

2001

Boston University School of Public Health Dean's report: 2001-2002

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Students connecting to one another,
their communities and the world

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Boston University School of Public Health

Dean's Report 2001-2002

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I A M P L E A S E D to present my second annual report on the activities of Boston University School of Public Health. Founded in 1976 within the Boston University School of Medicine, BUSPH became an independent entity within the University in 2000, and we published our inaugural Dean's Report last year.

This year's report focuses on students, an appropriate choice for a school that places such a high priority on education. One of my great pleasures as dean is my interaction with students: in the classroom, on committees, in one-to-one meetings and at social events. Students have an energy and a thirst for knowledge that invigorate my life and the lives of our faculty and staff. Students are always challenging us. They are always raising questions and seeking answers.

The fact that our students vary widely in age, nationality, background and interests creates a fertile learning environment for everyone at the School. Underlying their apparent differences, however, is an important bond: our students want to create a healthier world for all of us. They inspire me, their teachers, one another and their communities, with their dedication to this goal.

They are idealistic, altruistic and highly motivated. They come to BUSPH seeking to forge a way of life as well as a way of work.

Connection is the theme for this year's report, because connectedness is a core principle of public health. The way we learn, teach and practice public health is built on the connections between and among people and their environment. Most of our students come to us with an understanding that their behaviors influence their own health and the health of others, next door and across the globe. They come to us with an appreciation of the importance of connection, and we push them to acquire a broader and deeper appreciation.

Last year's report showed how our faculty members combine research with practice. This blending of multiple activities is true for our students as well. Many of our students, in addition to studying and working toward a degree, are also taking action to build a healthier world by engaging in research, work, practice and internships. At BUSPH, education, research and practice are connected activities for students as well as for their teachers.

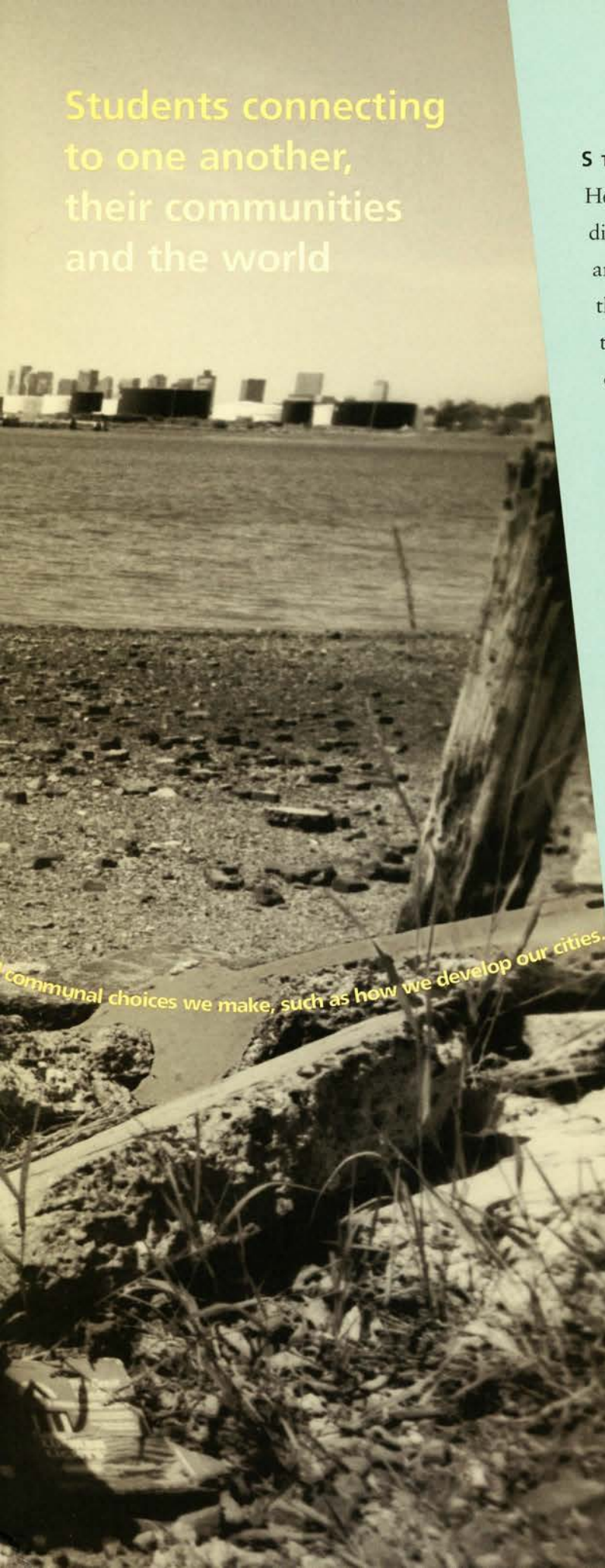
If our students are to continue making the connections that advance public health, they need your support. They are graduate students, which means in most cases that their families are no longer supporting their education. We are able to give 60 percent of our students some type of financial aid, based on need. However, donated funds designated for student support would make a BUSPH education feasible for more students of modest means, allow us to expand our limited program of merit scholarships and reduce the education debt that burdens our graduates. Please see page 16 of this report for information about how to make a gift that will give you a direct connection with our remarkable students.

Robert F. Meenan, MD, MPH, MBA, Dean



"An awareness of the fact that we are all connected to one another and to the earth should influence the individual and





Students connecting to one another, their communities and the world

S T U D E N T S at Boston University School of Public Health view the world and their place in it from many different perspectives. Beyond their differences in interest and background, however, they share a common vision: that healthy communities are based on human connection. These students understand that they are linked to one another, their communities and the world.

Ranging in age, nationality, education and interest, they inspire one another, their teachers and their communities with their zeal and commitment.

Most defy the typical notion of “student,” because their learning experience often transcends the classroom. Some are professionals in other fields, such as medicine or law, who want to amplify their effectiveness through an understanding of public health. Others are already practitioners of public health.

The students profiled here enter a diverse and dynamic profession, which they can help to shape and refine.

