

2023

Annual Report



JOHNS HOPKINS
CENTER *for* GLOBAL HEALTH

Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health



Photo by Meagan Harrison (c) 2012

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JOHNS HOPKINS
SCHOOL of MEDICINE



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BLOOMBERG SCHOOL
of PUBLIC HEALTH



JOHNS HOPKINS
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CAREY BUSINESS SCHOOL



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of ARTS & SCIENCES



JOHNS HOPKINS
WHITING SCHOOL
of ENGINEERING



JOHNS HOPKINS
SCHOOL of EDUCATION

BACKGROUND

The Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health (CGH) employs a one-university approach to global health, catalyzing activities across the University for students, faculty, and collaborators through innovative approaches to resource sharing, convening, and applied learning. Since 2006, CGH has served as a funding and resource hub by providing faculty and student grants, convening multidisciplinary teams to respond to calls for applications, supporting field-based learning, and connecting JHU researchers to each other and to international partners.



Photo by Joseph Amueller (c) 2022

- ▶ **Our mission:** To catalyze global health activities across the University for students, faculty, and collaborators through innovative approaches to resource sharing, convening, and applied learning
- ▶ **Our vision:** A "One University" approach to impact global health challenges
- ▶ **Core Activities**
 - Convene JHU experts to develop multidisciplinary proposals
 - Catalyze meaningful global health opportunities for faculty and staff
 - Support and coordinate applied learning experiences
 - Serve as a hub for global health resources for JHU
 - Coordinate global health activities across JHU
 - Foster equitable collaborations with international partners

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GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR



As we reflect back on the year 2023, we consider all the challenges that confronted the field of global health. High on the list of global health threats in 2023 are the armed conflicts occurring in the Middle East and in Eastern Europe with all the dire consequences that conflict brings. We are appalled by the number of deaths and injuries, destruction of homes and cities, homelessness, refugee crises, humanitarian issues, collapse of medical health systems, economic disruptions and to the social upheaval that conflict brings. The world struggles to deal with these issues, pleading for peace and to the end of political violence that seems to dominate our daily news. Regrettably, there are many other armed conflicts that raise many of the same issues mentioned above. [The Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights](#) monitors currently 110 armed conflicts worldwide and while some make the news, many do not. Global health as an entity is certainly threatened by these conflicts and we must advocate and work towards humanitarian responses to all these conflicts. Undoubtedly these challenges will continue into 2024 with no end to most of these conflicts in sight, and so our challenges remain.

Many other issues in global health drew our attention in 2023 which deserve mention. While the response to the COVID pandemic dominated our field in 2020-2022, it remains a continual threat to many. Over the last 3 years, nearly 7 million people died of COVID globally with reports of 772 million confirmed cases. However, in 2023, we also witnessed the beneficial effects of widespread vaccination efforts with over 13 billion COVID vaccine doses administered worldwide, with a subsequent marked decline in mortality, even though COVID cases continued to occur unabated in some areas. In the US, the end to the public health emergency was declared on May 11, 2023, after a cumulative total of over 100 million cases and 1.1 million deaths. Like elsewhere in the world, COVID cases still occur at relatively high rates in the US, but mortality and hospitalization rates have markedly declined, further evidence of the success of vaccination with 69% of the US population having completed the primary series of COVID vaccines, many with subsequent booster vaccines. And yet many of the ramifications of this pandemic will continue to be a part of our global health landscape, like Long COVID, education impact, vaccine hesitancy, public health measures to limit spread, and unfortunately, a general distrust of public health officials for management of this crisis.

While COVID did bring a focus on communicable diseases, it was not alone in posing continual health threats to humanity. Last year, the Mpox and Ebola epidemics arose unexpectedly and posed new challenges to epidemiologist and clinicians. These two diseases in addition to HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, dengue, influenza, RSV, and other infectious diseases remain on our lists of diseases that deserve attention, calling for new initiatives in prevention and control. Sadly, one failure in the last decade has been in control of sexually transmitted diseases. One example is that more than 3,700 babies were born with congenital syphilis in 2022 in the US, which was more than 10 times the number in 2012. The increase in newborn syphilis follows rising syphilis cases among women of reproductive age combined with social and economic factors that create barriers to high-quality prenatal care and ongoing declines in the prevention infrastructure and resources. Similarly, antibiotic resistant gonorrhea, chlamydia and other sexually transmitted diseases are on the rise due to the similar factors listed above for syphilis.

