

*CELIA SCOTT WEATHERHEAD  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
AND TROPICAL MEDICINE  
AWARDS CEREMONY*

*2025*

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*May 17, 2025*

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# *Celia Scott Weatherhead School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine*

## PROGRAM

*Welcome*

Thomas A. LaVeist, PhD  
Dean, Celia Scott Weatherhead School of  
Public Health and Tropical Medicine

### DEAN'S OUTSTANDING STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

The school honors a strong leader, someone who identifies necessary changes and has the initiative and conviction to accomplish those changes. This individual is an inspiration to their peers and motivates them to meet new challenges as well.

*Presented by Thomas A. LaVeist, PhD*

*Dean of the Celia Scott Weatherhead School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine*

**Jared Michael Christian, MPH, BS, BA**

### DEAN'S OUTSTANDING STUDENT SERVICE AWARD

The school honors students committed to their school, and community, with particular enthusiasm for improving public health. These individuals assume responsibility, find worthy outlets for their energy and talents, and successfully carries out commitments.

*Presented by Thomas A. LaVeist, PhD*

*Dean of the Celia Scott Weatherhead School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine*

**Madeline Nancy Walaszek, MPH, BA**

### TULANE WSPH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION RESILIENCE AWARD

This award honors a student(s) who has overcome significant challenges while maintaining a high level of academic achievement and commitment to public health following graduation.

*Presented by Janeen Azare*

*President, Public Health Alumni Association Board*

**Jeanclaude Habineza, MPH, BS**

### TULANE WSPH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PUBLIC HEALTH GREEN WAVE AWARD

This award honors a student(s) who has exemplified the purpose of the school and their program in their public health work inside and/or outside of the classroom. This is designed for someone who may encompass multiple of the categories above.

*Presented by Janeen Azare*

*President, Public Health Alumni Association Board*

**Jared Michael Christian, MPH, BS, BA**

### TULANE WSPH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION RENAISSANCE AWARD

This award celebrates the student who excels in multiple areas of public health study and demonstrates an interest to sustain that work after graduation.

*Presented by Janeen Azare*

*President, Public Health Alumni Association Board*

**Kwadwo Kontor, BDS, BSc**

### TULANE 34 AWARDS

The Tulane 34 Award, presented to 34 graduates from Tulane's 10 schools and colleges, recognizes students for their exemplary leadership, service, and academic excellence. Named for the year in which the university was founded, 1834, the Tulane 34 award is among the most coveted university-wide honors bestowed upon students.

*(presented at an earlier event)*

**Jared Michael Christian, MPH, BS, BA**

**Michael A. DeGuzman, DrPH, MPH, BA**

**Kaitlyn A. Lewis, MS, BS**

### JOHN J. WALSH, MD AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING STUDENT IN THE MD/MPH PROGRAM

The John J. Walsh, MD, award is presented to the graduating MD/MPH combined degree student who best exhibits extraordinary leadership in, and commitment to, improving the health of individuals and communities. The award is made possible by a generous donation from the Donum Dei Foundation.

*Presented by M.A. "Tonette" Krousel-Wood, MD, MSPH*

*Professor, Associate Provost, and Associate Dean*

**Madison Noelle Thornton, MD, MPH, BA**

### SIDNEY K. SIMON MEMORIAL PRIZE

Presented to a senior medical combined degree MD/MPHTM student by the School of Medicine for excellence in Tropical Medicine.

*(presented at a separate event)*

**Gabriel Vincent Hernandez, MD, MPHTM, MS, BS**

*\*Graduated in Summer 2024*

*\*\*Graduated in Fall 2024*

*\*\*\*Degree Requirements to be completed in August 2025*

#### AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN BIOSTATISTICS

This award, established in 2002, honors a biostatistics student who shows excellence in scholarship and service to the department.

*Presented by Sudesh Srivastav, PhD*

*Interim Chair and Professor, Biostatistics and Data Science*

**Ruoxin Lan, PhD, MS, BS**

#### FRANK W. MACDONALD ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD

This is the highest environmental health sciences award. It is presented to a student who demonstrates outstanding performance in the master's program, excels academically, explores challenging curriculum, contributes to the department and school, is a strong leader, and is committed to environmental health sciences as a profession.