They will:

- > Empower communities to participate in research on toxic waste
- > Interpret the law to protect the health of those who cannot advocate for themselves
- > Link 911 callers to extended services
- > Help urban communities identify resources to minimize pollution
- > Apply cultural competence to the needs assessment of a community
- > Find ways to maximize health care resources rather than cut them
- > Entrust women with the health care decision-making for their communities

Overall, they will strengthen the bonds between individuals and among communities and resources to bring about better health.

NERISSA WU

DSc candidate, Environmental Health

education here is giving me the tools to help communities address environmental health issues." "Public health is about protecting he

Nerissa Wu (foreground) and Roseann Bongiovanni, a BUSPH graduate, Chelsea native and community activist, view the northern branch of the Chelsea Creek, a toxic waste site.

"AN AWARENESS of the fact that we are all connected to one another and to the earth should influence the individual and communal choices we make, such as how we develop our cities," says Nerissa Wu, 34, a doctoral student in environmental health. Environmental justice is her mission. "Certain communities have greater environmental hazards than others," says Wu, "which is not only an issue of health, but of justice."

Wu works for the Urban Environmental Initiative (UEI), a program within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that funds community groups, raises awareness and serves as an information resource. "We are not necessarily there to fix the problem, but to help the community define it and find the right technical resources." Wu works for the EPA 25 hours a week and takes 16 credits of classes each semester at BUSPH.

A 1989 graduate of Brown University with a concentration in environmental studies, Wu became concerned about the environment as a teenager growing up on the New Jersey shore, watching trash wash up on the beach.

After college, Wu worked in solid-waste and wastewater management and returned to graduate school because she wanted to become an advocate for those who experience environmental injustice. "My education here is giving me the tools to help communities address environmental health issues," she says. "I am acquiring the technical background I need to take on this role."

Wu says that many major public health problems affecting the world today have to do with products that are commonly used. "The way we develop our cities encourages people to drive, increasing air pollution emissions," she says. "Endocrine disruptors in cosmetics and detergents wash down the drain or are transported in the air, and affect the reproductive systems of many species. We do not know how they affect human health. The heavy use of antibiotics in meat production contributes to antibiotic resistance. When antibiotics were discovered they were a life-saving measure. Unfortunately we may be wasting this resource in our pursuit of cheap food."

Wu says that whatever type of work she does in the future will combine her interest in environmental science and her commitment to environmental justice. "While we work toward improving environmental health, we need to make sure that no one is left behind. Everyone should have the same access to clean air and water, green space and safe food."

"MY PATH HAS BEEN academically and geographically diverse," says Heather Pierce, 27, who received her MPH in health law last May. "It once seemed as though my interests were all over the place, but now I see that they were always connected. The more exposure I received to different ways of approaching health care, the clearer my path became.

"I've always been interested in improving people's lives through health care," says Pierce, who is now a law student at New York University and intends to practice health law. "In college I thought I was headed toward medicine. I changed my mind, though, and explored other things first, including traveling and writing. I lived in Arizona for four years and did some science writing and health education. While I was there my interest in public health began to percolate because I was exposed to issues regarding health among the Native American population."

Pierce worked at the University of Arizona, where she began taking core public health classes. "A course in health policy sparked my interest in health law," she says. "The course brought together various ideas for solving health care problems from a policy approach instead of from a community approach."

Once her interest in health law became defined, Pierce transferred to BUSPH to continue her studies. "I came to BUSPH because of the faculty. They are the best. I was thrilled with the quality of education here and the level of commitment among the faculty." BU has the only freestanding

health law department within a school of public health in the U.S.

"At BU I learned about the potential for legal avenues to help people improve their quality of life. I also learned how the law can be misused. The law is more dynamic than I ever imagined. There are various interpretations, and various interactions between state and federal laws. The law is elegant, complex and evolving, but never arbitrary.

"Public health is about protecting health, and law is often about protecting rights. In health law constitutional issues, reproductive rights and human rights overlap. The law can also be used to analyze and regulate health risks and behaviors," says Pierce.

"My communication skills and writing experience have served me well in school and will continue to be critical in law school and law practice. That's what I love about the law: the precision of language. I can never be sloppy again. Words that are interchangeable in common usage may not mean the same thing, legally.

"There are an unlimited number of directions someone could take with a health law degree," says Pierce. "I'm excited to see where my own career goes. I have a lot of options within a clear direction."

h, and law is often about protecting rights. In health law constitutional issues, reproductive rights and human rights overlap. Th

"The people who need health care the most here in the U.S. are often the ones without access," says Heather Pierce. She hopes to help correct this inequity in her practice of health law.



“WHY AM I SEEING so much of this?” asked Rahel Hailemichael, MD, 38, about the frequent diarrheal disease among her patients when she was medical director of the Ghion Health Center in the rural community of Wolliso, Ethiopia. As a physician, she was asking a public health question. “I learned that many families were using well water instead of town water. In time, when the wells were closed and the families were hooked up to town water, the incidence of diarrhea dropped.”

Thus began Hailemichael’s interest in public health and her journey to BUSPH 10 years later as a master’s degree student in maternal and child health. “The one-on-one experience you have as a clinician is amplified when you practice public health,” she says. “It has a broader role to play.”

Hailemichael also encountered urban health problems as a physician for a health center in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia. Here she gained her expertise in tuberculosis control by compiling reports and later achieving an 80 percent cure rate. She then worked at a regional health center to coordinate a citywide TB project.

Hailemichael chose to concentrate in maternal and child health because she wanted to improve community health by empowering women. “Women play a major role in the family,” she says.

“Improving a woman’s knowledge about health and access to care will enhance the health of the family and community. At BUSPH I learned how to monitor, evaluate and run a health care program. This is very different from the clinical approach I was accustomed to as a physician. In order for one physician to help one patient, there needs to be coordinated care. Every department must work efficiently for that one person to be helped.

“My education at BUSPH strengthened my cultural competence,” says Hailemichael. “In a diverse country like the U.S., each community has its own problems. When you want to help a community, you must do a needs assessment and garner community participation. This is the most important thing I’ve learned.

“Public health problems in the U.S. are very different from those in Ethiopia,” says

Hailemichael.

