Delaware Health Sciences Alliance

Global Health Symposium

Saturday, February 4, 2012
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Ammon Center Auditorium, CCHS
Keynote Speaker

Dr. Adewale Troutman identifies himself through his commitment to social justice, human rights, and national and global health. He is President-Elect of the American Public Health Association, the oldest public health association in the world, whose International Health section is one of its largest. He is also the Director of Public Health Leadership & Practice at the University of South Florida, where he is responsible for the MPH in public health practice, the PH Leadership Institute, and the Emergency Preparedness and Response Learning Center.

Dr. Troutman has an MD from New Jersey Medical School, MPH from Columbia University, Masters in Black Studies from the State University of New York in Albany, and board certification from the National Board of Public Health Examiners. He completed his residency in Family Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Dr. Troutman has worked with the World Health Organization in Thailand and Japan, served on health assessment missions in Angola, Jamaica and Zaire and training in India and Austria. He has served as Director of the Metro Louisville Department of Public Health and Wellness; Director of Fulton County Dept. of Health; Director of Emergency Services at United Hospitals Medical Center in Newark NJ; and Medical Director of the Newark NJ Dept. of Health.

His commitment to social justice has evolved into nationally recognized efforts on health equity and the social determinants of health; the founding of the first Center for Health Equity at a local health department; and the creation of the Mayors Healthy Hometown Movement. He is also credited with the passage of one of the strongest anti-smoking ordinances in the country.

Dr. Troutman has multiple publications including “What if We Were Equal”, co-authored with former Surgeon General and Assistant Secretary of Health, Dr David Satcher. His awards and recognitions include the Medistar physician of the year award, the St Stephens Community Man of the Year Award, the Ottenheimer Award for Social Justice, The Power to End Stroke Award and numerous others.

He is featured in the nationally televised PBS series; Unnatural Causes; Is Inequality Making Us Sick? Dr Troutman serves a member or past member of the National Board of Public Health Examiners, the Academy for Health Equity, the Health and Human Services Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Health Promotion & Disease Prevention, Healthy People 2020, the HHS Secretary's Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality, and the National Association of County and City Health Officers.
Welcome

We’re pleased to have you join us for this one-day symposium, hosted by the Global Health Working Group of the DHSA. This collaborative global health initiative will leverage the expertise that can positively change lives through its impact on health promotion and the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease.

Despite incredible improvements in health over the past 50 years, globally we still face a number of tremendous challenges—a billion people lack access to healthcare systems, close to 7 million people die each year from infectious diseases, and another 36 million perish as the result of non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, and chronic lung diseases. Even more compelling is that almost 8 million children under the age of five die each year from malnutrition and preventable diseases. Although disasters like earthquakes and tsunamis make headlines across the globe, these catastrophes actually claim fewer lives than disease.

While we know that we can’t solve the world’s health problems on one Saturday in Delaware, we are excited about the potential to make an impact with the program we’ve put together and the slate of experts who have agreed to join us. Our agenda covers a wide range of topics from neonatal health to emergency medicine in three major impact areas—education, research, and practice.

Thanks for joining us today. We hope this symposium will initiate an extended dialogue and spur efforts to make a difference in global health.

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The field of Global Health continues to evolve, and we continue to seek the best ways to engage in global health activities through our work in Education, Research, and Practice. Each member institution of the DHSA has particular interests and strengths, and you may be pleasantly surprised at the depth of expertise and effort found among our group.

The intent of this symposium is two-fold: to share experiences in Global Health from across the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance, and to develop new ways to collaborate. The panels are meant to stimulate discussion, curiosity, and perhaps some debate as well.

On behalf of the many colleagues who helped develop the content of this symposium, welcome to the our first DHSA event on Global Health. Thank you for your contributions to our community and our world. I hope you find much to take away during today’s discussions.

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Acknowledgments: In addition to the support of the main partners & supporters of the DHSA, we wish to acknowledge the support of the International Committee of the American College of Physicians– Delaware Chapter. We also acknowledge the partial support from HRSA (Grant Number 1T86HP20441-01-00) for this project; its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HRSA.

