

*Our Year of*  
**IMPACT**



**RUTGERS**

Global Health Institute

# Rutgers Global Health Institute Impact Council

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## DIRECTOR’S LETTER



### DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES:

Last year, we unveiled a five-year strategic plan for Rutgers Global Health Institute. This report summarizes our impact in year one, a time filled with firsts and new developments.

As part of our commitment to establish global health partnerships that focus on long-term impact, we entered into our first partnership in Botswana. Our joint work there with the University of Botswana and the Ministry of Health and Wellness is focused on developing the workforce, now and for the future, and helping establish a national, comprehensive cancer care and prevention program. And through a new partnership between Rutgers and the University of Puerto Rico, we are helping build resilience in Las Carolinas, a community still reeling from the effects of Hurricane Maria.

To foster a growing global health community, we presented events that put us at the forefront of discussions on science denialism, current challenges in HIV/AIDS, and the urgent need for improved cancer care in sub-Saharan Africa. We also participated in our first Rutgers Giving Day, finding support that far exceeded our expectations, and launched a newsletter and social media channels that help in our advocacy and expand our reach.

Of course, we began building this institute from a place of strength, with vast global health expertise across Rutgers’ 29 schools. In January, 74 of those experts came together to form our inaugural core faculty—a diverse and extremely committed group that truly inspires me each day.

There is much more to be excited about, as you will see on the following pages. So please take a few moments to reflect on our progress over the past year—and then join us for all that lies ahead. Together, we can and will do much more.

*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ric".

Richard Marlink, MD  
Director, Rutgers Global Health Institute  
Henry Rutgers Professor of Global Health



# New and Expanded PARTNERSHIPS

## Botswana-Rutgers Partnership for Health

In August 2018, Rutgers Global Health Institute engaged with Botswana leadership, including the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the University of Botswana, to identify global health partnership opportunities. Through these efforts, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, established a memorandum of understanding with the University of Botswana to:

- > Create local, subspecialty medical and health professions training programs
- > Build workforce capacity with Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital, the new academic teaching hospital in Botswana
- > Advance the continuum of cancer care and prevention in all settings
- > Advise on the creation of an undergraduate program in biomedical engineering

Building upon these efforts, Rutgers and the Government of Botswana signed an agreement to launch the Botswana-Rutgers Mahube Partnership for Transformation in February 2019. Led by Botswana President Mokgweetsi Eric Masisi and Rutgers President Robert L. Barchi, the broad partnership will focus on health care, information technology, higher education and research, entrepreneurship and innovation, civic leadership, and other needs.

The Botswana-Rutgers Partnership for Health is an essential part of this far-reaching initiative.

## TRANSFORMING CANCER CARE AND PREVENTION

An immediate priority of the Botswana-Rutgers Partnership for Health is to address the country's urgent cancer care and prevention needs. The cancer mortality rate in Botswana is close to 75 percent, and many patients present with advanced disease. There are minimal prevention and support services, long delays in cancer detection and diagnosis, deficiencies in the availability of cancer medications, unreliable data registries, and severe shortages in the specialty-trained workforce.

The partnership will implement a national needs assessment across the country, with the aim of funding and scaling up cancer care and prevention across the continuum. By establishing a national, comprehensive cancer care and prevention program, Botswana can save lives, prevent disease, and create a model for implementation in other African nations and developing countries around the world.

## Global Oncology Fellowship in Botswana

Through partnerships with Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, the University of Botswana, and Princess Marina Hospital in Gaborone, Botswana, Rutgers Global Health Institute codeveloped a global oncology fellowship to introduce the complexities of cancer care and prevention in an African setting.

During a one-month research elective in Botswana, the program's two inaugural oncology fellows, Ashwin Chandar and Sukhdeep (Rita) Kaur, gained exposure to the realities of cancer care in the country; provided mentorship to junior medical officers, residents, and hospital staff; and gathered data on chemotherapy utilizations and stockouts.

Future directions for the fellowship include developing cancer guidelines and protocols in Botswana, assisting with workforce training, helping with drug forecasting, and establishing telementoring collaborations.