“Here, children do not get anemia from hookworm, or hookworm from walking barefoot. In Ethiopia, some of the major health problems affecting women and children are malaria, HIV/AIDS, TB, complicated pregnancies, obstructed labor. Here, they are alcohol, violence, obesity, smoking, hypertension. There, most of the problems have to do with infectious disease. Here, they are behavioral.”

Hailemichael graduated from BUSPH in May 2002, and is now doing an internship with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia, where she will help conduct a reproductive survey.

Rahel Hailemichael believes that “education is a tool that I can use, especially as a woman. If I am always improving myself, I can help others much better. My studies at BUSPH enhanced my cultural competence and helped me realize that in a diverse country like the U.S., each community has its own problems.”

"FOR THE HEALTH of populations to improve, the business and public health aspects of health care must be better integrated," says Elizabeth Daake, 27, who graduated in May 2002 with an MBA/MPH dual degree. She combined a concentration in health services at BUSPH with a concentration in health care management at Boston University School of Management.

"Sometimes we must make choices that cost money now but have long-term benefits," says Daake. "The results may not show tomorrow. This is investing in prevention.

"In the practice of public health it is important to understand the culture around your work and to put events into a larger context," says Daake. "Public health always looks at the big picture." She says her undergraduate degree in English literature from the College of the Holy Cross helped her understand this principle. "As a student of literature I learned to analyze text and conceptualize characters' lives, and realized that events do not happen in isolation. I also learned that authors create within a social context.

"For example, Louisa May Alcott is known to most people as the author of *Little Women*, but she was much more versatile. She was a very political woman who worked as a nurse during the Civil War, became involved in the labor movement and wrote many more books. Her culture forbade her to make public statements as a woman, so she put her narrators into positions to say things she could not say."

After graduating from college,

where she also concentrated in women's studies, Daake worked in Chicago helping homeless women find stable housing and interviewing women who were victims of domestic violence. She also worked for several other nonprofit organizations, most recently in an internship with the Cambridge Health Alliance.

"I view public health as a cause, not just a job. The health services class I took at BUSPH was a turning point for me. Here, I learned that there are ways to improve quality without increasing cost. With wisdom and creativity you can achieve a win/win situation for patient and provider. Instead of asking how we can cut services, we ask, how can we change the way we do things? My public health classes taught me how to view health in a larger context, while my management classes taught me how to be effective within an organization.

"Through my dual degree I learned how to organize information to solve problems. My interests became more focused. Now I'm glad to have this balance."

Elizabeth Daake was chosen to receive one of a limited number of Dean's Scholarships, which are awarded on the basis of the unique strengths that a student brings to the School.

Elizabeth Daake, photographed in the Louisa May Alcott house in Concord, Ma., believes that in both the study of literature and the study of public health, it is important to view events in a broad context.

IRACEMA DE MOURA CASTRO

MPH candidate, Social and Behavioral Sciences



I love about public health is that it offers a macro lens.

Iracema de Moura Castro worked on a study funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and the Centers for Disease Control on the residual effects of alcohol on occupational workers.

“THERE IS A LOT OF NEED out there. It will find me,” says Iracema de Moura Castro, 30, a master’s degree student concentrating in social and behavioral sciences. “What I love about public health is that it offers a macro lens. Public health affects every aspect of human life: home, community, work, environment. With this degree I will have an opportunity to work on issues I care about from a broader perspective, but have an impact on everyday life.”

One of the issues de Moura Castro cares about is criminal justice, which was her major at the University of Hartford. Later on, as a program associate for the Center for Effective Public Policy in Washington, DC, she helped design and produce a video seminar for judges on implementing effective sentencing for sex offenders. “This job gave me opportunities to tap into current research and participate in training and development efforts for judges, probation and parole officers, and other key players in the criminal justice system,” she says. “I learned that justice can be a public health issue, not just a crime issue.”

De Moura Castro also worked as a program director for Youth Service America (YSA), a nonprofit organization dedicated to developing and supporting a strong youth service movement that creates healthy communities and fosters citizenship, knowledge and the personal development of young people. While at YSA, she developed and managed a national leadership and service training program for high school students.

“These positions introduced me to the nonprofit world and gave me a chance to work on critical quality-of-life issues at both the national and local levels,” says de Moura Castro. “What I learned is that the thread among all of my experiences was the desire to provide communities with the knowledge, skills and tools necessary to lead healthier lives. Pursuing a graduate degree in public health was the obvious next step.”

“I chose social and behavioral sciences because it is the broadest concentration with the widest application,” she says. “I did not have a preconceived idea about what I wanted to do, but instead came with an open mind and the desire to experience the spectrum of opportunities available.” During her first year de Moura Castro worked part time as a research assistant for the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department in addition to being a full-time student.

FOR JERASIMOS (“Jerry”) Ballas, 23, the rich learning experience at BUSPH results in part from connections in the classroom among a varied group of students. “There is an incredible mix of students,” he says. “To your right is a recent college graduate, to your left a 45-year-old doctor. We learn from each other as much as we do from the professor.”

Ballas graduated in May 2002, with a concentration in epidemiology and biostatistics. “Epi/Bio appealed to me because it is the core science of public health,” he says. “I am interested in learning how diseases spread.”

Ballas also worked during his two years at BUSPH as a full-time research assistant with Marianne Prout, MD, MPH, and Alan Geller, RN, MPH. “In the two grants I worked on, I conducted statistical analyses, edited interviews and performed other tasks,” he says. “In both projects I gained a lot of experience, had an opportunity to interact with all levels of people in a project and learned how to communicate and delegate.

“The first grant has to do with cancer prevention and control,” says Ballas. “Its purpose is to teach medical students how to incorporate this into their practice. The central questions are: Who gets cancer? What patterns does this disease create in the population? Through this grant, classes on cancer assessment and prevention are included in the Boston University School of Medicine curriculum.

“The other grant is an evaluation of the Massachusetts Smokers’ Quitline. This research is different than most because we are looking at the quitline within the larger context of all the services a smoker might use in an effort to quit.”

