



## *Intern & Extern Opportunities*

### **University of Virginia School of Medicine Summer Research Internship Program**

- Available to undergraduates \*stipend included\*
- Opens: September 1<sup>st</sup>
- Deadline: February 1<sup>st</sup>  
<https://med.virginia.edu/summer-research-internship-program/how-to-apply/>

### **Maternal Child Health Careers/Research Initiatives Law Enforcement Overdose Prevention Coordinator for the Epidemiology & Response Division**

- Available for rising juniors, juniors, or seniors  
\*stipend included\*
- Opens: November
- Deadline: January 31<sup>st</sup>
- <https://www.kennedykrieger.org/training/programs/center-for-diversity-in-public-health-leadership-training/mchc-rise-up>

### **Summer Research - Early Identification Program**

- Available to undergraduates \*stipend included\*
- Opens: November 1<sup>st</sup>
- Deadline: February 1<sup>st</sup>
- <http://www.theleadershipalliance.org/programs/summer-research>

### **CDC Undergraduate Public Health Scholars (CUPS)**

- Available to undergraduates \*stipend included\*
- Opens: November
- Deadline: January 31<sup>st</sup>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/minorityhealth/internships.html>

### **Michigan Health Sciences Undergraduate Research Academy**

- Available to undergraduates \*stipend included\*
- Opens: November
- Deadline: February
- <https://ohei.med.umich.edu/educational-programs/michigan-health-sciences-summer-institute/michigan-health-sciences>

## *Volunteer Opportunities:*

### **Second Harvest Food Bank with Public Health Club**

The Food Bank depends heavily on volunteers to assist in serving the community. They may ask us to assist with sorting food, packing food, or emergency bags.

- Group volunteering (5 spots available) – Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> 5:00 – 8:00 PM
- Group volunteering (4 spots available) – Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup> 5:00 – 8:00 PM

For additional service opportunities visit the service learning office on the main level of the student union or email Colin or Bethany at [churley@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:churley@mercyhurst.edu), [hbrun@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:hbrun@mercyhurst.edu)

## *Seminars and Speakers*

### **Cultural Diversity Training: Addressing the health needs of Erie's diverse populations**

- Panel Discussion led by Multicultural Community Resource Center - Tues, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> from 5-7 pm in Blasco Library Hirt Auditorium

### **Pre-Health Seminars (Wednesdays in Zurn 214)**

- University of Pittsburgh – School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences presented by Nicole Skellie – Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM
- Ross University – School of Veterinary Medicine presented by John Nwafor – Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM
- Standardized test prep with student panel– Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM

### **Biology Seminars (Friday's at 4 PM in Zurn 114)**

- Ecology in Alaska – Mark Mullinger – Mercyhurst University - Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>
- Determination of Microcystin-LR in Municipal Water – Christine Saber – Gannon University – Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>

## Upcoming Events

### Public Health Department:

- **Trivia Night** – Wed, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in Hirt 209- This will be a fun monthly trivia session with pizza and a leaderboard to get people excited and ready for Scholar Bowl! Come check it out and explore what Scholar Bowl entails. Please RSVP to Brett Conrad at [bconra13@lakers.mercyhurst.edu](mailto:bconra13@lakers.mercyhurst.edu) so we know how much pizza to order!
- **Open House – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - We are in need of students on Sat. Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> from 12-1 P and from 1-2 PM to talk to prospective students visiting campus about the program. Please contact Dr. Torres if you are available to help!
- **Healthcare Executives Role with the Opioid Crisis**– Thurs., Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 AM – This is a great way to network with Healthcare Executives while discussing the overall prevalence of the opioid use/miss-use in the community, clinical and business rationale for addressing the opioid issue, and the call to action! PUBH students attend for free and a few spots are still open. RSVP to [mtorres@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:mtorres@mercyhurst.edu) ASAP
- **68th Epidemic Intelligence Service Conference** - Each year, the conference, organized by the CDC, brings together a diverse group of people from various public health sectors around the world. The conference will be April 29 - May 2, 2019 in Atlanta, Georgia. Email Dr. Thairu at [lthairu@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:lthairu@mercyhurst.edu) if you are interested. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/eis/conference/index.html>