*Presented by Rustin Reed, PhD*

*Assistant Professor, Environmental Health Sciences*

**Kyle Lynn Naylor, MSPH, BS**

#### COLONEL JOSEPH CONTIGUGLIA AWARD FOR ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Dr. Joseph Contiguglia unconditionally gave his expertise and wisdom all over the world, from the battlefield to our WSPH classrooms as a beloved professor in the Department of ENHS, Disaster Management program. This award is presented to a student demonstrating academic and professional excellence in the field of Disaster Management, emulating Dr. Contiguglia's commitment to the promotion, and preservation of public health in the face of disasters, and disease.

*Presented by Stephen Murphy, PhD*

*Assistant Professor, Environmental Health Sciences*

**Savannah Marie Baus, MPH, BSPH**

#### WILLIAM R. HARTLEY, ScD, AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH

This award is presented for excellence in environmental health research and celebrates Dr. Hartley's commitment to students.

*Presented by Rustin Reed, PhD*

*Assistant Professor, Environmental Health Sciences*

**Rachel Marie Janovsky, MSPH, BS**

#### CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

The department recognizes students who have shown superior performance.

*Presented by Melissa Gonzales, PhD*

*Chair and Professor, Environmental Health Sciences*

**Jared J. Anderson, MPH, BS**

**Savannah Marie Baus, MPH, BSPH**

**Joseph Thomas Brandine, Jr., MSPH, BS**

**Jared Michael Christian, MPH, BS, BA**

**Celeste Dionne-Tay Gaynelle Coleman, MPH, BS**

**Ashlee Erin Deboe, MPH, BS, BA, AAS**

**Gavin Alexzander Delahaye, MSPH, BS**

**Daniel Nathan Dellal, MD, MPH, BA**

**Noelle K. Dulong Harkness, MPH, BS, BSN**

**Ashley Nichele Hawes, MPH, BS**

**Alina Grabowski Hillery, MPH, BSN**

**Rachel Marie Janovsky, MSPH, BS\*\***

**Casey R. Morones, MSPH, BS**

**Raquel Marie Passaro, MSPH, BS\*\***

**Claire Marie Romaine, MD, MPH, BA**

**Bailey P. Ruark, MPH, BS, BA\*\***

**Lorrin Stone, MPH, BS\*\*\***

**Emily Louise Struttman, MD, MPH, BA**

**Grace Gregorio Tanguilig, MD, MPH, BS**

**Amirrah Zhanae' Watson, MPH, BS**

#### DOROTHY R. LEBLANC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

This award is given to an epidemiology student showing promise in a research career. Dorothy LeBlanc, a dedicated Tulane professor and field epidemiologist, was highly regarded by students and faculty.

*Presented by Lu Qi, MD, PhD*

*Interim Chair & Professor, Epidemiology*

**Farah Ismail Allouche, PhD, MPH, BS**

#### MARY ELIZABETH O'CONNOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

This scholarship is provided to an outstanding epidemiology student. Harald M. Graning, MD, established this as a thoughtful tribute to O'Connor, a distinguished alumna who had extensive accomplishments in the work of international health.

*Presented by Lu Qi, MD, PhD*

*Interim Chair & Professor, Epidemiology*

**Minghao Kou, PhD, MHS, BM**

#### HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT

This award is presented to the MPH student illustrating academic prowess and future leadership abilities in the management of public health and hospital systems.

*Presented by Arthur Mora, PhD*

*Chair and Professor, Health Policy and Management*

**Helina K. Shiferaw, MD, MPH**

#### JEFFREY H. EPSTEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

This award is in memory of Jeffrey Epstein, a former Health Systems Management (HSM) student who brought special qualities to the department. Jeff had a lively, wide-ranging intellectual curiosity and loved to engage in discussion. He was a friend to everyone and he initiated many social activities which brought the department together. With his passing, his family and the department chose to provide an award to that HSM student dedicated to foster camaraderie and an HSM spirit.

*Presented by Arthur Mora, PhD*

*Chair and Professor, Health Policy and Management*

**Linda Hoang Pham, MHA, BS**

#### UPSILON PHI DELTA HONOR SOCIETY

Upsilon Phi Delta is a national academic honor society for students in healthcare administration. The purpose of the society is to further the professional competence and dedication of individual members in and for the profession of healthcare management.