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## Building Community Resiliency in Puerto Rico

Las Carolinas, a neighborhood just 20 miles outside of San Juan, Puerto Rico, was devastated by Hurricane Maria in September 2017. After six weeks of no power and depleting supplies, a group of local volunteers started a grassroots effort to cook meals for their neighbors, using an abandoned elementary school that had recently been repurposed as a community center. Since that time, the Mutual Support and Community Resilience Center's food kitchen has served over 26,000 meals to the community.

In January 2019, in support of Las Carolinas, Rutgers and the University of Puerto Rico executed a universitywide memorandum of understanding to promote scholarly exchange and cooperation, with a targeted focus on disaster relief, community health, and resiliency. The Las Carolinas team, representing the partnership of the University of Puerto Rico, the RWJBarnabas Health global health office, and Rutgers Global Health Institute, and including other faculty from Rutgers and University Behavioral Health Care, honed its focus on building community resiliency.

The first project was to help establish a community garden. Puerto Rico imports over 80 percent of its food, rendering food security vulnerable to weather, market prices, and many other challenges. The team deployed Richard Alomar, an associate professor in Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences and a registered landscape architect, to help develop the garden using local materials that promote sustainable agriculture.

The garden is a natural complement to the food kitchen and just one of many steps the community is taking toward becoming more resilient and self-reliant. The Las Carolinas team is now collaborating on ways to organize volunteer opportunities that can assist with the future goals of the center, such as expanding the food kitchen to function as a safe haven for residents in times of need.

## Educational Advances in Tanzania

Rutgers Global Health Institute facilitated a universitywide partnership with the University of Dodoma (UDOM) in Tanzania that has involved three Rutgers schools to date. The new partnership expands upon an existing educational exchange partnership between UDOM and Rutgers School of Nursing, through which nursing faculty and students travel to Tanzania for joint clinical training each year.

Tanzania has no trained dietitians—only public health nutritionists whose focus is on population health. Dietitians are needed to manage individuals with chronic and acute diseases and those undergoing surgery, as well as promote health and provide wellness counseling for the entire population. Rutgers School of Health Professions worked with UDOM to develop the first program in Tanzania to train dietitians. The new program was approved by the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Center and enrolled its first students in fall 2019.

Faculty from Rutgers School of Public Health and UDOM established a new study-abroad program to provide students with an immersive learning experience in which they can apply the principles and practices of public health in a global setting. In this three-credit course, students from both institutions are paired and guided through classroom and field-based activities designed to enhance their understanding of critical public health issues in Tanzania and sub-Saharan Africa, as well as identify ways to address them.





# Shared KNOWLEDGE

Throughout the year, we held events that educated diverse audiences on global health issues and pathways for involvement.

APRIL 2019

## Transforming Cancer Care and Prevention in Africa

### NEW YORK

In front of an audience of industry friends and other potential partners, Rutgers Global Health Institute director Richard Marlink gave a talk on an effort to establish sub-Saharan Africa's first nationwide, comprehensive cancer care and prevention program.