Accreditation: Application has been filed with the American Academy of Family Physicians. Determination of credit is pending.
**Agenda**

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.  **Registration & Light Breakfast**

8:30 – 8:45 a.m.  **Welcome & Introductions**

Kathy Matt PhD
DHSA Executive Director; Dean, College of Health Sciences, UD
Omar Khan MD MHS FAAFP- Conference Chair;
Chair, GH Working Group, DHSA

8:45 – 10:25 a.m.  **Session I: Education**

(Moderator: Nancy Guerra PhD– UD)

- Global Health Promotion and Education: Framework and Competencies– Robert Simmons DrPH (Jefferson)
- Global Health: Undergraduate Initiatives – Michael Peterson PhD (UD)
- “College Within the College” –James Plumb MD/Rickie Brawer PhD (Jefferson)
- Residency GH Curriculum –Karla Testa MD/ Omar Khan MD(CCHS)

10:30 – 11:45 a.m.  **Session II: Research**

(Moderator: Robert Mason PhD– Nemours)

- International Maternal & Child Health – Richard Derman MD MPH (CCHS)
- Neonatal Health – Nancy Sloan PhD (CCHS)
- Anthropological Approaches to the Study of Global Health – Melissa Melby PhD (UD)

12:00 p.m.– 1:00 p.m.  **Keynote Address:** Adewale Troutman, MD MPH, President, American Public Health Assoc.

Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.  **Session III: Practice**

(Moderator: David Nash, MD MBA– TJU)

- Training Emergency Medicine Physicians to Think Globally– Harsh Sule MD/ Bon Ku MD (Jefferson)
- Innovations in International Emergency Medicine: Training & Practice Susan Thompson DO (CCHS)
- Rwanda Health and Healing Project – James Plumb MD/Ellen Plumb MD (TJU)
- Relief Medicine & the DE Medical Relief Team – Reynold Agard MD(CCHS)

2:30 – 3:00 p.m.  **Audience Discussion / Q&A** (Moderator: Omar Khan MD)

3:00 p.m.  **Adjourn**

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**DHSA Research Symposium Spring 2012**

The 2012 DHSA–Research Conference has been scheduled for May 11, 2012, at Nemours/A.I. DuPont for Children. Additional information will be posted on the DHSA web site as it becomes available.
Presenters

Kathleen S. Matt, PhD
Dean, College of Health Sciences; Executive Director, DHSA

As dean of UD’s College of Health Sciences, executive director of the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance (DHSA), and co-director of UD’s health education partnership with Thomas Jefferson University (TJU), Dr. Matt facilitates a broad range of collaborative activities including joint educational programs and faculty appointments, research and educational pilot grant programs, and regional research conferences.

Dr. Matt earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in biology from the University of Delaware and received her PhD in endocrine physiology from the University of Washington, Seattle. Her research, which focuses on the effects of stress, diet, aging, and exercise on the neuroendocrine system, has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the National Arthritis Foundation, NASA, and the Arizona Center for Disease Control. In addition to her service on professional and academic committees and societies, Dr. Matt has done extensive community service, including work for health–related organizations serving women, children, and seniors.

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Omar Khan MD Mhs FAAFP
Symposium Chair

Dr. Khan serves as Chair of the Global Health Working Group of the DHSA and President of the Delaware Academy of Family Physicians. He is Clinical Associate Professor at Drexel University and Clinical Assistant Professor of Family & Community Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and Jefferson Medical College. He serves as an Attending Physician on the medical staff of Christiana Care Health System (Dept. of Family & Community Medicine) and AI DuPont Hospital for Children (Division of General Pediatrics); at CCHS he is one of 3 attending physician mentors for the Global Health Curriculum.

Dr. Khan is a graduate of Wilmington Friends School, received his BA and MA from the University of Pennsylvania, medical degree & residency from the University of Vermont, and public health degree from the Johns Hopkins University. He also completed a mini–fellowship in Geriatrics from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

He has previously served on the faculty of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, and holds a faculty appointment in the Dept. of Family Medicine at
the University of Vermont, where he founded the Global Health Curriculum for medical students and residents, as well as developing UVM’s partner abroad elective sites, at the ICDDR,B and IUB in Bangladesh. He serves on the Board of Directors of Christiana Care Health System; Christiana Care VNA; and the Delaware Academy of Medicine, and serves as an advisor to the International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI), which links scientists from CDCs and NIHs around the world.

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Reynold S. Agard, MD, is a native of Trinidad and Tobago. He migrated to the United States where he earned his undergraduate degree from Cheyney University, where he gave the valedictorian speech, then his doctorate in medicine from Penn State College of Medicine. He completed his residency program at Medical Center of Delaware (now Christiana Care), then went on to join Delaware Medical Group as a hospitalist with whom he served for five years. He then partnered with Dr. Vinod Kripalu to form Premiere Physicians.

