

Letter from the SGA

Dear faculty, staff, and students,

We hope everyone is enjoying the school year thus far. It is officially the start of fall season, so that means Pumpkin Spice lattes and sweater weather. The September service event at Grow Dat Farm was a success, and the volunteers got to see a different facet of public health. If you are looking for community service, there are many great opportunities on campus and in the New Orleans area to get involved with. Remember SGA is here for you and with you, so please reach out with any questions, concerns, or feedback.

With warm regards,
SGA Officers



Grow Dat Farm Service Event, September 2017

Upcoming Events

October 9

Next SGA Meeting,
LEC 303, 12:00PM

October 11

Career Fair
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

October 21

Komen Race, City Park
8:00 AM

October 22

Pet Fest, Lafreniere
Park
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

October 30

Pelicans vs. Orlando
Magic
7:00 PM

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The “Day of Unity” held in October 1981 was where the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence began to advocate for the end of violence against women and their children. Domestic violence is still prevalent today, with nearly 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men who suffer from domestic violence by an intimate partner. The DVAP believes that it is a community effort to build social intolerance towards ending domestic violence by “changing belief systems and practices that support violence and abuse that disproportionately affect women and other marginalized people.” To learn more about domestic violence or how to get involved with the DVAP visit their website: <http://www.nrcdv.org/dvam/>

Health in the Headlines

Puerto Rico and Public Health

“In the days since Hurricane Maria ravaged Puerto Rico, conditions on the island continue to deteriorate and become a humanitarian and public health catastrophe that could rival the damage caused by Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans...” To read more, visit: <http://www.miamiherald.com/opinion/oped/article176320111.html>

Opioids

“As part of our commitment to advancing a multifaceted solution to address the opioid crisis, today PhRMA is announcing it supports policies limiting the supply of opioids to seven days for acute pain treatment...” To read more, visit:

<http://www.phrma.org/press-release/phrma-announces-support-for-seven-day-script-limit-on-opioid-medicines-for-acute-pain>

Reminders

Pelicans vs. Orlando Magic Basketball Game:

SGA is organizing a fun night out to cheer on NOLA’s one and only basketball team, the Pelicans. The tickets are \$31, which include lower level seats and a souvenir. Payments are due by next SGA meeting, October 9th. Cash or VENMO (Lisa Staples) are accepted.

Also remember to keep your volunteer hours accounted for by filling out this form: [Service Log Hours](#)

NOLA CORNER

What’s happening in NOLA this month?

Que Pasa Fest 2017, Lafreniere: October 7th

New Orleans Film Festival: October 11 – 19th

Oak St. Po-boy Festival: October 22nd

Voodoo Music + Arts Experience, City Park:
October 27 – 29th



SAINT-sational Spotlight

The spotlight section aims to introduce current and prospective students to faculty members, staff, students, and alumni who are out making a difference in the world! We encourage you to read about their experiences and contributions to the field of public health with the thought that one day, this can be you!



Our October spotlight features Addie Imseis, a 2nd year Health Policy and Systems Management (HPSM) student at LSUHSC-NO SPH graduating in May 2018. SGA sat with Addie to hear more about her journey through the field of public health, or as she puts it, “trying to put 20 years into a paragraph”. Addie is a Registered Nurse, having practiced in the Maternal Child field for ten years, and she is a mother of three. As a nurse, she was affecting the individual and after working in sales, local government, and even the judicial system for a while, she decided that she wanted to work with populations, hence the reason she chose public health.

It’s easy to read in a textbook how nursing and other medical fields can bridge together with public health. How do you see nursing and public health being bridged together, if at all? “The understanding of biological processes help me to apply principles of public health more easily, and I understand the scope of this having practiced as a nurse for 10 years. That being said, public health has no finite answer. Medicine often does. That is a shift. We have to think more broadly.”

What are you working on now? “I just completed one year at Louisiana Medicaid. I co-authored the LA Medicaid opioid prescription policy for the state. I’ve also been working with several professors at LSUHSC on projects dealing with opioids. Additionally, I am also working with Dr. Joan Wightkin on maternal and child projects. It’s very interesting seeing my studies in action as well as working professionally with our professors. A lot of what we learn in the classroom is applicable.”

On your work concerning opioids, what are you seeing as fundamental issues surrounding this public health problem? “Opioid abuse is multi-faceted, so when I was given the assignment to come up with a solution, it was important to realize I had to see things from multiple sides, and that things must be done collaboratively and systematically. There is also a need for public and private sectors to work together to make sure we are all working in the same direction. Speaking with stakeholders, there was a unifying message of need for controls to be in place to work on reducing opioids in home medicine cabinets. Evidence from the CDC was in line with this concern, so we implemented policy accordingly.”

What do you hope to pursue after this journey? “I have no idea. I have always trusted the path. If you look at past my 20 years, my employment history is all over the place, but that unique set of experiences offers me the skills I have today. It makes me a unique candidate.”

Any advice for students starting out with their careers? “I would volunteer as many places as possible. Interests don’t always translate into great job opportunities, and the job market is tough. Prove you’re reliable, you’ll show up, and that you can get the job done.”