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

One of the outcomes to these global infections is that we can retrospectively review our lessons in failure and success in control. Perhaps the most important successes in the COVID response were in the rapid recognition of the pathogen, the development and employment of new biotechnology that enabled us to produce multiple efficacious vaccines and new therapeutics, both of which limited hospitalizations and deaths globally. Multiple initiatives are now underway to prepare for the next pandemic. Surveillance of potential infectious pathogens in animals link the One Health field with the Global Health field. Pandemic preparedness systematically characterizes pathogens of concern, plans on shortening the timelines between pathogen emergence and development of diagnostics and medical countermeasures and helps bridge gaps in research infrastructure and technology. In mid-2023, the White House launched a permanent Office of Pandemic Preparedness and Response Policy as an effort to be better prepared and informed for a future pandemic. Our field of global health needs to carefully dissect and learn from many of the painful lessons of these epidemics so that we can respond more effectively in the years to come.

While the above reflections are limited to political conflicts and communicable diseases, the threats to health apply equally to climate change, chronic diseases, nutritional issues, environmental disasters, and many more conditions. At the most recent COP28, attention was again focused on the rising global temperatures. This year was the warmest year on record globally, and resulted in Canada's worst wildfire season, burning more than 10 million acres in the Northwest Territories with mass evacuations of people. Smoke from these fires reached millions of people reducing air quality and spreading pollution throughout many regions of the US. Similarly, climate change resulted in accelerated melting of the Arctic ice mass increasing seas levels, and increased temperature in the oceans resulted in increased violent storms and hurricanes causing mass destruction and life-loss. An attempt to slow the dramatic impacts of climate change resulted in the first pact of 200 countries that explicitly called for "transitioning away from fossil fuels". This effort reflects the goals of Planetary Health that also directly impact human health. Thus, the field of Global Health is intrinsically bound to goals of Planetary Health and those of One Health, and perhaps together we can improve the overall human health condition.

As we move into 2024, the Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health will continue to update and coordinate many of the global health activities of the university. Johns Hopkins has one of the greatest global footprints of all universities with hundreds of projects underway in over one hundred countries. Through our various programs we strive to support students, residents, and fellows to experience the world of global health linking them with Hopkins faculty who work internationally to address the health challenges of today. In the report that follows you will see evidence of the many educational and international field programs we offer. Through our new website www.globalhealth.jhu.edu, our weekly newsletter and our many zoom lectures and interviews, we will continue to inform, educate, and promote global health here at Johns Hopkins.

I wish all of you success in the coming year and that you have the opportunity to embrace and pursue the ideals of global health.

Tom Quinn, MD, MSc
Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health

CONNECTING VIRTUALLY WITH A GLOBAL COMMUNITY

CGH has cultivated a vibrant virtual community using social media, Zoom, our weekly newsletter, and the Women in Global Health Slack Workspace. We are more connected and inclusive than ever before, as virtual engagement has reduced many location related barriers to participation in our activities.



Twitter

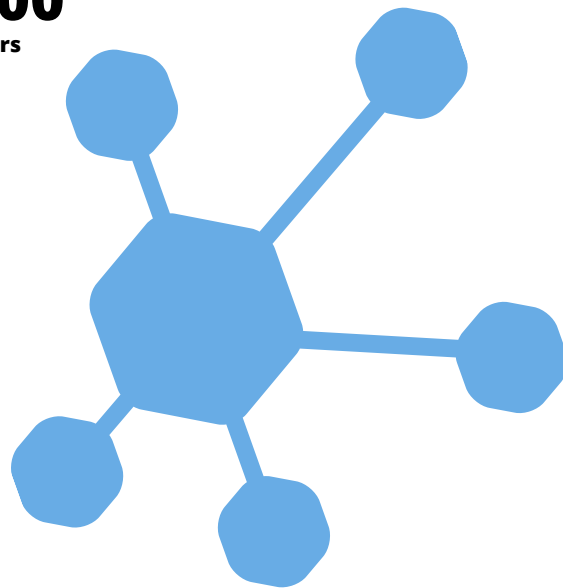
[@JHUGlobalHealth](#)

13,600
followers



[Global Health
Bulletin](#)

5500
subscribers



[Slack](#)

1156
members



Instagram

[@HopkinsGlobalHealth](#)

671
followers



[Facebook](#)

3200
followers

A NEW VIRTUAL HOME: WEBSITE REDEVELOPMENT

This year, the Center for Global Health participated in the school-wide Centers and Institutes Website Transformation Project. With the school's communication strategy team's guidance, we redesigned and redeveloped the Center for Global Health website using the Drupal-based Content Management System (CMS) and design system.