A 2000 graduate of Boston University with a major in biology and a

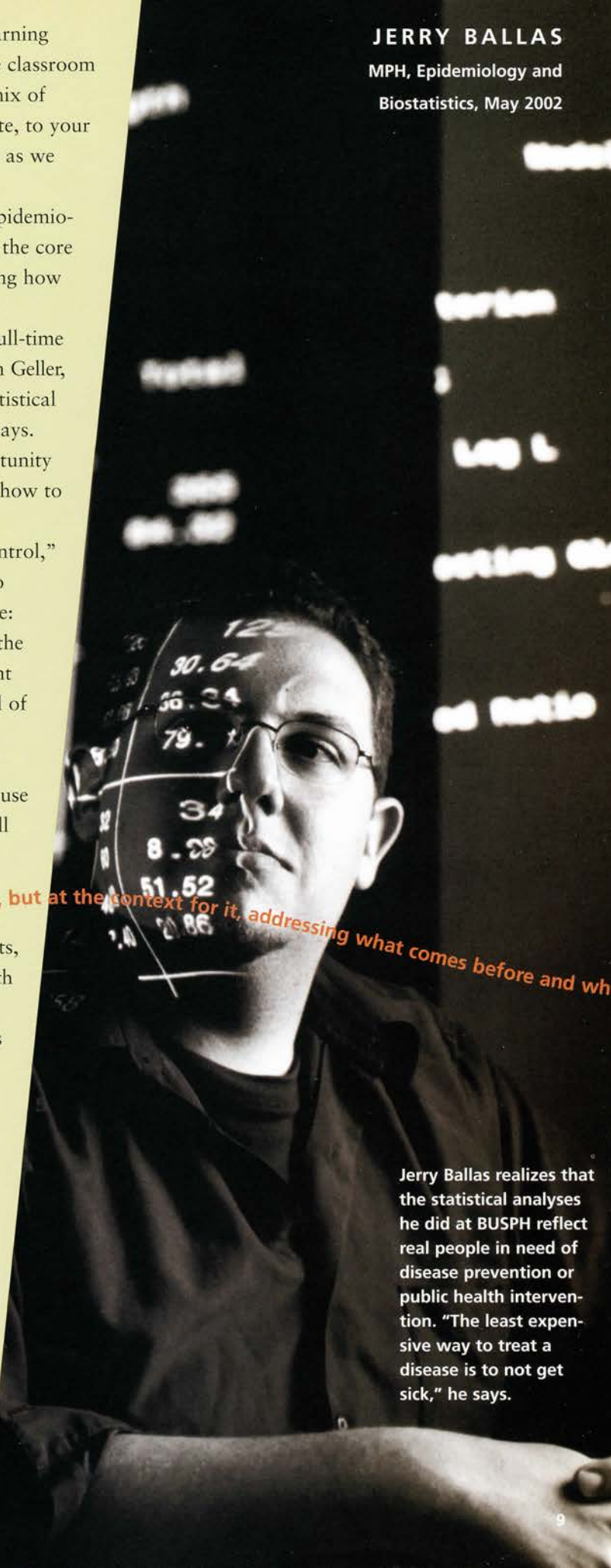
minor in visual arts,

Ballas became interested in public health through the volunteer work he did in high school and college. “These exposures taught me that public health goes above and beyond medical care,” he says. “Public health looks not just at a health problem, but at the context for it, addressing what comes before and what comes after.”

Ballas, who is from Bronx, New York, now attends SUNY Downstate College of Medicine in Brooklyn. “I hope to practice family medicine or emergency medicine. Because public health takes a liberal arts approach to health care, this background has turned me into a generalist. I would like to see a little of everything, and serve as a jack-of-all-trades. I hope to work in urban communities, since so many public health problems exist there.”

JERRY BALLAS
MPH, Epidemiology and
Biostatistics, May 2002

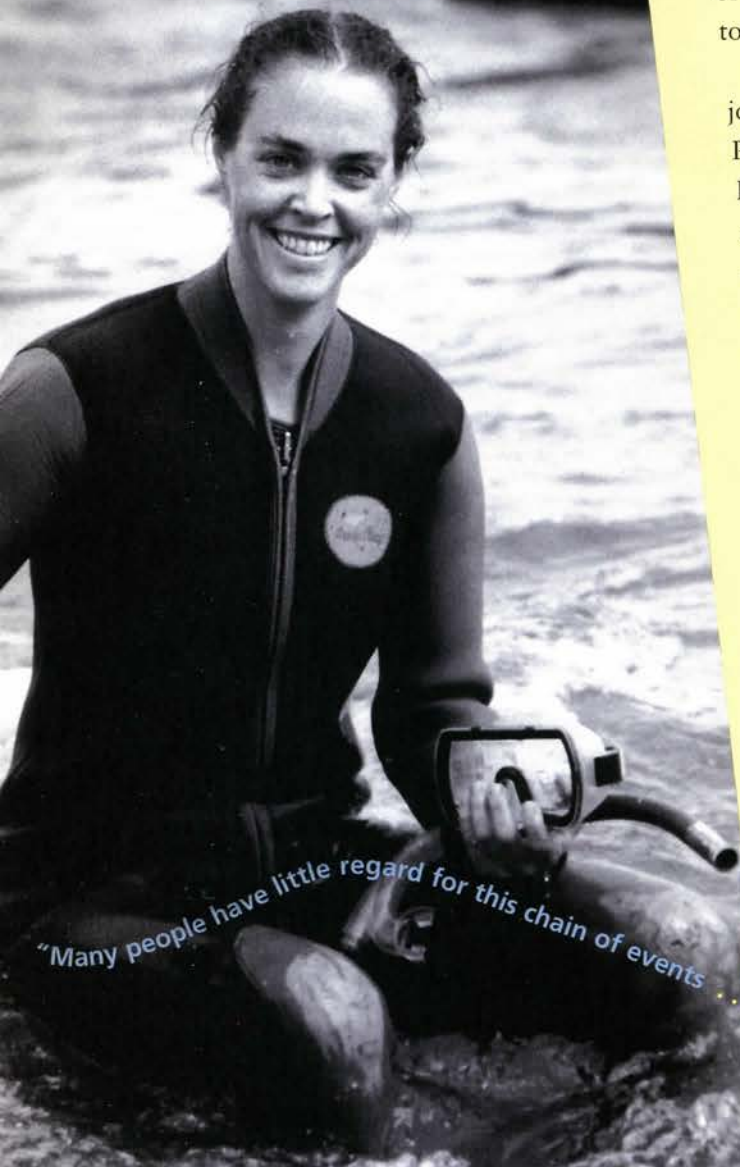
environment.” **“Public health looks not just at a health problem, but at the context for it, addressing what comes before and what**



Jerry Ballas realizes that the statistical analyses he did at BUSPH reflect real people in need of disease prevention or public health intervention. “The least expensive way to treat a disease is to not get sick,” he says.