Dr. Agard’s passion for helping the less fortunate and serving his community has spurred him on to become the Medical Director of a mission team, Hands International, which serves people from all over the world. Rey is passionate about young people and has led several of them in missions throughout the United States, including in Wilmington, Delaware and Utah where several Navajo Indians where able to enhance their lifestyle from health information they received while in his care. In his capacity as medical director he has spearheaded medical missions to Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Trinidad and Tobago and will be returning to Belize in the next few months to continue the work already started there. He is married and has three sons.

Rey’s goal is to help others, to encourage everyone to serve their neighbor and strive to live a healthy lifestyle.

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Rickie Brawer PhD, MPH, is the Associate Director of the TJU/TJUH Center for Urban Health. Funding for the Center’s Public Health programs is in excess of $10M in grants/contracts. She spent more than two decades
practicing public health in the Philadelphia area and has strong relationships with public health–related coalitions, agencies and organizations. Over the past six years she has taught the following classes in the MPH Program in the School of Population Health at Jefferson: Social and Behavioral Foundations of Public Health, Program Planning and Evaluation, and Co–directed the MPH Clerkship program. She is also the Associate Director of the College Within the College– Population Health track at Jefferson Medical College and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at Jefferson. She been involved in integrating public health content and experiential opportunities into the core medical school curriculum and teaches several community medicine electives.

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Richard J. Derman MD, MPH, FACOG, is Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Christiana Care Health Systems (CCHS). He also serves as Director, Center for Women’s and Children’s Health Research and Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology, at Thomas Jefferson University.

Dr. Derman completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Cornell University, The New York Lying–In Hospital, and his MPH degree from Johns Hopkins University, and served as a Peace Corps physician in India and a medical director of the Peace Corps in Washington, D.C. Upon completion of his residency, he was medical director and CEO of a federally funded agency dedicated to maternal–child health. He remained on the faculty at Cornell until 1994, when he accepted a professorship and became director of Women’s Health at the University of Illinois School of Medicine, where he also served as an adjunct professor at the university’s School of Public Health. Dr. Derman has served as medical director and/or Principal Investigator of the Center of Excellence in Women’s Health both at University of Illinois, the University of Missouri–Kansas City, and at Christiana Care.

Dr. Derman has held the positions of Associate Dean for Clinical Research, Interim Associate Dean for Research, Associate Dean for Women’s Health, Schutte Chair in Women’s Health and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Missouri–Kansas City School of Medicine. He is a member of the AOA Medical Honor Society. Dr. Derman is a principal investigator of the Global Network for Women’s and Children’s Health, funded by the National Institutes of Health and is involved in research funded by the World Health Organization and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. He has published more than 70 articles in indexed peer–reviewed journals and serves as a contributing editor to numerous women’s health publications.
Nancy G. Guerra, PhD, is a Professor of Clinical/Developmental Psychology at the University of Delaware, and Associate Dean of Research in the College of Arts and Sciences. Prior to this she was a Professor of Psychology at the University of California at Riverside and Director of the Academic Center of Excellence on Youth Violence Prevention funded by the CDC. She is an outgoing Associate Editor of the journal, Child Development, and current editor of Journal of Research on Adolescence. Her work emphasizes translational research focused on understanding and preventing youth aggression and violence, at-risk, vulnerable, and marginalized youth, and integrating positive development and core competencies with prevention of risk behaviors. She has published numerous articles examining predictors of aggression and has developed and evaluated several preventive interventions. These interventions include the Metropolitan Area Child Study multi-component, school-based program, Viewpoints cognitive-behavioral program for juvenile offenders, Positive Life Changes (PLC) for at-risk youth based on core competencies for risk prevention and positive youth development, and Child Development Parent Training (CDPT), a home visitation program for parents of children and teenagers. She has co-edited several related recent books including Preventing Youth Violence in a Multicultural Society (APA Books, 2005), Treating the Juvenile Offender (Guilford Press, 2008), and Core Competencies to Prevent Problem Behaviors and Promote Positive Youth Development (Jossey-Bass, 2008).