**Lisa Meredith Bears, MHA, BA, AA, AA\*\***

**Nicholas Martin Desselle, MHA, BS\***

**Emiko Distler, MHA, BSPH\*\***

**Kathryn Isabel Dortch, MHA, BSPH, BSM\***

**Katheryn Violetta Glerum, MHA, BSPH\*\***

**Lajmi Islam, MHA, BS**

**Caroline Marie Kennedy, MHA, BS**

**Joseph Kim, MHA, BS**

**Madeline Ann Lewis, MHA, BSPH\***

**Jennifer Paula Lipshy, MHA, BSPH\*\***

**Erica Gaines Moore, MHA, BBA**

**Brooke Allyson Pham, MHA, BS\***

**Alyssa Christine Ragoobir, MHA, BSPH\*\***

**Susana Torres, MHA, BSM**

**Leanna Bich Phuong Tran, MHA, BS**

**Talia Maria Vasilj, MHA, BSPH\***

#### CARROLL BEHRHORST PRIMARY CARE AWARD

This award is given to a student who demonstrates academic excellence and dedication to primary health care in low- and middle-income countries. The award honors Carroll Behrhorst, physician and adjunct assistant professor at WSPH, who established a many-faceted medical program to serve the rural Kaqchikel indigenous Maya people of the Guatemala Highlands. Dr. Behrhorst's approach of combining health and community development was selected in 1975 by the World Health Organization as a model for effective community development programs.

*Presented by David Hotchkiss, PhD*

*Chair and Professor*

*International Health and Sustainable Development*

**Justine Maria Todd, MPH, BSPH**

#### JAMES P. GRANT CHILD SURVIVAL INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AWARD

This award recognizes a student who demonstrates academic excellence and potential for contributions to child survival. It was named for UNICEF executive director James P. Grant, who led the campaign to combat the death of millions of children each year from easily preventable illnesses. In 1983, he mobilized initiatives to bring life-saving, cost-effective techniques to children in developing countries. By the end of the 1980s, this had saved an estimated 12 million lives.

*Presented by David Hotchkiss, PhD*

*Chair and Professor*

*International Health and Sustainable Development*

**Savannah Badt, MPH, BA**

#### JACK C.S. LING INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT STUDENT SERVICE AWARD

This award is given to the student who demonstrates academic excellence and has provided service to the department faculty, staff, and students. The award is named for Jack C.S. Ling, emeritus professor of public health. For nearly 30 years Professor Ling worked with UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO) as a director of information and communication planning, and implementing the WHO's global communication and education programs. At Tulane, Professor Ling was director of Tulane's International Communication Enhancement Center and principal investigator for the Iodine Deficiency Disorder Elimination Communication Projects, Global Social Mobilization Training, and the Child Survival Video Clearinghouse for UNICEF. He was a superb teacher, mentor, and a great resource for students as they embarked on their careers.

*Presented by David Hotchkiss, PhD*

*Chair and Professor*

*International Health and Sustainable Development*

**Madeline Nancy Walaszek, MPH, BA**

#### R. ELISE MAGNUS MEMORIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award recognizes a person who has demonstrated excellence, achievement, and/or leadership in disease prevention or health promotion programs in the Greater New Orleans area. Elise Magnus was a young woman who loved New Orleans and was dedicated to improving the mental health status of children and adolescents.

*Presented by Akilah Dulin, PhD*

*Chair and Professor*

*Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences*

*Presented by Shokufeh Ramirez, PhD*

*Assistant Professor*

*Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences*

**Brooklyn Joet Francis, MPH, BA**

**Caroline Elizabeth Hines, MPH, BSPH**

#### ELIZABETH A. BENNETT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

This award is given to the graduating master's student in maternal and child health who best exemplifies Betty Bennett's dedication to the health of mothers and children. Bennett was a leader in maternal and child health at Tulane for many years.

*Presented by Shokufeh Ramirez, PhD*

*Assistant Professor*

*Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences*

**Annie Francis Pasterz, MPH, BS**

#### CAESAR CORZANTES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

This award recipient displays outstanding academic achievement and commitment to the underserved. Caesar Corzantes, a much-loved maternal and child health faculty member, established primary care clinics in New Orleans.