### Public Health Club Meetings and Events:

- **Meeting** - Mon. Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in Zurn 114
- **Public Health Trivia Night with the History Club** – Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM
- **Polar Plunge** – Sat. Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> - The Erie Polar Plunge is an event to raise funds and awareness or Special Olympics PA. Please consider joining our team, coming to cheer us on, or donating to the cause at: <https://www.classy.org/team/188149>

## Department Announcements:

### Senior Internship Showcase

Not sure if you should do an internship? Not sure what internships seem interesting to you? If you are considering your options for internships or field experience, start by coming to hear from current Public Health seniors about their positive internship experiences!

The event will take place on Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM in Hirt 209. Presenters will include:

- Shannon Meyers
- Prapti Sharma
- Paige Baiocchi
- Nellie Dephetereos
- Sabrina Nabinger
- Katie Reisinger

Each senior will have an engaging presentation to share and will be happy to answer any questions you have about how they found their internship and what it was like.

### Public Health Club Photos of the Month



## Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Brett Conrad for being the first Mercyhurst University student to be selected for the PA AHEC (Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center) Scholars Program. The program is two-year interprofessional, hands-on supplementary course of study focused on providing care in communities with limited resources in rural Northwest PA. More info can be found at <http://www.nwpaahcec.org/explore-health-careers/college-students>. Keep up the great work Brett!

## Student Spotlight



**Name:** Nellie Dephtereos  
**Major/Minor:** Public Health & Exercise Science Minor  
**Year:** Senior (2019)  
**Hometown:** Watertown, NY  
**Future Aspirations:** After graduation, I plan to attend graduate school to obtain a master's in nutrition to become a registered

Nutritionist. My dream location would be somewhere in Colorado or Washington!

### Why did you choose to study Public Health?

I chose to study public health because I have a true passion for the health of my community. Being able to motivate others to make healthier lifestyle choices is so rewarding. You can do so much within the field!

### Do you have a favorite memory within the department?

One of my favorite memories within the department was with the Public Health Club last year at the Polar Plunge. I may have been FREEZING but it was all for the Erie Special Olympics!

### How have you prepared for your future career?

This summer I had an internship at Case Western University working on the Nutritional Environmental Assessment Project (NEAP). As interns, our job was to go to every store in Cleveland neighborhoods (approximately 1,800) and assess food availability and tobacco products.

## Faculty Spotlight



**Name:** Dr. Lucy Thairu, Ph.D., Msc., BS

**Position:** Assistant Professor

**Email:**

[lthairu@mercyhurst.edu](mailto:lthairu@mercyhurst.edu)

**Office:** Hirt 312E

**Office hours:** MWF 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Hometown:** Vallejo, California

**Education:** Ph.D. and M.Sc. in Nutrition from Cornell

University. Undergraduate degree in Biochemistry from France. Fluent in four languages, including French.

### What are your research interests?

My research interests include: dental health in pregnant women and children, opioid morbidity and mortality, global health innovations for mothers and newborns in the developing world, Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV through breastfeeding, and delivery of low-cost CD4 diagnostics in resource-poor settings.

### What is your favorite subject to teach and why?

I like teaching Epidemiology and Biostatistics. I find both Epidemiology and Statistics to have universal concepts that apply to different disciplines, industries and to government and society as well!

### What is special to you about Mercyhurst?

The Mercyhurst mission statement resonates well with me. I believe that the strong bond between faculty and students at Mercyhurst helps shape students' choices in life and work. The strong bond also helps students realize the human and spiritual values embedded in everyday realities and to exercise leadership toward a just world.

### What is a fun fact about you that students might now know?

I enjoy cooking and hiking very much. I walk to and from work every day and I have found that the exercise is really good for my well-being!