Our new web address is www.globalhealth.jhu.edu



Bringing together people and opportunities to solve global health problems

Welcome

The Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health at the Bloomberg School of Public Health provides coordination, facilitation, and funding to help solve global health problems.

- **JHU STUDENTS**
Access travel and conference grants, field work, and other opportunities for students and medical residents
- **JHU FACULTY**
Find collaborations, submit global health grants, connect with students, and share your work
- **PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS**

Connect with resources at the Center for Global Health

Get the weekly newsletter

Learn about events, funding opportunities, internships, fellowships, and job opportunities



Join the EDGE women's network

Connect with emerging women leaders in global health, attend events, and learn about our skills course

Get technical services

Need help coordinating a seminar, hosting a webinar, or otherwise sharing your work with the global health community?

New and Noteworthy



Paul S. Lietman Global Travel Grant for Residents and Fellows

Join EDGE for a session on "How to be a good mentee" on November 28, 2023 at 12noon ET

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Learn about our commitment to anti-colonialism in global health

[LEARN MORE HERE.](#)

AN ANTICOLONIAL APPROACH TO GLOBAL HEALTH

The Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health is committed to decolonization of the global health field and to taking and encouraging an anticolonialism approach in our work to ensure equity and justice in global health activities. The Center will also encourage and support all of our international partners towards the end of achieving anticolonialism.

Anti-colonialism in global health aims to eliminate the colonial power imbalances that exist inherently in global health work and the subsequent iniquities that stem from the asymmetric power dynamics related to both the history and conception of the field as well as current inequities that place institutions and practitioners in the “global North” above those in the “global South” (1). These inequities result in unequal partnerships where expertise, experience, and decision-making power are more readily assigned to those in the global North. Decolonization of global health is an intentional effort that focuses on deconstructing and rebuilding the global health system, including “the role of donors and journals, addressing racism, decolonising the mind, and ensuring adequate working conditions for staff in low-income and middle-income countries” (2) among other efforts.

This year, in partnership with the Department of International Health's Inclusivity, Diversity, Anti-racism, and Equity (IDARE) Initiative, the CGH has engaged in a **literature review** and subsequent **qualitative study** to better understand how anticolonialism has been and can be incorporated into global health education. CGH is also partnering with a school-wide initiative to decolonize the use of images in the field of global health.

Works published in 2023:

Kalbarczyk, A., Perkins, S., Robinson, S. N., & Ahmed, M. K. (2023). Decolonizing global health curriculum: from fad to foundation. In *Frontiers in Education* (Vol. 8, p. 1217756). Frontiers.

Kalbarczyk, A., Aqil, A., Sauer, M., Chatterjee, P., Jacques, K. A., Mooney, G., ... & Lee, K. (2023). Using antioppressive teaching principles to transform a graduate global health course at Johns Hopkins University. *BMJ Global Health*, 8(3), e011587.

Perkins, S., Nishimura, H., Olatunde, P. F., & Kalbarczyk, A. (2023). Educational approaches to teach students to address colonialism in global health: a scoping review. *BMJ Global Health*, 8(4), e011610.

(1) Anti-Racism and Anti-Colonialism Praxis in Global Health-Reflection and Action for Practitioners in US Academic Medical Centers Daffé ZN, Guillaume Y, Ivers LC. *Am J Trop Med Hyg*. 2021 Jul 19;105(3):557-560. doi: 10.4269/ajtmh.21-0187. PMID: 34280137; PMCID: PMC8592354.

(2) Navigating the violent process of decolonisation in global health research: a guideline.

Rasheed, M. A. (2021). *The Lancet Global Health*, 9(12), e1640-e1641.

Section 1: A HUB FOR CONVENING VIRTUALLY

In 2023, the world continued to define our "new normal" as the pandemic officially subsided. Travel restrictions were fully lifted and we began gathering in large groups again, but hybrid and virtual programming is here to stay. The Center for Global Health built on the strategic virtual programming that we developed during the pandemic to continue to connect with global health students and partners around the world.

RESOURCE SHARING

CGH has brought together the recordings from all of the webinars we have hosted on our [YouTube](#) channel as a resource for the global health community.



Innovation and Impact in Women's Leadership: Melissa Salm, PhD



Global Health Day 2023 Innovation and Impact Panel



A Primer on Impact and Sustainability: A Case Study on...