She also has served on numerous advisory committees including the President’s Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Her efforts have involved projects in the U.S. and internationally including work in Jamaica, Trinidad, Mexico, Colombia, Argentina, Peru, and Chile. She was recently involved in a multi-year study of individual and community level youth violence prevention programs in Jamaica funded by The World Bank, described in a related publication, Building an Ecology of Peace in Urban Jamaica (2010).

Bon Ku, MD, is an Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at Thomas Jefferson University where he is the co-director of the Global Health
Fellowship and director of the Emergency Ultrasound division. Bon received his MD from Penn State University and a Master of Public Policy at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. His studies at Princeton focused on health policy and development. His undergraduate education was in Classics at the University of Pennsylvania. His emergency medicine training was completed at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center where he was the chief resident. After residency he did a fellowship in point-of-care ultrasound at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Because global health starts locally, Bon focuses his research efforts on urban homeless populations that utilize emergency departments. He is currently developing an intervention program to place medically fragile homeless individuals in Philadelphia into permanent housing. Bon serves on the board of directors for Depaul USA, a non–profit that works to improve the lives of disadvantaged people, and is the co–founder of Good/Works, which helps NGOs fund GH projects in low–resource settings.

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Robert Mason, PhD serves as Director of the Cell Science Core and Tissue Bank; Director of Graduate Studies; Head of Clinical Biochemistry, and is a key member of the Nemours Center for Childhood Cancer Research, Alfred I duPont Hospital for Children. He obtained his PhD in Biochemistry at the University of Leeds (UK) and came to Nemours via Bristol, Cambridge (UK) and Virginia Tech. He also serves on the Curriculum & Educational Task Force of the DE Health Sciences Alliance.

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Melissa Melby, PhD completed her BA from Reed College in 1992, M.Phil. in Environment and Development from the University of Cambridge, England, and PhD from Emory University. Dr. Melby comes to the University of Delaware as a medical/biological anthropologist from Japan, where she was a project leader at the National Institute of Health and Nutrition. Her educational background is
in chemistry, environment and development, and anthropology. Her research interests concern how environmental factors, (including physical, biological and sociocultural influences), affect human development and health. Dr. Melby is particularly interested in the physiological mediation of environmental factors (both physical and cultural), and the multigenerational, epigenetic mechanisms that may explain observed populational health differentials. She is currently conducting research on biocultural factors influencing childhood obesity, maternal–child health, menopause, and dietary lifestyle and health in Japan. She teaches ‘Culture, Health and Environment’ in Anthropology, and will be teaching ‘Medical Anthropology’ as well. Her vision of ‘global health’ includes not only public health work in the Global South/developing countries, but also changing the perspectives and lifestyles of those in the North/developed countries, as our lifestyles, political and economic decisions greatly impact the physical and sociocultural environments that produce or undermine health in much of the rest of the world. She looks forward to working with other interested people in DHSA on Global Health.

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David Nash MD MBA, is the Founding Dean and the Dr. Raymond C. and Doris N. Grandon Professor of Health Policy at the Jefferson School of Population Health (JSPH) of Thomas Jefferson University. JSPH provides innovative educational programming designed to develop healthcare leaders for the future. Its offerings include Masters Programs in Public Health, Healthcare Quality and Safety, Health Policy, Chronic Care Management and Applied Health Economics.

Dr. Nash is a board certified internist who is internationally recognized for his work in outcomes management, medical staff development and quality–of–care improvement. In 1995, he was awarded the Latiolais Prize by the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy. He received the Philadelphia Business Journal Healthcare Heroes Award in October 1997 and was named an honorary distinguished fellow of the American College of Physician Executives in 1998. In 2006, he received the Elliot Stone Award for leadership in public accountability for health data from NAHDO. In 2009, Dr. Nash received the Wharton Healthcare Alumni Achievement Award.

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**Michael Peterson, EdD** serves as Professor & Chair, Department of Behavioral Health and Nutrition at the University of Delaware, and as Senior Fellow, Jefferson School of Population Health.

His research interests are in Organization of Work and Work Stress, Organizational Culture and Health, Social Marketing, and Health Promotion Program Evaluation.

Dr. Peterson received his Ed.D. from the University of Kentucky, 1993; M.A. from California State University Los Angeles, 1990 and B.A. from Ambassador College, 1987.

He has previously served as Director, University of Delaware Employee Wellness Center and Assistant Professor, State University of New York at Oswego. He has also served as President, Health Education Network of Delaware (HENOD), 2001–2003.