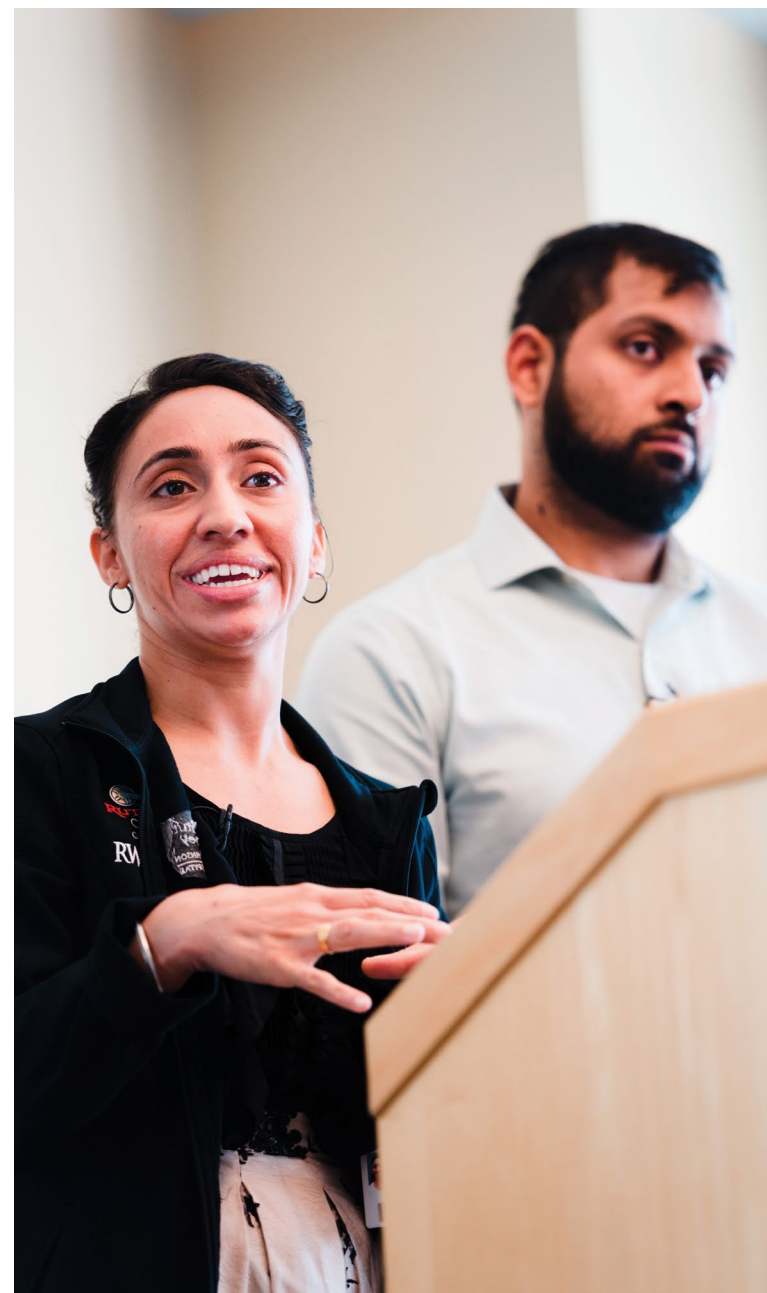
Having just recently managed the AIDS epidemic, Botswana now faces a new epidemic: cancer, and the potential loss of life is staggering. Marlink described how Botswana's experience in confronting AIDS can be leveraged to control cancer in the country and establish a model for other low- and middle-income countries, which account for 70 percent of global cancer deaths.

Following the talk, Marlink led a panel discussion featuring three colleagues from Botswana: Tendani Gaolathe, Rutgers Global Health Institute's country representative; Refeletswe Lebelonyane, the institute's senior education and research fellow; and Tlotlo Ralefala, head of oncology at Botswana's Princess Marina Hospital and the only oncologist in a public health system serving 90 percent of the country's population of 2.3 million.

This event was presented in collaboration with Rutgers University Foundation.

“With cancer, we are where we were with AIDS in the '90s, when a diagnosis of AIDS meant the end of life.”

—REFELETSWE LEBELONYANE



## Health Equity in Africa

### NEW BRUNSWICK

To further Rutgers Global Health Institute's role as a leading partner in an interprofessional initiative to address the inequities in cancer care and prevention in Botswana and southern Africa, we held two related seminars at Rutgers.

### Reaching the Corners of the World: Patient Access to Medication

—Kya Norby, a second-year pharmacy resident with Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation and Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers, had the opportunity to spend six months in sub-Saharan Africa, working on the ground with Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation grant partners as part of the Secure the Future initiative. Norby discussed how the challenges and strengths of health care settings in sub-Saharan Africa affect patient access to medications, as well as how social determinants impact both health care and drug access and delivery in resource-constrained settings. This event was presented in collaboration with Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation and Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy.