Women in Global Health: Exploring Non-Academic Careers - Dr. Alice...

A HUB FOR TEACHING VIRTUALLY



UJMT RESEARCH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Research Leadership Academy is an interactive and participatory seminar series designed to foster growth among trainees and support their transition from researcher to research leader for UJMT Fogarty Fellows. This series was purposeful in its approach to introduce participants to key research leadership topics that are often overlooked during academic coursework but can have a significant impact on the success of an individual's research career.

This seminar series is built upon three core domains: the conduct of global health research, essential knowledge and skills for global health leadership, and mentoring competencies for global health research. The format of the seminar actively engages trainees, builds skills through practice, and evolves with the trainee experience.

Three modules will have been taught between August 2023 and March 2024. Each session is facilitated by at least one topic area expert. The modules were divided as follows:

Module 1 Pre-departure

- 1.1 Defining leadership
- 1.2 Implicit bias and cross-cultural practice
- 1.3 Stakeholder engagement

Module 2: Early fellowship

- 2.1 When things don't go right
- 2.2 Project and team management
- 2.3 Championing diverse perspectives

Module 3: Late fellowship

- 3.1 Grantsmanship
- 3.2 Capacity strengthening
- 3.3 Collaborating with external stakeholders and dissemination

Dr. Anna Kalbarczyk has also offered regular 1:1 leadership coaching sessions for interested fellows as a value-add component to the program.



3

modules



16

fellows



16

sessions



18+

trainers

Section 2:

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND AWARDS

This year we continued to award annual student grants and fellowships. All students were able to travel for the **Global Health Established Field Placement**, and the **Lietman Fellowship**.

After the success of previous years, we held Global Health Day 2023 in a virtual format again. In collaboration with the Department of International Health, we hosted a day of keynote speakers, provided a forum for students to share their global health experiences at a virtual poster session, and celebrated the experiences of our trainees.

FUNDING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Lietman Fellowship

The Paul S. Lietman Global Travel Grant for Residents & Fellows supports travel for residents and fellows completing rotations in low- and middle-income countries. After a hiatus due to the pandemic, we were able to resume the program and awarded 9 fellowships in Spring 2023 and 16 fellowships in Fall 2023.



23

grantees
awarded



11

countries



Photo by Megan Recino (c) 2023

Global Health Established Field Placement (GHEFP)

The GHEFP provides travel support to students doing practicums at Hopkins-affiliated global health placements



Photo by Kanagavalli Mathinathavan (c) 2023



40

grantees
awarded



17

countries
with
placements

Global Health Established Field Placement (GHEFP) Student Highlight



Abinethaa Paramasivam, MSPH Student

I worked in Maputo & Nampula, Mozambique with the Mozambique National Institute of Health for my GHEFP. I was involved in a qualitative study that aimed to understand challenges and barriers to prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV in pregnant/post-partum women from the perspective of HIV+ pregnant/post-partum women, health care workers, and local experts in the field of PMTCT. In this role, I learned a lot about IRB approvals, navigating relationships between different teams, and serving as the in-country contact for the JHU team. From a technical perspective, I had the opportunity to train local data collectors, ensure resources are ready and available for data collection team, and participant recruitment. I will cherish this experience in my career, as it was one of the first countries that I visited and was able to do meaningful work in global health.



Dory Bittle, MSPH Student

My GHEFP grant afforded me my first look at the challenges and the opportunities of international work which was an experience I could never completely mirror in a classroom. GHEFP presented me a dual-learning opportunity – first, acclimating to a new environment and second, actively engaging in the project assigned to me. I felt challenged taking on these two tasks simultaneously, but I always felt supported by my advisors both in-country and at BSPH. In-country, I gained skills that will set me apart during my search for an international health role after graduation and support my growth in the sector for years to come. Skills such as active listening and cultural awareness allowed me to integrate into my community, which aided my project implementation. Further, I learned how to develop a comprehensive curriculum, and as a result, I was able to create substantial deliverables which I hope to share with future employers.

Global Health Day 2023

Innovation and Impact

May 4, 2023
Virtual Symposium

Each year, the Center for Global Health celebrates Global Health Day by sharing and informing global health knowledge, expertise and experiences with the Johns Hopkins local and international communities. Global Health Day 2023 activities were held **online**. The theme for this year was "Innovation and Impact."

We collaborated with the Department of International Health to host a conference that included featured a keynote speaker, a virtual student poster session, and an interactive "deep dive" panel on global health innovation.