*Presented by Shokufeh Ramirez, PhD*

*Assistant Professor*

*Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences*

**Grace Elizabeth Hoegler, MPH, BS**

#### SBPS DRPH LEADERSHIP AWARD

This award celebrates a DrPH graduate who embodies the program's core values. Through their academic coursework, applied experiences, and peer interactions, they have demonstrated transformative leadership qualities. Selected through faculty nomination, the recipient exemplifies how leadership can advance public health in all our communities, creating meaningful change in public health practice.

*Presented by Gretchen Clum, PhD*

*Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Associate Professor*

*Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences*

**Michael A. DeGuzman, DrPH, MPH, BA**

#### SBPS DRPH ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD

This award recognizes the DrPH graduate who has demonstrated exceptional scholarly achievement throughout the program. This honor is awarded to the student who has consistently produced outstanding academic work across all program competencies and whose professional portfolio exemplifies doctoral-level mastery in analyzing complex public health challenges, developing evidence-based solutions, and translating research into effective practice.

*Presented by Gretchen Clum, PhD*

*Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Associate Professor*

*Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences*

**Lazara Graciela Paz-Gonzalez, DrPH, MPH, BS**

#### CHARLES C. BASS AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING STUDENT IN THE MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND TROPICAL MEDICINE PROGRAM

This award is presented to a student who has shown outstanding academic excellence in the MPHTM degree program. Named for a former dean of the School of Medicine and a long-time professor of Tropical Medicine, Dr. Bass was one of the first scientists to cultivate the parasite that causes malaria. As an educator, he was responsible for the development and establishment of clinical labs now in use throughout the United States and the world. He's also known as the "Father of Preventive Dentistry" for his study of the activity of microorganisms in human saliva.

*Presented by Ronald Blanton, MD, MS*

*Chair and Professor, Tropical Medicine*

**Bilen Daniel Mekonnen, MD, MPHTM**

#### ANTONIO D'ALESSANDRO AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING STUDENT IN THE MPHTM CLINICAL PROGRAM

This award is presented to a student who has shown outstanding academic excellence in the MPHTM Clinical degree program. It is named for professor emeritus Antonio D'Alessandro who taught in the department of Tropical Medicine for 55 years and made critical contributions to the world of science and to Tulane's research prominence in Latin America.

*Presented by Ronald Blanton, MD, MS*

*Chair and Professor, Tropical Medicine*

**Gabriel Vincent Hernandez, MD, MPH, MS, BS**

#### ERNEST CARROLL FAUST AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING STUDENT IN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM

This award is presented to a tropical medicine student showing outstanding academic excellence in the MS degree program. It was named in honor of Dr. Faust who was on the faculty at Tulane for 28 years and was instrumental in the formation of the parasitology program. After years of coordinating the Tulane-Colombia Program in Medical Education in Cali, Colombia, he retired but was always busy, always active, and always a presence at Tulane for the rest of his life.

*Presented by Ronald Blanton, MD, MS*

*Chair and Professor, Tropical Medicine*

**Kaitlyn A. Lewis, MS, BS**

**DONALD J. KROGSTAD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND FIELD WORK**

Honoring the memory of a long-time faculty member, former Chair of the Department of Tropical Medicine and distinguished field and laboratory researcher on malaria, the Krogstad Award recognizes a graduating student in the Tropical Medicine department in any program, who by their dedication to working locally in communities in Louisiana or in communities abroad, demonstrates passion, patience, skill and joy in collaborating and empowering underserved populations.

*Presented by Ronald Blanton, MD, MS*

*Chair and Professor, Tropical Medicine*

**Alyssa Jane Young, PhD, MSPH, BSPH**

**HARRISON SPENCER AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING STUDENT IN THE PHD PROGRAM**

This award is presented to a student who has shown outstanding student service and excellence in the PhD degree program.

Named for a former dean of both the Celia Scott Weatherhead School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Dr. Spencer served for 16 years as the president and CEO of the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health.