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**Ellen Plumb, MD**, was born in Philadelphia. She left the area for college in Boston (at Boston University) where she undertook a course of independent study and majored in Anthropology, Public Health, and Development. During college, Ellie became very interested in research and completed a field research project with adolescent AIDS orphans in Uganda. Immediately after college, Ellie began a postbaccalaureate premedical program at Bryn Mawr College followed by 2 years of research at Penn on HIV prevention among seriously mentally ill populations. Ellie was excited to stay in Philadelphia to attend Jefferson Medical College, where she helped start a public–health oriented service program for Jefferson students in Rwanda and became involved in JeffHOPE, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and Jefferson’s Urban Underserved Program. Ellie took a year off after her 3rd year of medical school to complete a Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, where she conducted a community–based research project on gestational diabetes and diabetes prevention among Mexican immigrant women. Her interests include global public health, community–based research, refugee health, and urban primary care.

Outside of medicine, Ellie spends her time creative writing, urban hiking, watching documentary movies, eating good food and traveling around the world.

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James Plumb, M.D., M.P.H. is a Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Jefferson Medical College and Director of the Center for Urban Health at Jefferson. A 1969 Honors graduate of the University of Virginia and a 1974 AOA graduate of Jefferson Medical College, Dr. Plumb joined the TJU Family Medicine Residency Program in 1974; then served as Residency Coordinator from 1977–1982. In 2003, he received his Masters in Public Health Degree from the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. He currently is directing a new curricular initiative at Jefferson Medical College that provides a 4 year longitudinal scholarly concentration in Population and Global Health.

Since 1992, he has worked with partners in Public Health in Uganda, East Africa. Over 60 students, residents and faculty have been able to work in Uganda and four faculty from Makerere University and Hospice Uganda have spent time in the U.S. He has served as a visiting lecturer at Makerere, discussing palliative care for those with HIV and cancer. For the past five years, he has been involved in the Rwanda Health and Healing Project in Gisenyi, Rwanda directing multiple interdisciplinary Public Health projects, and served as a visiting lecturer at the Medical School of the National University of Rwanda (NUR) in Butare. With Jefferson students and residents, he is developing a clinical rotation in partnership with the Department of Family Medicine at NUR.

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Rob Simmons, Dr.PH, MPH, MCHES, CPH, has been a public health educator for over 38 years working with local and state government, community based health organizations, private health foundations, healthcare organizations and more recently in academic public health programs. He is Program Director for the MPH program and Clinical Associate Professor at Thomas Jefferson University School of Population Health in Philadelphia. His responsibility includes direction of the MPH program was well as teaching Introduction to Public Health, Program Planning and Evaluation, Public Health Policy and Advocacy, and Capstone Seminar.

Dr. Simmons’ professional background and research interests are in community health education, and health promotion and disease prevention in tobacco control, physical activity, nutrition, reducing health inequities, and global health. He has worked with a range of organizations and communities in California,
Pennsylvania, and Delaware, and internationally in Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Paraguay, and the Dominican Republic. Dr. Simmons has expanded his work in global health recently, having been accepted as a Fulbright Specialist Scholar in Public and Global Health for the next five years and serves as the Associate Co-Editor of a new Section on Global Health Promotion with the Journal of Health Promotion Practice, published by Sage Publications.

Prior to coming to Jefferson, Dr. Simmons was on the faculty at the Drexel University School of Public Health. Dr. Simmons’ academic credentials include a BA in Political Science and Economics and a California Teaching Credential from the University of California at Santa Barbara, a Master’s in Public Health in Health Education from Loma Linda University School of Public Health, and a Doctorate in Public Health in Community Health Sciences at the UCLA School of Public Health. Dr. Simmons has extensive experience in working with collaborative health networks and coalitions on strategic planning, program planning, implementation, and evaluation, policy development and health advocacy. His priority professional organization is the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE), having served as National and Chapter President, National Treasurer, Health Education Profession Unification Co-Chair, National Advocacy Chair, and Annual Meeting Co-Chair.

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**Nancy Sloan, PhD,** is a nutritional and perinatal epidemiologist, with thirty years of experience in the U.S. and abroad in the evaluation of innovative interventions to improve maternal, infant and child survival. She is engaged part time at Christiana Care Health Systems Center for Women’s and Children’s Health Research in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology as Senior Clinical Researcher. She is also an Assistant Professor in the Department of Population and Family Health at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. She is best known for her work in kangaroo mother care and postpartum hemorrhage.