### Global Oncology: Cancer Care at Botswana's Princess Marina Hospital

—Senior hematology/oncology fellows Ashwin Chandar and Sukhdeep (Rita) Kaur shared their perspectives on the challenges of oncology care at Princess Marina Hospital in Gaborone, Botswana. They also discussed their work as inaugural global oncology fellows through the Botswana-Rutgers Partnership for Health. Throughout the 2018–2019 academic year, they collaborated with colleagues across Botswana's health and education sectors to support existing cancer control projects. The Rutgers fellows helped create a patient referral protocol, audit chemotherapy drugs and pharmacy procedures, and review national clinical care guidelines. This event was presented in partnership with Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.







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NOVEMBER 2018

## Science Denial: Lessons and Solutions

NEW YORK

This daylong symposium, copresented with New York Academy of Sciences and held at the academy's headquarters, delved into the history and cultural motivations of, challenges presented by, and future solutions to science denial.

Sheila Jasanoff, Pforzheimer Professor of Science and Technology Studies at Harvard Kennedy School, delivered the keynote lecture, "Denial or Distrust? On Not Solving the Wrong Problem." The event also included four panel discussions, led by Sheldon Krimsky (Tufts University), Timothy Caulfield (University of Alberta), Richard Marlink (Rutgers), and Tiffany Lohwater (American Association for the Advancement of Science). Panelists included the world's leading communications, political science, psychology, and behavior researchers, along with historians, public health officials, and science outreach experts.

The symposium was a follow-up to a sold-out evening program moderated by *Science Friday's* Ira Flatow: "Science Denialism, Public Policy, and Global Health," copresented with New York Academy of Sciences in June 2018.

Livestream coverage of both events is available at [globalhealth.rutgers.edu/science-denial](https://globalhealth.rutgers.edu/science-denial).

“ We don't all have to believe the same thing. Politics is about acting on the same goal but for different reasons.”

—PANELIST MATTHEW NISBET (NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY)

SEPTEMBER 2018

## Perspectives on Global Health

PISCATAWAY

Joseph Camardo, senior vice president of Celgene Global Health, spoke to Rutgers students about career pathways and how global health involves all academic disciplines. Drawing on his own experiences, he emphasized the importance of collaboration—citing Celgene's role in advancing treatment and care for chronic diseases and neglected tropical diseases. This event was presented in collaboration with the Rutgers Office of Research Commercialization.

JULY 2018

## Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030? Not even close.

NEW BRUNSWICK

Richard Marlink, director of Rutgers Global Health Institute, orchestrated a vibrant discussion with the 2018 Mandela Washington Fellows on why he believes ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic by 2030—a fast-track strategy initiated by the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS—is not possible without a dramatic change in course. The Mandela Washington Fellowship aims to empower young African leaders picked to represent their sub-Saharan home countries through academic coursework, leadership training, and networking.

## Experience of Tanzania in Addressing HIV/AIDS

NEW BRUNSWICK

Stephen Kibusi, dean of the School of Nursing and Public Health at the University of Dodoma in Tanzania, shared how his population-based research on the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS in his country continues to inform national strategies for treatment and prevention. This event was presented in collaboration with the School of Nursing and School of Public Health at Rutgers.



# Support for COLLABORATIVE WORK

Global Health Seed Grants, awarded annually to Rutgers faculty with support from Rutgers Global, promote collaborative, interdisciplinary activities that impact the health of communities at home and around the world. Through these grants of up to \$10,000 each, we aim to help faculty pursue new ideas and seed expanded research and funding. The following are the projects awarded grants during the 2018–2019 academic year.

## Exploring the Role of Women’s Sanitation Practices on Physical and Mental Health: A Pilot Study in Mathare Valley, Kenya

**PROJECT LEAD:** Francis Barchi, associate professor, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

**COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS:** University of Nairobi, Village Voices

Informal settlements, or slums, are generally presumed to be unhealthy environments despite limited information on the role that is actually played by the physical features that characterize such settings. This study examined the relationship between access to sanitation and water and health-related quality of life among 552 women in an informal settlement in Nairobi, Kenya. Findings suggest that access to sanitation and water were significantly associated with women's mental health and general well-being as measured by the 36-item Short Form Health Survey. Results have been reported in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.