*Presented by Ronald Blanton, MD, MS*

*Chair and Professor, Tropical Medicine*

**Kathleen Maria Kuesters, PhD, ScM, BS, BS**

**TULANE UNIVERSITY WSPH AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AND PRESENTATION**

Each spring the Tulane Research, Innovation, and Creativity Summit (TRICS) showcases the breadth and depth of research, innovation, and creativity from disciplines, departments, units, and schools across Tulane University. Graduate students, undergraduate students, trainees (postdocs, residents, and fellows), faculty, and research staff presented their research, scholarship, and achievements.

*Presented by Thomas A. LaVeist, PhD*

*Dean of the Celia Scott Weatherhead School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine*

**Catherine Anne Boisjolie, MSPH, BA (master's)**

Environmental Health Sciences

*"WASTEWATER SURVEILLANCE OF CANDIDA AURIS: AN EMERGING OPPORTUNISTIC FUNGAL PATHOGEN"*

**Gloria Igihozo, MS, BA (doctoral)**

International Health and Sustainable Development

*"A COMMUNITY-BASED PARTICIPATORY ASSESSMENT OF RURAL WOMEN'S BARRIERS TO PREVENTING PODOCONIOS IN RWANDA"*

**TULANE UNIVERSITY WSPH RECOGNITION OF OUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

Honor sashes are given as the school recognizes these student leaders' commitment and service to their fellow classmates, and the WSPH community in general.

*Presented by Erica W. Valenzuela, EdD*

*Assistant Dean for Student Experience*

**Jared Michael Christian, MPH, BS, BA - President**

**Caroline Marie Kennedy, MHA, BS - Vice President**

**Sneha Dev, MBBS - Secretary**

**Rishi Rohit Patel, MPH, BDS - Treasurer**

**TULANE UNIVERSITY WSPH STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD**

A faculty member is chosen for professional demeanor and ability to advise and give direction. The recipient is approachable and accessible to students.

*Presented by Jared Christian, MPH, BS, BA*

*President, Student Government Association*

**Arti Shankar, PhD**

**Professor**

**Biostatistics and Data Science**

**TULANE UNIVERSITY WSPH STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARD**

A staff member is chosen for dedication, exceptional work, providing direction, and being responsive and attentive to our students.

*Presented by Jared Christian, MPH, BS, BA*

*President, Student Government Association*

**LeShawn "Lee" Simplis-Barnes**

**Director**

**Office of Enrollment Management & Admissions**

**DEAN E. ELAINE BOSTON AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO STUDENT NEEDS**

This prestigious award was initiated in 2005 by the WSPH SGA to honor the previous dean's outstanding commitment to our students for over 25 years. This award recognizes one individual each year that exhibits those same qualities and gifts.

*Presented by Jared Christian, MPH, BS, BA*

*President, Student Government Association*

**Erica Valenzuela, EdD**

**Assistant Dean**

**Office of Student Experience**

DELTA OMEGA HONORARY PUBLIC HEALTH SOCIETY  
(presented at an earlier event)

STUDENTS

Albarissa Abdalla, MD, MPH, BM  
Farah Ismail Allouche, PhD, MPH, BS  
Thae Ain Aint Aung, MPH, MBBS  
Lauren Patrice Baker, MPH, BA, AAS  
Savannah Marie Baus, MPH, BSPH  
Elza Ruti Friedman Black, MPH, BSPH\*\*  
Hannah Angel Blandón-Jiménez, MPH, BS  
Farhana Sahar Chaudhry, MSPH, BSPH  
Jared Michael Christian, MPH, BS, BA  
Brooklyn Joet Francis, MPH, BA  
Amrita Gill, PhD, MPH, BDS  
Emma Cathryn Glass, MPH, BSPH  
Shanna Hope Hardy, MD, MPH, MS, BS  
Nicholas Jeffrey Morrish Harling, MPH, BA  
Alina Grabowski Hillery, MPH, BSN  
Farhana Islam, MPH, BS  
Minghao Kou, PhD, MHS, BM  
Kathleen Maria Kuesters, PhD, ScM, BS, BS  
Kaitlyn A. Lewis, MS, BS  
Kristen Gloria Matesi Lezama, DrPH, MPH, BSN  
Zhiyuan Mao, MPH, BM  
Christina Teresa McCarthy, MD, MPH, BA  
Elsie Ewoenam Mottey, MPH, BPH  
Madlene Movia, DrPH, MSc, BA  
Edward Chinedum Muo, MD, MS, MPH, BS  
Isabella Maria Parise, DrPH, MPH, BHS, AS  
Medhavi Ashutosh Patwardhan, MPHTM, BSPH  
Lazara Graciela Paz-Gonzalez, DrPH, MPH, BS  
Allyson Lynn Sandman, MPH, BSPH\*\*  
Claire Elizabeth Schwarze, MS, BSPH  
Alexandra Sofia Shimanovsky, MPH, BSPH\*\*  
Hazel Olivia Shoemaker, MPH, BSPH\*\*  
Simone Skeen, PhD, MA, BA  
Lindsay Smith, MPH, BA  
Marissa Nicole Steinberg, MD, MPH, BS  
Emily Louise Struttman, MD, MPH, BA  
Grace Gregorio Tanguilig, MD, MPH, BS  
Ling Tian, PhD, MS, BA  
Madeline Nancy Walaszek, MPH, BA  
Yin Wang, PhD, MEc, BEc  
Amirrah Zhanae' Watson, MPH, BS  
Debra Renee Winberg, PhD, MSc, MA, BA  
Ashley Wrushen, DrPH, MPH, BSPH  
Zhouran Xiao, MSPH, BS  
Zhengxiao Yang, MS, BSc  
Meghana Yellanki, MPH, BS  
Hao Zhou, MS, BS