MADELEINE SCAMMELL

DSc candidate, Environmental Health



"Many people have little regard for this chain of events"

As a commercial diver for oysters off the South Shore and Cape Cod, Madeleine Scammell has a personal concern for the health of oceans and fish. The effect of PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) on marine life in New Bedford Harbor is a subject for Superfund research. PCBs, a group of chemicals that are linked with cancer and other diseases, may reach humans through contaminated fish.

"THE WAY WE DRIVE our cars and heat our homes, the medications we take and the food we eat, connect us to one another and to the earth," says Madeleine Scammell, 29, a doctoral student in environmental health. "Many people have little regard for this chain of events, and act as though their behavior exists in isolation. I hope to draw people's attention to how their actions are connected."

Scammell attends BUSPH part time in addition to her full-time job as an outreach coordinator for the Superfund Basic Research Program, a grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences that BUSPH shares with several community agencies. "Superfund sites are federally designated, abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites," says Scammell. "In this country there are many thousands of Superfund sites. There are also state-designated hazardous waste sites. In Chelsea alone, where I live, there are more than 40 such sites within 1.8 square miles."

Under the purview of nine principal investigators, led by David Ozonoff, MD, MPH, chair of the Environmental Health Department, BUSPH conducts the research behind the decision-making that these sites require. "We look at the reproductive and developmental effects that these toxins may be associated with, whether they exist in soil, air or water," says Scammell. "This information will help government agencies decide whether and how to clean up the site, and how to use chemicals found there. My job involves linking this research with the concerns of community groups and working with community partners on the grant."

Her particular interest is participatory research, which means that human "subjects" of research are included as participants with decision-making power. "When we do community-based research it is important to include the people most affected by the results, and make it possible to hire them on to the

research team," she

says. "When research is conducted and received this way, communities can share ownership in solutions."

Scammell majored in religion and environmental studies at the University of Vermont. She became interested in the environment as it relates to issues of justice when, at 16, she lived in Zimbabwe for four months. "Although the United States had banned the use of DDT, it continued to produce and export the pesticide to poorer countries," she says. "This brought home to me the meaning of environmental justice as it relates to the earth and human beings."

“ **A M O N G T H E P O O R E R** communities in the Dominican Republic, where I worked as an anthropologist, a calf is sometimes donated to a woman by an economic development agency that adopted a program known as *pasando la cría* — ‘passing the calf’ — to provide economic assistance to women and families,” says Zobeida Bonilla, PhD, 33, a master’s degree student concentrating in maternal and child health. “The calf is intentionally given to the women because they find greater and more creative ways to generate income than men do.”

“The gender studies I have done as an anthropologist show that the health of a community can be greatly improved when we improve the health of women,” says Bonilla. “Allocating more resources in the hands of women seems to be a basic intervention with a large impact.”

Bonilla is a part-time student at BUSPH and a full-time program manager for the Latina Health Initiative, which is part of the Boston Women’s Health Book Collective (BWHBC), publisher of *Our Bodies, Our Selves*. She is one of several Community Scholars at BUSPH who pursue their MPH while being employed full time in nonprofit organizations or government.

Bonilla earned a PhD in anthropology from the University of Florida, Gainesville, in 1998. She chose to study public health because it added practical applications to her knowledge of anthropology. “Public health offers a different framework and opens new ways of understanding.

I am gaining policy tools and concrete intervention tools.”

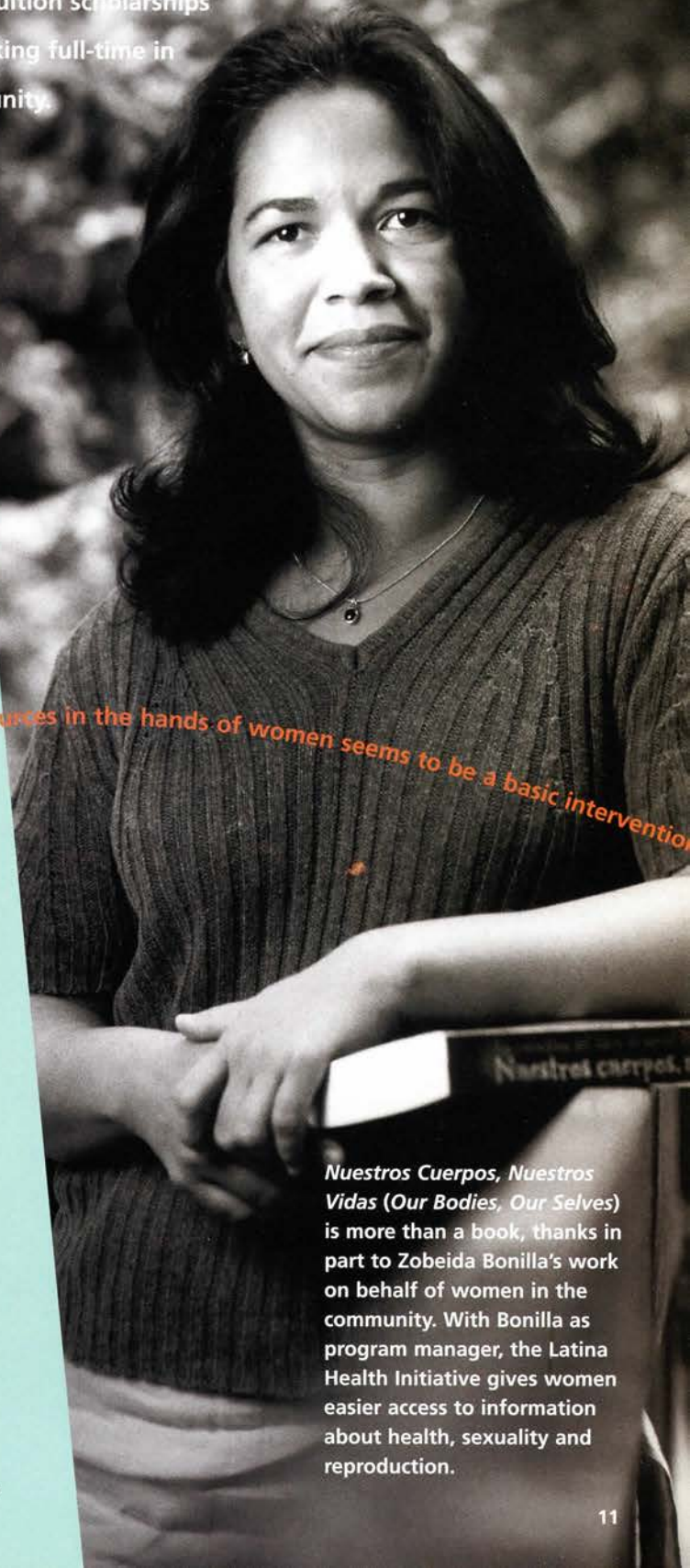
Bonilla’s interest in anthropology has its roots in rural Puerto Rico, where she was surrounded by animals and nature as a child. “People used plants to take care of medical problems,” she says. “I also got involved in social service through the church, with some projects that helped reduce substance abuse and teen pregnancy. We did not know at the time that, in a way, we were practicing public health. In coming to BUSPH I feel that I’ve come full circle, and gone back to my beginnings.