## Strengthening Vegetable Value Chains for Improved Nutrition in a Kenyan Slum

**PROJECT LEAD:** Shauna Downs, assistant professor, Department of Urban-Global Public Health, Rutgers School of Public Health

**COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS:** Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences; Mirror of Hope; Map Kibera

Kenya is currently battling multiple burdens of malnutrition. Increasing African indigenous vegetables (AIVs) consumption has the potential to help address malnutrition, particularly among vulnerable populations living in urban slums. This study provided a sample of 30 women in Kibera, a large urban informal settlement in Nairobi, with the inputs and extension support needed to grow AIVs in sack gardens in a Kibera school yard. All participants (including those that withdrew from the study) were interviewed to gain insight into the AIV production process, the facilitators and barriers, and ways to improve the availability, affordability, and acceptability of AIVs in the market. Preliminary analyses found that climatic conditions (e.g., drought, pests) created challenges in the production process, affecting both the quantity and quality of AIVs produced and impeding the sale of AIVs by the study participants in Kibera markets. Based on these findings, a package of interventions aimed at addressing the challenges faced by women in this study will be developed prior to scaling-up the intervention in future work.

## Discovering Antimicrobials from Nature: Education and Capacity Building in Indonesia

**PROJECT LEAD:** Ilya Raskin, distinguished professor, Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences

**COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS:** Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences; Universitas Nasional

Millions in developing countries die each year from tropical infectious diseases. Unfortunately, available drugs are often costly and ineffective. Rutgers scientists have developed a Screens-to-Nature (STN) technology that relies on low-cost, field-deployable assays to effectively detect pharmacologically active compounds in plants and other natural sources. This seed grant was used to conduct a training workshop at the Rutgers-operated Tuanan Orangutan Research Station located in Central Kalimantan. During the workshop, 14 students from two Indonesian universities were trained to use both STN and Rapid Metabolome Extraction, Collection, and Study (RAMECS) technologies. A total of 20 plant and fungal species, collected in the nearby protected forest, were screened. Active antimicrobial species were discovered in each assay, and the majority of plants showed antifungal activity. Two RAMECS-STN kits were left for the Indonesian researchers to continue investigating their flora for antimicrobial and antiparasitic compounds.

## Development of Valid and Reliable Dietary and Physical Activity Assessments for a Birth Cohort Study in Kathmandu, Nepal

**PROJECT LEAD:** Shristi Rawal, assistant professor, Department of Nutritional Sciences, Rutgers School of Health Professions

**COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS:** Rutgers School of Public Health; Yale School of Public Health; Kathmandu University

In Nepal, rates of cardiovascular diseases and type 2 diabetes have risen rapidly. Accumulating evidence suggests that disease predisposition begins in utero, making pregnancy an opportune time for prevention and early intervention. This ongoing pilot project involves 100 pregnant women who come to Dhulikhel Hospital, the hospital of Kathmandu University, for prenatal care. Data is being collected on their pre-pregnancy BMI, weight gain, physical activity during pregnancy, and dietary quality. Establishing a



larger urban birth cohort study in Nepal will provide a unique opportunity to examine risk factors of pregnancy complications and the intergenerational influences of diet and lifestyle during pregnancy. The goal of this pilot project is to lay the necessary groundwork for a large cohort study by developing valid and reliable dietary and physical activity assessments for this population, and by demonstrating the need and the feasibility for establishing a birth cohort. Building on the seed grant, the study team recently secured exploratory funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH R21 grant) to develop and test a mobile application for treatment and self-management of gestational diabetes among pregnant women in Nepal.



# Established MEMBERSHIP & GOVERNANCE



In January 2019, we officially welcomed 74 core members to Rutgers Global Health Institute. All our members are part of a growing global health community that provides opportunity for learning, networking, and collaboration among experts, partners, and communities.