FACULTY

**Dawn Wesson, PhD** — *Tropical Medicine and Infectious Disease*

ALUMNI

**Tuhin Ria Choudhary, MD, MPH, MS, BA**  
**Jeremy Reimann, MSPH, BS**

DELTA OMEGA, ETA CHAPTER, AWARD FOR  
BEST DISSERTATION

(presented at an earlier event)

This award goes to the doctoral student whose dissertation best exemplifies outstanding original research and relevance to the goals of public health.

*Presented by Jian Li, PhD*

*Vice President of Delta Omega, Eta Chapter, and Associate Professor, Biostatistics and Data Science*

**Farah Ismail Allouche, PhD, MPH, BS**

Epidemiology

*“Effectiveness of a Community Health Worker-Led Intensive Blood Pressure Intervention on Cardiovascular Disease: Four-Year Findings from the China Rural Hypertension Control Project”*

DELTA OMEGA, ETA CHAPTER, AWARD FOR ANNUAL  
RESEARCH POSTER COMPETITION (GRADUATE)

(presented at an earlier event)

The Eta Chapter sponsors an annual poster competition to display research and related work completed by WSPH students. Both first and second place winners receive a cash prize and are encouraged to submit their abstract to the national poster contest sponsored by ASPPH.

**1st Place — Gloria Igihozo, MS, BA**

*“A Community-Based Participatory Assessment of Rural Women’s Barriers to Preventing Podoconiosis in Rwanda”*

**2nd Place — Alexander Kimbrough, MPH, BS**

*“The Impact of Medical Mistrust on Health Promoting Behaviors in Black Churches in New Orleans, Louisiana”*



#### THE DEAN'S SCHOLASTIC 4.0 AWARD

This award acknowledges students' academic achievements. It recognizes those who have maintained and are graduating with a perfect 4.0, demonstrating superior dedication and commitment.

*Presented by Thomas A. LaVeist, PhD*

*Dean of the Celia Scott Weatherhead School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine*