“I have always worked with Latinas,” says Bonilla. “In one study I examined women’s health in agricultural export settings, where women are a cheap source of labor and are preferred for tasks such as harvesting and packing fruits and vegetables. This preference is often based on a belief that women have superior ‘technical abilities,’ such as nimble fingers. My study asked, How do these work patterns affect the health of female workers?”

“There is an element of injustice in the way gender influences health,” says Bonilla. “Often, women do not have the same access to resources that men do.”

ZOBEIDA BONILLA, PhD
MPH candidate, Maternal and Child Health

Zobeida Bonilla is one of
30 Community Scholars who
earn half-tuition scholarships
while working full-time in
the community.

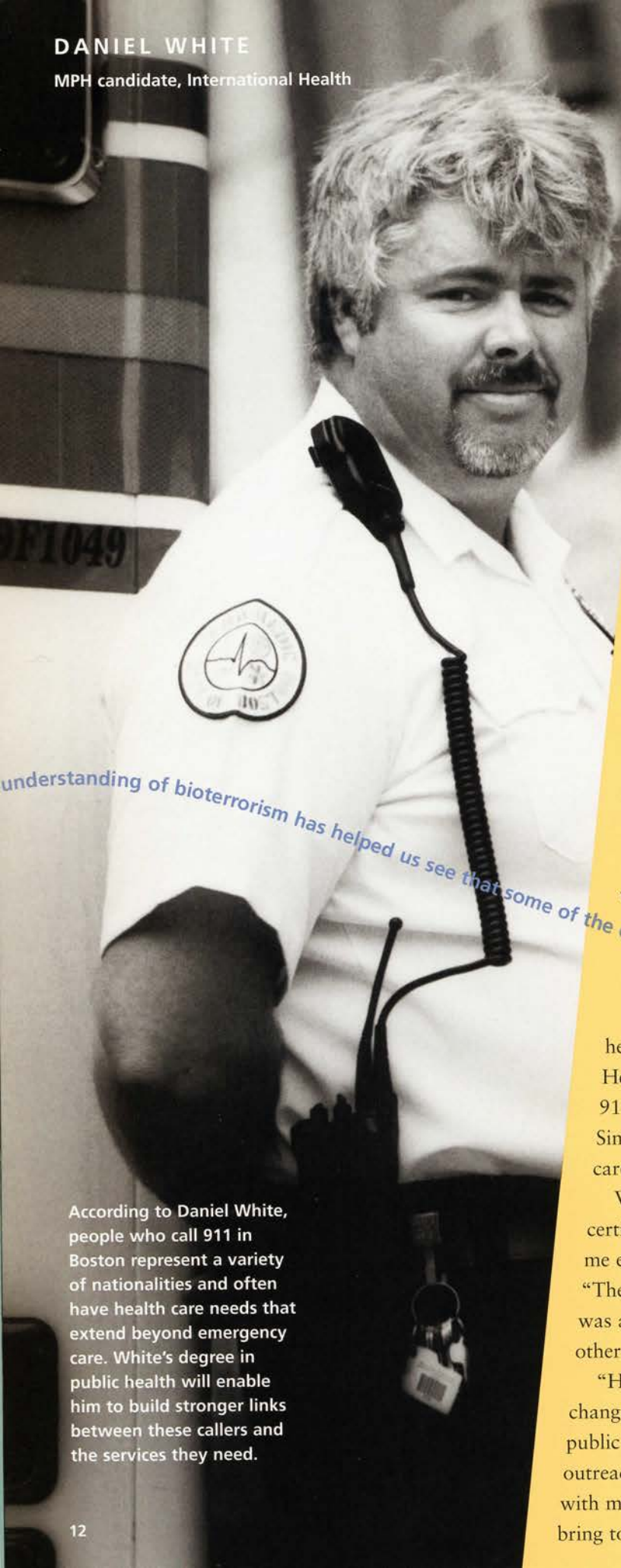


attention to how their actions are connected.” “Allocating more resources in the hands of women seems to be a basic intervention

Nuestros Cuerpos, Nuestros Vidas (Our Bodies, Our Selves) is more than a book, thanks in part to Zobeida Bonilla’s work on behalf of women in the community. With Bonilla as program manager, the Latina Health Initiative gives women easier access to information about health, sexuality and reproduction.