**74**  
Core  
Members

**31**  
schools  
and units  
represented

**18**  
Executive  
Committee  
Members

David Alland  
Clinton Andrews  
Gloria Bachmann  
Debabrata Banerjee  
**Francis Barchi\***  
Rajita Bhavaraju  
Gloria Bonilla-Santiago  
Brian Buckley  
Susan Caplan  
Rebecca Davis  
Cristine Delnevo  
Angelica Diaz-Martinez  
XinQi Dong  
Shauna Downs  
Mark Einstein  
Javier Escobar  
Glenn Fennelly  
Dina Fonseca  
Shridar Ganesan  
**Eric Garfunkel\***  
Sunanda Gaur  
William Gause  
**Maria Laura Gennaro\***  
**Frank Ghinassi\***  
**Vicente Gracias\***  
Peter Guarnaccia  
Michael Gusmano  
Perry Halkitis  
**William Hallman\***  
William Halperin  
Umer Hassan  
Daniel Hoffman  
Eric Jahn  
**Leslie Kantor\***  
Robert Kopp  
Sunita Kramer  
**Alfred Lardizabal\***  
Edmund Lattime

Institute for Infectious and Inflammatory Diseases  
Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy  
Global Tuberculosis Institute  
Camden College of Arts and Sciences  
Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute  
School of Nursing  
School of Social Work  
School of Public Health  
Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology  
Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research  
School of Public Health  
New Jersey Medical School  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
New Jersey Medical School  
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences  
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey  
Rutgers Global  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Institute for Infectious and Inflammatory Diseases  
New Jersey Medical School  
University Behavioral Health Care  
Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences  
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences  
School of Public Health  
School of Public Health  
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences  
New Jersey Medical School  
School of Engineering  
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
School of Public Health  
Institute of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences  
Rutgers University–New Brunswick  
Global Tuberculosis Institute  
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Steven Libutti  
Karen WeiRu Lin  
**Kevin Lyons\***  
**Richard Marlink\***  
Tina Mayer  
Reynold Panettieri  
Marian Passannante  
Gregory Peck  
**Benedetto Piccoli\***  
Mark Pierce  
Nancy Pontes  
Judy Postmus  
**Arnold Rabson\***  
**Ramesh Raghavan\***  
Henry Raymond  
Kenneth Reuhl  
**Mark Robson\***  
Ernani Sadural  
Padmini Salgame  
Stephan Schwander  
Kathleen Scotto  
**David Shreiber\***  
Ziad Sifri  
James Simon  
Michael Steinberg  
Roger Strair  
Brian Strom  
Harsh Sule  
**Deborah Toppmeyer\***  
Michael Toscani  
**Riva Touger-Decker\***  
Susan VonNessen-Scanlin  
Chongyi Wei  
Suzanne Willard  
Itzhak Yanovitzky  
**Helmut Zarbl\***

Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Rutgers Business School–Newark and New Brunswick  
Rutgers Global Health Institute  
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey  
Rutgers Institute for Translational Medicine and Science  
School of Public Health  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Rutgers University–Camden  
School of Engineering  
School of Nursing–Camden  
School of Social Work  
Child Health Institute of New Jersey  
School of Social Work  
School of Public Health  
Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy  
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences  
RWJBarnabas Health  
New Jersey Medical School  
School of Public Health  
School of Graduate Studies  
School of Engineering  
New Jersey Medical School  
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey  
Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences  
New Jersey Medical School  
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey  
Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy  
School of Health Professions  
School of Nursing  
School of Public Health  
School of Nursing  
School of Communication and Information  
School of Public Health

## Institute Operations Defined

Bylaws governing the institute's operations were developed by the Bylaws and Membership Committee in October 2018. These rules outline the structure of the organization and specify the duties and responsibilities of its members, councils, and advisory groups. As the institute grows, its bylaws will ensure consistency of operation. The nine basic components are:

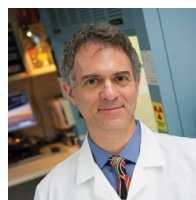
- > Name and Affiliation
- > Mission, Vision, and Values
- > Organization and Governance
- > Members
- > Councils
- > Advisory Groups
- > Operations
- > Termination
- > Amendment Procedures

\*Executive Committee member during the 2018–2019 academic year



# Highlighted FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

The following are just a few examples of the accomplishments of Rutgers Global Health Institute core faculty members over the past year.