**Elza Ruti Friedman Black, MPH, BSPH\*\***

**Rachel Ann Caddell, MPH, BS\*\***

**Jared Michael Christian, MPH, BS, BA**

**Chenxing Chu, MPH, BS\*\***

**Dagmawi Mesai Demessie, MD, MS**

**Nicholas Martin Desselle, MHA, BS\***

**Kathryn Isabel Dortch, MHA, BSPH, BSM\***

**Shanna Hope Hardy, MD, MPH, MS, BS**

**Nicholas Jeffrey Morrish Harling, MPH, BA**

**Farhana Islam, MPH, BS**

**Lajmi Islam, MHA, BS**

**Shakia Willieka Le'tt Jackson, DrPH, MPH, BA**

**Joseph Kim, MHA, BS**

**Minghao Kou, PhD, MHS, BM**

**Christina Teresa McCarthy, MD, MPH, BA**

**Madlene Movia, DrPH, MSc, BA**

**Jillian Marie Parks, MPH, BS\***

**Lazara Graciela Paz-Gonzalez, DrPH, MPH, BS**

**Brooke Allyson Pham, MHA, BS\***

**Alyssa Christine Ragoobir, MHA, BSPH\*\***

**Avelina Yamilet Rodgers, MPH, BS\***

**Allyson Lynn Sandman, MPH, BSPH\*\***

**Marissa Nicole Steinberg, MD, MPH, BS**

**Emily Louise Struttmann, MD, MPH, BA**

**Madison Noelle Thornton, MD, MPH, BA**

**Leanna Bich Phuong Tran, MHA, BS**

**Amirrah Zhanae' Watson, MPH, BS**

**Debra Renee Winberg, PhD, MSc, MA, BA**

**Ashley Wrushen, DrPH, MPH, BSPH**

**Hao Zhou, MS, BS**

#### TULANE UNIVERSITY WSPH CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION IN THE GLOBAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Given to the Global Scholars students who have an invested interest in international public health, and have committed their time at WSPH to furthering their readiness to work with international communities in a humble, productive, and collaborative manner.

*Presented by Erica W. Valenzuela, EdD*

*Assistant Dean for Student Experience*

**Lauren Patrice Baker, MPH, BA, AAS**

**Jared Michael Christian, MPH, BS, BA**

**Brian Warren Lucas, MSPH, BA**

**Robyn Ann Sanders, MS, BS**

#### UNDERGRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDIES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

*(presented at an earlier event)*

##### TULANE WSPH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COLLABORATOR AWARD

This award honors a student(s) who demonstrates a commitment to teamwork and inclusivity in their endeavors.

*Presented by Janeen Azare*

*President, Public Health Alumni Association Board*

**Lauren Elisabeth Eaves, BSPH**

##### TULANE WSPH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP AWARD

This award honors a student(s) who exhibits early leadership skills that demonstrate a high potential for leadership in the field of public health following graduation.

*Presented by Janeen Azare*

*President, Public Health Alumni Association Board*

**Ananya Kaushal, BSPH, BA**

##### TULANE WSPH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HEALTH ACCESS AWARD

This award honors a student(s) whose research or public health work contributes to health equity or reducing health disparities. Student has directly contributed to the Celia Scott Weatherhead School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine's promotion and support of the spread and research of health equity-focused initiatives in the New Orleans, United States', and international and other communities.

*Presented by Janeen Azare*

*President, Public Health Alumni Association Board*

**Roha Abbas, BSPH**

#### UNDERGRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDIES BSPH DEGREE AWARDS

*(presented at an earlier event)*

##### THE DEAN'S UNDERGRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH SCHOLASTIC AWARD

The graduating BSPH senior with the highest GPA in each graduating class receives this award. If a tie-breaker is needed, major GPA is the next criteria, followed by whether the student completed an honors thesis. Upon a tie among all these criteria, there will be two annual winners.

**Jennifer Xiomara Herrera Cano, BSPH, BA**

##### OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Outstanding Undergraduate Public Health Student Leadership Award honors a student who has shown great initiative and conviction with the capability to lead, encouraging others to get involved and be moved to action. Leadership is exemplified by a person who has the vision to see what is needed to move forward and then is able to engage others to achieve a common goal.

**Treasure Alexis Joiner, BSPH**

OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH  
STUDENT SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM AWARD

The Outstanding Undergraduate Public Health Student Service and Volunteerism Award is given to an individual who has performed exceptional service within Tulane University or in the community. This award recognizes a student who has put others before themselves, and their work has made a big difference to Tulane, New Orleans and the greater community.