Dr. Sloan serves as a reviewer for various journals, was Chair of the DSMB for the Johns Hopkins University Vitamin A and micronutrient supplementation trials on maternal and infant survival, and is actively engaged as a consultant with University Research Corporation and Gynuity Health Projects for their international reproductive health research.

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Harsh Sule, MD is a board-certified emergency physician and Fellow of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine and of the American College of Emergency Physicians. Harsh is currently affiliated with the Thomas Jefferson University and Hospitals in Philadelphia, PA. In addition to working clinically, Harsh is active in medical education and global health. He serves as Associate Residency Director for the Emergency Medicine residency, as well as co-director of the department’s Global Health Fellowship. He is also co-chair of the TJU Global Health Initiatives Committee. Harsh is currently enrolled in a Master in Public Policy program at Princeton University with a focus on Development Studies.

He received his BA from Northwestern University in 1995, MD from the University of Illinois College of Medicine in 1999, and Residency in Emergency Medicine at Cook County Hospital, Chicago, in 2003. He is a member of Essentials of International EM Task Force and Former Country Director, International Medical Corps (Azerbaijan), 2007–08.

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Karla Testa, MD is currently a fourth-year Internal Medicine–Pediatrics resident at Christiana Care Health System. Her interest in global health started with a course entitled “Just Healthcare in Developing Nations,” while a double major in biology and interdisciplinary health services at Saint Joseph’s University in Philadelphia. She then received her medical degree from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. During medical school, she spent a month in Ecuador working at a public hospital in Quito.

Throughout residency Karla’s interest in global health has continued and she helped start the Global Health Program at CCHS, which has developed a global health curriculum for residents and all healthcare providers. This year, she was awarded the Parag Bakshi and National Med–Peds Travel Grant and will be spending a month in Nepal this spring. Karla plans to pursue a career in primary care after residency.

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Susan Thompson, DO received her BS from the University of Southern California, Doctor of Osteopathy degree from Kansas City College of Medicine and Biosciences, and undertook a dual Emergency Medicine/Internal Medicine residency at Christiana Care Health System. She is pursuing her MPH from the Johns Hopkins University and was a Member, Psi Sigma Alpha, of the Osteopathic Scholastic Honor Society and Sigma Sigma Phi, of the National Honorary Osteopathic Fraternity.

Her professional interests are in EM residency teaching, wilderness and travel medicine, ultrasound use in emergency care, global health, and the promotion of EM as a specialty in developing countries. She is board certified in EM/IM, and Academic Faculty for the Emergency Medicine Residency program at Christiana Care Health System. She is certified in Emergency Ultrasound, and is a consulting internist on the medical staff of Christiana Care. She is Director of International Medicine for the residency program, having led resident electives in The Gambia, Vietnam, Nepal and Nicaragua; and Director of Christiana Care’s newly launched International Emergency Medicine Fellowship Program. In 2011, she was presented with the Rising Star Award at Christiana Hospital. She is a past recipient of the Dr. Parag Bakshi Fellowship for International Medicine and the EMS Award during her residency for outstanding contribution to the field of pre-hospital emergency medicine.

Dr. Thompson is on the board of American College of Emergency Physicians International Section (having completed a term as Secretary), Delaware Medical Aid for Gambia and the Executive Committee of Delaware Medical Relief Team. She led a team of 20 physicians to Haiti immediately following the earthquake. She is medical director for Helping Hands Health Education, which builds health facilities in developing countries, including in Nicaragua, Vietnam and Nepal. In 2011, Susan was the Medical Director for La Ultra-The High, a 140 mile ultra-marathon in the Himalayas. She has also served on wilderness medical emergency teams for the Primal Quest Adventure Race series. She has authored several peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters, and is part of the referee panel for the Society of Academic Emergency Medicine and the Scientific Planning Committee of the Indian International Conference of Emergency Medicine (INTEM). She is a faculty editor of the EMRA International Emergency Medicine Handbook 2010, and the EMRA Antibiotic Guide.

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The Alliance enables partner organizations to collaborate and conduct cutting-edge biomedical research, to improve the health of Delawareans through access to services in the state and region, and to educate the next generation of health care professionals.

DHSAs’s unique, broad-based partnership focuses on establishing innovative collaborations among experts in medical education and practice, health economics and policy, population sciences, public health, and biomedical sciences and engineering.

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