to his other activities. His MD/MPH students continued to increase their research success and in 2008 they organized the first MD/MPH Research Retreat, featuring student presentations of completed thesis projects and posters of proposed topics.

A new scholarship was established in 2008 to help attract disadvantaged students to the MPH program. A gala garden party fundraiser was held at the home of Geoffrey Beasley, M.D., a former resident, for the Mitch Greenlick MPH Scholarship. Greenlick decided to reinvest his research endowment in the new scholarship. The party was repeated in 2009 and the same year another dinner was held to raise funds for the Harold T. Osterud MD/MPH scholarship. Another scholarship was founded in 2009 when Riley retired and a travel scholarship was named in her honor to assist students making presentations at conferences.
In 2009 the department was given the balance of the space on the 6th floor and was able to convert part of the new space into a state-of-the-art computer lab.

As of 2009 a total of 200 students had received their MPH degree from the track. Lambert was named Director of Education to replace Riley and Teresa Triano, M.S., who had been assisting Riley the previous year was named as Education Coordinator. A listing of graduates and their thesis projects and advisors is available on the PHPM website.

**The 2010’s**

Several new faculty members have been recruited to the department and are in the process of teaching and conducting research. Ana Quinones, Ph.D., and Janne Boone-Heinonen, Ph.D., M.P.H., a graduate of the track, joined PHPM in 2010. In addition, the biostatistics faculty developed a new educational program and the Biostatistics Certificate accepted its first students in 2010. Faculty, students, and staff continue to attend Grad Rounds seminars and participate in cutting edge research and outstanding courses. Greenlick was instrumental in passage of the Oregon Health Authority and Goldberg became its first director. Greenlick also coordinated and led the passage of Oregon’s health insurance exchange. This decade’s history is still in the making!

**Financial Development**

The department has consistently relied on ingenuity and energy to survive financially. Initial funding came from grants. State funding was not received until 1949 and in 1981-82 the university allocation to the department totaled approximately $228,000. The total amount in 1991 was approximately $339,000. The addition of the MPH program in 1993 did not bring increased funding into the department until 2001 when a business plan proposed adding a portion of the fees. In 2005-06 the tuition rebate to the department was projected at $90,000. In 2006 university funding to the department had increased to $701,859; however, in 2011 the university allocation had decreased to $479,619. Grant funding greatly increased when Greenlick became chair. His mastery of the grant process increased annual grant funding from approximately $118,000 per year in 1994 to approximately $4.7 million in 2001. By the end of 2010-2011, grant funding was over $5,800,000 per year. Grants received during the decade that annual reports were kept are listed in the annual reports. In addition, investigators hired numerous research assistants and they have contributed greatly to the department’s success.

**Public Service**

Some highlights of public service activities have been included in the general history through the decades. Faculty, including clinical faculty, and staff have given their time to the welfare of the community through volunteering to help promote health for local disadvantaged groups and holding office in national and local professional organizations, most notably the Oregon Public Health Association. Weinzierl, Osterud, Goldberg, Riley, and Austin all served as presidents and Weinzierl, Osterud, Greenlick, and Riley received its lifetime achievement award. In addition, faculty members have been the recipients of numerous awards both inside and outside the university and these and other details are noted in the chronology.
Photos taken for the department website—approximately 1998-2003

Donald F. Austin, M.D., M.P.H., Thomas Becker, M.D., Ph.D., Mary Lawrence (Laurie) Cawthon, M.D., M.P.H.

Dongseok Choi, Ph.D.

Eldon Edmundson, Ph.D.

Michael J. Garland, D.Rel.Sc.

Bruce Goldberg, M.D.

Pamela Hanes, Ph.D.

Dan Harris, Ph.D.

Ken James, Ph.D.

Holly Jimison, Ph.D.

Jay Kravitz, M.D., M.P.H.
William Morton, M.D., Dr.P.H.  
David S. Phillips, Ph.D.  
John Stull, M.D., M.P.H.  
Nancy Press, Ph.D.  
Katherine (Katie) Riley, Ed.D.  
Ruth Ann Tsukuda, Ed.D., M.P.H., R.N.  

Public Health  
Teaching in Action  

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