**Roha Abbas, BSPH**

DELTA OMEGA HONORARY PUBLIC HEALTH SOCIETY

**Isabella Rose Ardizzi, BSPH**

**Avani Das Banerji, BSPH**

**Lauren Elisabeth Eaves, BSPH**

**Annabelle Olivia Pesik Falconer, BSPH, BA**

**Kalia Frances Wolf Hamilton, BSPH, BA**

**Morgan Alexis Jacobs, BSPH**

**Nicole Taylor Klapper, BSPH**

**Miranda Joan Licardo, BSPH**

**Caroline Elizabeth McCance, BSPH**

**Annika Eliza Nelson, BSPH, BS**

**Rachel Moore Rosenthal, BSPH, BA**

**Isabelle Morgan Smith, BSPH**

DELTA OMEGA, ETA CHAPTER, AWARD FOR ANNUAL  
RESEARCH POSTER COMPETITION (UNDERGRADUATE)

**1st Place — Eleanor Jane Hood, BSPH**

*“Food Insecurity, Health-Related Quality of Life, and No-Barriers Food Aid”*

TULANE UNIVERSITY WSPH AWARD FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AND PRESENTATION

Each spring the Tulane Research, Innovation, and Creativity Summit (TRICS) showcases the breadth and depth of research, innovation, and creativity from disciplines, departments, units, and schools across Tulane University. Graduate students, undergraduate students, trainees (postdocs, residents, and fellows), faculty, and research staff presented their research, scholarship, and achievements.

*Presented by Thomas A. LaVeist, PhD*

*Dean of the Celia Scott Weatherhead School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine*

**Annika Eliza Nelson, BSPH, BS**

Undergraduate Public Health Studies

*“RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS AND PATHOGENIC VIBRIOS IN ESTUARINE RECREATIONAL WATERS OF SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA”*

**UNDERGRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDIES  
FACULTY AWARD**

*(presented at an earlier event)*

OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH  
TEACHING AWARD

This award is presented to a faculty member and is chosen by the students for their professional demeanor and ability to advise and give direction. The recipient is approachable and accessible to students.

**Emily Harris, MHA**

**Instructor, Health Policy and Management**

**UNDERGRADUATE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDIES  
TULANE UNIVERSITY AWARDS**

*(presented at an earlier event)*

TULANE 34 AWARD

The Tulane 34 Award, presented to 34 graduates from Tulane’s 10 schools and colleges, recognizes students for their exemplary leadership, service, and academic excellence. Named for the year in which the university was founded, 1834, the Tulane 34 award is among the most coveted university-wide honors bestowed upon students.

**Janae Josephine Sharise Burney, BSPH**

SENIOR HONOR SCHOLAR

Each May, Newcomb-Tulane College recognizes students who, by achieving academic excellence, embody the highest goals of the institution.

**Eleanor Jane Hood, BSPH**

**Annika Eliza Nelson, BSPH, BS**

CREST LEADERSHIP MEDALLION

The Leadership Medallion is awarded to graduating seniors of Newcomb-Tulane College who have demonstrated leadership capacity through their campus involvements that have exemplified each of the tenets of the Tulane University Leadership Framework.

**Roha Abbas, BSPH**

**Janae Josephine Sharise Burney, BSPH**

**Amber Lauren Corb, BSPH**

**Julia Nili Dubovoy, BSPH**

**Lauren Elisabeth Eaves, BSPH**

**Evan Diamond Elster, BSPH**

**Kendall Jordyn Fields, BSPH**

**Kennedi Garrett**

**Treasure Alexis Joiner, BSPH**

**Miranda Joan Licardo, BSPH**

**Madeline Kodie Lorio, BSPH, BA**

**Caroline Elizabeth McCance, BSPH**

**Dior Naylor**

**Saksham Saharan, BSPH, BS**

**Emily Carol Stevenson, BSPH, BS**

**Anna Cay Kaemmerling Vernon, BSPH**

**Benjamin Isaac Warner, BSPH**

**Danielle Elizabeth Weber, BSPH, BA**

CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TOP LEADERS IN SERVICE  
AWARD

The award recognizes students who have committed their Tulane University career to improving the community around them. Whether through service-learning courses, internships, student leadership or volunteerism, the students recognized have shown dedication in their commitment to the New Orleans community and beyond.

**Janae Josephine Sharise Burney, BSPH**

**Lauren Elisabeth Eaves, BSPH**

**Evan Diamond Elster, BSPH**

**Treasure Alexis Joiner, BSPH**

**Miranda Joan Licardo, BSPH**

**Alyssa Lourdes Jose Olivia, BSPH**

**Sarah Elizabeth Schultz, BSPH, BS**





**TULANE UNIVERSITY**  
Celia Scott Weatherhead  
School *of* Public Health  
& Tropical Medicine