**DAVID ALLAND**, a professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases at New Jersey Medical School, was among the authors of a study, published in August 2018 in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, that showed most people at high

risk for tuberculosis (TB) relapse can be identified by testing the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* bacteria that causes TB before the patient begins treatment.



**CRISTINE DELNEVO**, director of the Center for Tobacco Studies, is Rutgers' principal investigator on a project that was awarded an \$18 million grant, to be shared with the University of Pennsylvania, to examine the effects of tobacco

marketing on public health. The five-year grant—from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health—will support research in the Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science at the Rutgers School of Public Health and Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.



**DINA FONSECA**, a professor in the Department of Entomology at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, was invited to give a talk at the International Conference on Malaria and Related Haemosporidian Parasites

of Wildlife in Beijing, China, in November 2018. The objective of the conference was to exchange research and knowledge, and promote international collaborations in the field of wildlife malaria.



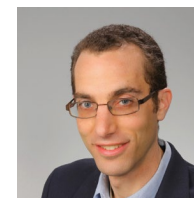
**VICENTE GRACIAS**, a professor in the Department of Surgery at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School who has held multiple executive roles at Rutgers, was appointed chief academic officer for RWJBarnabas Health in June 2019. In this role,

he provides executive oversight of the education mission of Rutgers' academic health system.



**PERRY HALKITIS**, dean of the School of Public Health, published a book, *Out in Time: The Public Lives of Gay Men from Stonewall to the Queer Generation* (Oxford University Press, June 2019). The book documents the personal

histories of gay men who came out across three modern time periods, showcasing how radically distinct social and political contexts changed the coming-out experience.



**ROBERT KOPP**, director of the Institute of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences and a lead author of volume one of the Fourth National Climate Assessment, testified in February 2019 to the United States House

of Representatives Committee on Science, Space, and Technology in a hearing titled "The State of Climate Science and Why it Matters."



**TINA MAYER**, an assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine – Division of Medical Oncology at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, was among the authors of a study, published in May 2019 in *BMC Urology*, that found

that approximately 30 percent of men with localized prostate cancer may have alterations in DNA damage response pathways. Their research not only provides insight into the biology of prostate malignancies, but also may expand treatment options for these patients.



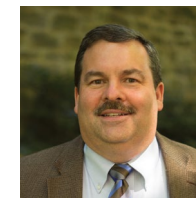
**REYNOLD PANETTIERI**, vice chancellor for translational medicine and science at Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, is the principal investigator on a \$29 million National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant awarded to the

Rutgers Institute for Translational Medicine and Science, which he directs. The five-year grant, part of the NIH's Clinical and Translational Science Awards Program, will accelerate translation of clinical research into patient care and treatment and improve health care in New Jersey.



**NANCY PONTES**, an assistant professor in the School of Nursing–Camden, received the Innovations in the Continuum of Care Award from the Organization of Nurse Leaders of New Jersey in December 2018. The award recognizes Pontes

for her leadership in cocreating an internal certificate in Spanish for the health professions program at Rutgers University–Camden. The aim is to promote health equity for underserved Latino and immigrant populations by strengthening Spanish language skills among future health care professionals.



**WILLIAM HALLMAN**, chair of the Department of Human Ecology in the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, and **ITZHAK YANOVITZKY**, a professor in the School of

Communication and Information, were both appointed to the newly formed National Academies' Standing Committee on Advancing Science Communication Research and Practice in November 2018.



In April 2019, Hallman and Yanovitsky spoke at the National Academies' Arthur M. Sackler Colloquium on Advancing the Science and Practice of Science Communication, which focused on misinformation in the public sphere and related factors. Hallman also served on the conference's organizing committee.