DANIEL WHITE

MPH candidate, International Health



"I AM LEARNING about the world without leaving home," says Daniel White, 47, who became an emergency medical technician for the City of Boston in 1974. Now a paramedic who oversees an outreach program that helps at-risk populations, White is pursuing a master's degree at BUSPH with a concentration in international health.

White says "there is a move within emergency services toward greater collaboration with public health practitioners. Many people who call 911 are not in life-or-death situations. Rather, they are unaware of how to access care, and often have broader problems."

White's experience overseeing the community outreach program inspired his interest in the comprehensive challenges of public health. "This program provides training for EMTs to care for target populations such as victims of domestic violence, and link them with services," he says. "Seeing the complexity of these problems got me interested in public health. I chose international health as my concentration because the City of Boston is increasingly multicultural, and I wanted to understand the cultures I work with.

"One of the greatest challenges to public health today," says White, "is the possibility of complex humanitarian disasters. Before September 11, disasters occurred elsewhere. Now we must use public health principles to prepare here.

"Our new understanding of bioterrorism has helped us see that some of the old infectious diseases are coming around again, and TB and bacterial diseases have become antibiotic resistant.

"Some of the old infectious diseases are coming around again."

"Another major public health challenge—both globally and at home—is access to care. Here in Boston, people who do not have health insurance call 911 for their health care needs. This is expensive and inefficient. Similarly, many people around the world do not have access to care. Sometimes the only doctor is miles away, on foot."

White's point of entry to the MPH program was a summer certificate program in international health at BUSPH. "This gave me exposure to public health in a distilled version," he says. "There were about 30 countries represented in the program. It was a great opportunity to sit down for coffee with people from other countries and discuss public health issues.

"Here at BUSPH I've not only learned about other cultures and changes in demographics, but I've learned many other facets of public health, such as how to do research and how to plan future outreach services using scientific methods. It is a pleasure to interact with my fellow students and listen to the many points of view they bring to the table."

According to Daniel White, people who call 911 in Boston represent a variety of nationalities and often have health care needs that extend beyond emergency care. White's degree in public health will enable him to build stronger links between these callers and the services they need.



Associate Dean for Administration and Finance **Dzigra J. Knecht** has retired from the School. She joined the staff in 1982, having been at the University since 1972. She has fostered a warm and human culture within the School that will endure long past her retirement.

Keynote speaker **William Drayton**, CEO, founder and chair of Ashoka, and student speaker **Sara Waselchuck** addressed a capacity audience at the commencement ceremony on May 19 at the Sheraton Boston Hotel. Associate Dean **Leonard Glantz** congratulated graduates for choosing to join a profession that can make a difference. "With the events of September 11 comes the realization that the world is a much smaller place than we had thought and that the oceans no longer protect us from its woes," said Glantz. (shown with Gail Douglas)



Gail Douglas, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, received the Normal A. Scotch Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Joel Lamstein, president of John Snow, Inc., presented the \$2,500 JSI International Health Prize at this year's commencement ceremonies to **Arden O'Donnell**.

Patricia Burns won the Rex Fendall Award for Excellence in Public Health Writing in the Department of International Health. **Summer Dycus** won the Allan R. Meyers Memorial Prize for Excellence in Health Services. **Kathryn McBride** won the Herb Kayne Prize for Excellence in Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

The Trustees of Boston University approved the separation of Epidemiology and Biostatistics into two separate departments. As separate entities, both departments enhance their ability to recruit students and secure research funds. Each will focus its education and research activities in areas relevant to its discipline. The Department of Biostatistics will concentrate on clinical trials, statistical genetics and statistical



methods, while the Department of Epidemiology will focus on infectious disease and environmental epidemiology. **Adrienne Cupples** was named chair of the Department of Biostatistics. **Robert Horsburgh** was named chair of the Department of Epidemiology.

Since the School has expanded to offer eight departments and enjoyed unprecedented growth in research, the **Data Coordinating Center**, under the direction of **Suzette Levenson**, has outgrown the Talbot Building. The entire department has been relocated to new space at 580 Harrison Avenue.



SPH has received a \$9 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to expand **Join Together**; the grant will allow the community-based program to bring 15 local partners into its newest project, **Demand Treatment!**



William Bicknell, Chairman Emeritus and Professor of the Department of International Health, wrote a seminal article, "The case for voluntary smallpox vaccination," which appeared in the April 25, 2002, issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Bicknell recommends making the smallpox vaccine available to the public for the following reasons:

Vaccination before exposure dramatically reduces the value of smallpox as a weapon; it reduces the risk of infection among immunocompromised persons; it does not pose the logistic difficulties of vaccination during an outbreak; and it is less expensive. Because the U.S. is the most likely target of bioterrorism, pre-exposure vaccination here reduces the risk of secondary exposure elsewhere in the world. Furthermore, the 119 million U.S. residents born after the program of mass vaccination was terminated in 1972 lack immunity, and the immunity of those who were vaccinated is waning.

Richard Clapp, Professor, Department of Environmental Health, was honored by the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition with its 2002 Marla Frazin Award, which is presented to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to research regarding environmental links that could lead to primary prevention of breast cancer.



Ralph Hingson, Associate Dean for Research, received the prestigious Widmark award from the International Council on Alcohol, Drugs & Traffic Safety this year in recognition of his research and advocacy concerning substance abuse. In addition, he was appointed to the Council of the National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA).

David Ozonoff, Chairman and Professor, Department of Environmental Health, was elected a fellow of the *Collegium Ramazzini*, an international body of scholars and practitioners in environmental and occupational health. He also received the Scientist for the Public Good Award from the Clean Water Alliance of Massachusetts.



Michael Grodin, Professor, Health Law Department, and Co-Director of the Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights, received the 2002 Outstanding Achievement Award from the Political Asylum/ Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project. The center was recognized for its work serving the medical and psychological needs of

people who flee to the United States to escape torture. Grodin was specifically recognized for his contributions.

Jonathan Howland, Chairman and Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, was appointed to a three-year visiting professorship at the Kalmar Maritime Academy, in Kalmar, Sweden.