The recording of the event can be found on the [CGH YouTube Channel](#).



Manal El-Sayed

Professor of Pediatrics at Ain Shams University
Clinical Director, National HCV Pediatric Treatment Program
Egypt



Dr. Maria Oden

Full Teaching Professor of Bioengineering
Director of the Oshman Engineering Design Kitchen (OEDK)
Co-Director of Rice 360 Institute for Global Health



Dr. Manu Prakash

Co-founder, Foldscope Instruments
Associate Professor, Bioengineering
Senior Fellow, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment



~160

attendees



22

countries
represented



37

Virtual Posters
Presentations

Section 3: EMERGING WOMEN LEADERS IN GLOBAL HEALTH (EDGE)

With support from a grant from the Provost's Office, the Center for Global Health created a virtual **Women's Leadership Seminar Series** in 2020 to expose students and other members of our community to non-academic career paths in the field of global health using a women's leadership lens.

Since then, we have continued to produce this seminar series and created the Emerging Women Leaders in Global Health (EDGE) program. In 2023 we hosted two seminars featuring esteemed global health leaders, expanded our EDGE Slack network to over 1,100 members, hosted multiple networking sessions, and held a summer skills workshop series.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

In 2023 the Center for Global Health continued to host its women's leadership seminar series. The series is designed to support emerging women leaders to learn from the experiences of other women in leadership positions. We held 2 seminars this year.



2

seminars
in 2023



158

unique
attendees



Dr. Mel Salm



Barkha Dutt

EDGE SKILLS SESSIONS

During the month of August, we hosted a series of skills sessions taught by members of the EDGE Slack Network who are experts in different skills. Four women from four different countries volunteered their time to teach the other network members the following skills topics:

- Managing conflict using the arts
- Public speaking for leaders: essential skills to cultivate leadership through verbal communication
- Team building
- Navigating global health careers

The events were well attended and it was encouraging to see members of the community come together to give back and lend a helping hand to the community. We averaged over **50** attendees at each skills session.

STRENGTHENING NETWORKS FOR WOMEN IN GLOBAL HEALTH



Women in Global Health Slack Workspace

We continued to cultivate a vibrant Slack workspace to connect attendees for virtual networking, engage members with polls and discussion posts, advertise job postings, and encourage solution-finding. We now have over **1100** brilliant women in global health in our Slack network.

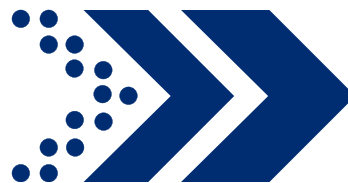


Virtual Networking Events

We held 4 virtual networking events to bring together emerging women leaders from all over the globe. The events took various formats including round robin “table” networking, sharing about passion projects, elevator pitch sharing, and a session on learning how to be a stellar mentee.

During our “Becoming a Stellar Mentee” session, we discussed the concept of building a board of mentors rather than relying on just one mentor and how to cultivate relationships with mentors. We also shared tips and tricks for being a great mentee including being teachable, showing gratitude, and having clear communication and expectations. We sent each attendee away with a template for developing their own board of mentors.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



Next year, CGH looks forward to

- Expanding our EDGE Network through new programming and research, including the creation of an EDGE student group
- Strengthening our contributions to anticolonialism in global health, including work on decolonizing the imagery used in global health
- Convening JHU teams to compete for grants
- Piloting a formal “twinning” component for the GHEFP program



Photo by Abinethaa Paravasivam (c) 2023

CLOSING REMARKS

The enduring legacy of colonization on global health education, research, and practice is receiving increased attention. While calls for decolonizing global health are not new, as a field, we must step up to change our systems and structures of oppression. I am excited by the Center's commitment to responding to a changing global landscape which demands a strengthened focus on partnerships and the communities we aim to serve, including our students. I look forward to continuing to build on both our new and established activities as we seek to advance discovery, approach global problems collaboratively, and enrich global learning experiences.

Anna Kalbarczyk, DrPH, MPH
Assistant Director, Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health



Photo by Xinyue Chen (c) 2023

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you!

The Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health would like to thank the many faculty, students, and staff across the University who engage with us each year and make our programs possible. We could not have conducted our work this year without support from the Department of International Health, the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Thank you for your support. Finally we offer a special thanks to our many international partners who continued to engage with us during a busy year.

Thank you to our many supporters for your continued contributions, financially and otherwise, to the Center.

If you would like to support the Center for Global Health, gifts can be made [here](#).



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