# Inspired ADVOCACY & SUPPORT

## Rutgers Giving Day Debut

On March 27, 2019, we held our first Rutgers Giving Day campaign. Here is a summary of our performance in the daylong, universitywide fundraising event.

**#1**  
for RBHS

Rutgers Global Health Institute was the top-performing fund for Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, in both number of donors and dollars raised.

**24**  
hours

**162**  
donors

\$7,700 raised in donations +  
\$8,750 received in challenge grants =  
**\$16,450 RAISED**

### CHALLENGES WON

<b>Newcomer's Leaderboard (second-place tie):</b> Highest unique donor count among funds participating in Rutgers Giving Day for the first time	\$5,000
<b>Faculty and Staff Challenge:</b> Fund within Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences supported by the most faculty and staff	\$1,000
<b>Lunchtime Crunch Time:</b> Eight funds with the most donors between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.	\$1,000
<b>Kickoff Challenge:</b> First 10 funds to receive a gift	\$500
<b>Closing Time:</b> Four funds receiving the most gifts between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.	\$500
<b>Ambassador Group Challenge (third place):</b> Three funds whose ambassadors collectively brought in the most donors	\$500
<b>RU Global:</b> Two funds with the most international donors between 3 a.m. and 6 a.m.	\$250
<b>Total awarded</b>	<b>\$8,750</b>

### 18 AMBASSADORS

The following individuals volunteered as Rutgers Giving Day ambassadors for Rutgers Global Health Institute. They reached out to friends, family, and colleagues in their own personal and professional networks to encourage others to donate to our fund.

- > Reena Antony
- > Pankhuri Arora
- > Phoebe Del Boccio
- > Anna DiColli
- > Chloe Garofalini
- > Elizabeth Ginalis
- > Dustin Han
- > Lara De Meo Hoyt
- > Richard Marlink
- > Rohit Mukherjee
- > Prachi Nair
- > Shane Neibart
- > Gregory Peck
- > Lori Riley
- > Angela Senger-Mersich
- > Brett Thompson
- > Sudeepti Vedula
- > Gloria Wowolo

## Monthly Newsletter

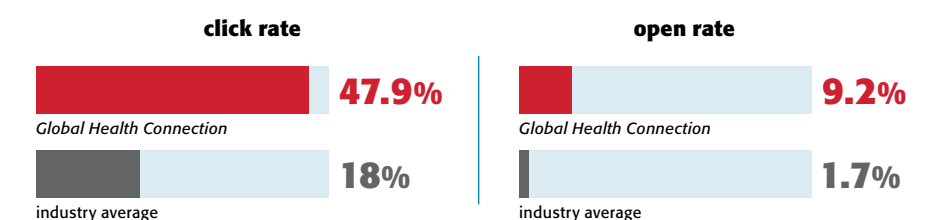
Global Health Connection brings together impactful global health stories, upcoming events, and relevant resources from across Rutgers. Since launching in February 2019, this carefully curated content has been distributed monthly via email in an easily digestible format.

## Global Health CONNECTION

### TOP SUBSCRIBER LOCATIONS

- 1 Piscataway, New Jersey
- 2 New York, New York
- 3 Gaborone, Botswana

### FEBRUARY-JUNE, BY THE NUMBERS



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Submit upcoming events and content suggestions to [communications@globalhealth.rutgers.edu](mailto:communications@globalhealth.rutgers.edu).

## Social Media

We began building our social media presence in September 2018 with the launch of our Twitter and Facebook pages:



### HIGHLIGHTED TWEET

**11,322**  
impressions

**147**  
engagements



## Academic Resources

We created a digital resource center for students interested in pursuing global health at Rutgers, beginning with a wealth of academic resources:

- > Inventory of global health coursework available across Rutgers
- > Education content series, which explores individual global health courses with instructor Q&A
- > Listing of degree concentrations and for-credit experiential learning opportunities

For these and other recent developments, visit [globalhealth.rutgers.edu/for-students](https://globalhealth.rutgers.edu/for-students).



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