Eugene Declercq, Associate Chairman and Professor, Department of Maternal and Child Health, was elected treasurer of the Board of Directors of Lamaze International.

Michael Siegel, Associate Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, won the Dr. William Cahan Distinguished Professor Award from the Flight Attendants Medical Research Institute to support his project, "Protecting Workers and the Public from Secondhand Smoke: The Impact of Clean Indoor Air Policies on Secondhand Smoke Exposure and Smoking Behavior."

Peter G. Smith, Head, Department of Infectious and Tropical Diseases, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, gave the third annual William J. Bicknell Lecture



on "Mad Cow Disease and Public Health Decision Making in the Face of Uncertainty: Lessons from the United Kingdom."

Susan Scrimshaw, Dean, School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago, gave the Sol Levine Lecture on Society and Health, entitled "Beyond Health Disparities: Behavior and Cultural Diversity in Health." BUSPH, the Harvard School of Public Health and the Health Institute at Tufts–New England Medical Center jointly sponsor the annual lecture.



George Annas, Chairman and Edward R. Uteley Professor, Department of Health Law, received the first Jennifer Robbins Award in October 2001 from the American Public Health Association's Health Law Forum. The award recognizes dedication to law in the interest of public health.

David Ozonoff and **Philippe Grandjean**, Adjunct Professor, Department of Environmental Health, have started a new peer-reviewed on-line international journal, *Environmental Health*. They are co-editors-in-chief of this journal, which has a distinguished international editorial board.

Alumni Matters

At the annual Alumni Breakfast on October 29, state senator Cheryl Jacques spoke about the "Clergy Mandated Reporting Law," which requires religious leaders to report incidences of child abuse.

The Alumni Awards were presented to three eminent graduates:

Karen Daley (MPH '88), a registered nurse who has distinguished herself nationally and internationally in the field of workplace safety. She was the main force behind OSHA's passage of workplace rules on blood-borne diseases and needle-stick-injury prevention.

Munro Proctor (MPH '92), a retired cardiologist who has worked tirelessly over the last 13 years to improve the health of underserved populations around the world. He spends several months every year in Cameroon providing medical care, public health education, and instruction in research methodology, and overseeing U.S. medical students and residents who travel to Cameroon to work in local hospitals.

Ralph Timperi (MPH '83), Assistant Commissioner for Laboratory Sciences and Director of the State Laboratory Institute for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. He has been a leader in the public sector on issues ranging from mosquito-borne diseases, such as eastern encephalitis and West Nile, to HIV, to bioterrorism. Internationally, he has worked with national and regional laboratories in Eritrea, Viet Nam, Nicaragua, and Peru and co-founded a pediatric clinic at the Hue Central Hospital in Viet Nam.

THE SCHOOL DEPENDS on the generosity of alumni and friends to support its mission of teaching, research and service. The School thanks all of its donors for their financial support. The following list acknowledges gifts made from July 1, 2001, to June 30, 2002.

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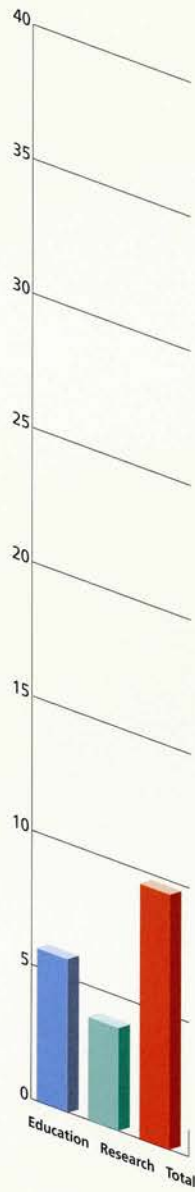
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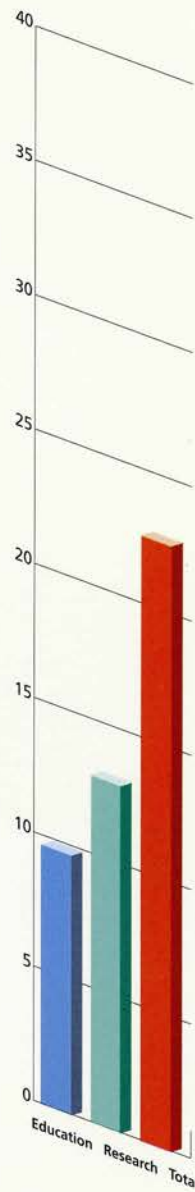
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INCOME (in millions)

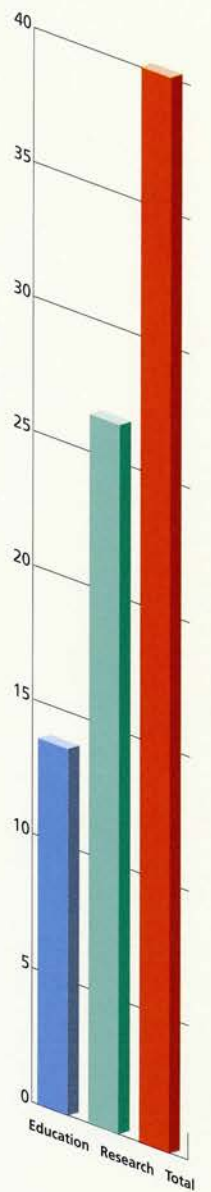
1992



1997



2002



INCOME

1992

1997

2002

Education

Tuition and Fees
Other

Tuition and Fees	\$5,238,791	\$9,184,911	\$12,680,975
Other	\$440,677	\$456,645	\$959,585

Research

Direct Costs
Indirect Costs

Direct Costs	\$3,067,552	\$10,464,256	\$22,368,785
Indirect Costs	\$766,887	\$2,452,217	\$4,037,230

Total Income

Total Income	\$9,513,907	\$22,558,029	\$40,046,575
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54

65

144

MATRICULATED STUDENTS

524

541

648

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

\$466,715

\$725,000

\$1,515,215



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health of a community can be greatly improved when we improve the health of women." "Public health looks not just at a health problem, but at the context for it, addressing what comes before and what comes after." "In order for one physician to help one patient, there needs to