

## 2021 Summer Research Program- Public & Global Health Track

### PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS



**Devin Diggs** – *SPRIGHT Scholar*

I am a rising senior at the University of Notre Dame, studying Neuroscience & Behavior with a minor in Education, Schooling, and Society. I plan to attend medical school after graduation in addition to furthering my education in the field of public health. In the summer of 2019, I interned at the Center for Learning and Childhood Development in Accra, Ghana, studying barriers to healthcare for children with cerebral palsy. I've continued this interest in early childhood development by researching the neurobiological effects of childhood maltreatment at McLean Hospital in the summer of 2020. I look forward to collaborating with Dr. Jason Newland to study COVID-19 mitigation strategies in schools and exploring the intersection of medicine, public health, and education.



**Carla Edgley** – *UCD Scholar*

I am currently an Australian first-year graduate entry medical student at University College Dublin and I am honored to have the opportunity to participate in the Institute for Public Health Summer Research Program. I have previously completed a Bachelor of Science (majoring in physiology) and post-graduate studies in public health, and have worked as a Clinical Trial Coordinator in anesthesiology, cardiology, and oncology research in Australia. These experiences have fostered my interest in researching the impact of inequality in accessing health care in global populations. I chose to complete the Institute for Public Health Summer Research Program because I believe it will be incredibly valuable to my future experiences as a clinician. I hope to continue to research ways to close the gap in health outcomes of disadvantaged and vulnerable populations. I am thrilled to be working under the mentorship of Dr. Hammill and his research team in the field of surgical research, a field I am particularly passionate about.



**Mahija Ginjupalli** – *Amelia Brown Johnson Memorial Scholar*

I am entering my final year at the University of Texas at Austin where I study neuroscience and anthropology with hopes of attaining an MD/MPH. My experience working on a recent project involving the Rohingya refugees of Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, has inspired my passion for the social issue of health disparities faced by minority populations - specifically refugee groups and people of color. I hope to pursue a career that will allow me to contribute to erasing disparities in access to health care, health information, and equitable opportunities for good health. I am excited to participate in the Institute for Public Health Summer Research Program in order to receive formal and immersive public and global health research training and to be mentored by prominent researchers in my preferred field. I am particularly eager to work with Dr. Henke and Dr. Velarde on a project investigating mortality in stomach cancer patients in the LIGA/INCAN cancer hospital in Guatemala City. I look forward to working with a great team through this wonderful opportunity!

## IPH Summer Research Program Handbook



**Ran Huo** – *Stephanie and Chris Doerr Summer Research Scholar*

I am an international student from Beijing, China, and currently a rising sophomore at Washington University in St. Louis with an intended major in Anthropology: Global Health and the Environment as well as a possible minor in psychology. I am extremely excited to participate in this program where I can learn more about conducting research in the fields of global and public health while working with students and mentors with diverse backgrounds. This summer I will be working with Dr. Prusaczyk on a project about rural dementia care networks. I have been very interested in topics related to aging and healthcare systems in rural areas, so this project really helps me to have a focused understanding of specific issues that fit my personal interests. I believe there will be much I can learn from the research, and I am thrilled to be a part of this program!



**Will Hutson** – *Centene Institute for Advanced Health Education Scholar*

I'm a rising junior at Washington University in St. Louis. I'm studying biology and global health & environment, with hopes of pursuing public health and medicine as a career. I am excited to work with Dr. Darrell Hudson this summer on his project examining the intersection between health and upward social mobility among African Americans. I'm looking forward to gaining experience in public health research and learning about identifying and addressing health disparities.



**Lindsey Kaufman** – *SPRIGHT Scholar*

I am a rising junior at Washington University in St. Louis majoring in Anthropology: Global Health & Environment and minoring in Latin American Studies and Legal Studies. In the future, I plan to attend graduate school to study public health and anthropology. I am especially interested in NGOs as well as the connections between immigration and health, but I am passionate about all things public health! I am honored and excited to participate in the Institute for Public Health Summer Research Program and join Dr. Jean Hunleth's research project on the support needs of family caregivers in a pediatric hospital in Zambia. I look forward to learning and collaborating with peers and mentors who share my passion for public health!



**Sabir Khan** – *SPRIGHT Scholar*

I am a third year undergraduate medical student in University College Dublin. I was part of a summer research program last year that assessed primary data available for COVID papers, which increased my passion for research. This year, I wanted to be part of a different area of research--public and global health--because results that are published from these studies have a large-scale impact, and to be part of something like that would be wonderful. After medical school, I plan to practice medicine in the United States. This opportunity will allow me to build a network with students that share similar interests.

## IPH Summer Research Program Handbook



**Floriana Milazzo** – *Colonel Carroll A. Ockert Scholar*

I am a recent graduate from Barnard College with a BA in English Literature and am also a dual degree student pursuing a MPH in epidemiology from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. I intend to create a career at the intersection of human rights and epidemiology. I care about how policies and laws can better integrate evidence-based research to improve health outcomes for marginalized populations. This summer, I am excited to work with Dr. Rumi Price to perform prevalence and risk factor analysis, case definition, and validation tool analyses for South Africa's Trafficking-In-Persons project. The project will provide evidence to the Government of South Africa and USAID on the nature and magnitude of trafficking in persons in South Africa.



**Kat Morgan** – *Gold Family Summer Research Scholar*

I am a spring 2021 graduate of Emory University with a major in anthropology and a minor in global health. Through my career, I hope to combat health disparities and have a particular interest in studying the social determinants of health. This summer, I hope to expand on my past experiences working in public and global health. As an intern with the non-profit, SisterLove South Africa, I contributed to a report on HIV stigma and discrimination among vulnerable populations in Eshowe, South Africa. I am excited to work with Dr. Shanti Parikh conducting medical anthropology research to examine how Covid-19 has affected engagement with HIV care and support of people living with HIV in St. Louis and Campinas, Brazil. It is a privilege to be a part of this research program, and I hope to apply the knowledge I gain over the summer as a graduate student next fall pursuing a Master of Public Health.



**Sara Murtagh** – *UCD Scholar*

I am an undergraduate medical student in my third-year at University College Dublin, Ireland. My goal, in addition to completing my undergraduate degree, is to earn an intercalated MPH degree. My previous research work has focused on integrated care to enhance chronic disease management in the Irish setting as well as sub-Saharan Africa. I am very excited to participate in the Institute for Public Health Summer Research Program! I am looking forward to expanding my research interests and improving my skills, while learning more from experts in the fields of public and global health.



**Aela O'Flynn** – *UCD Scholar*

I am a medical student at University College Dublin, Ireland, with a keen interest in public health. I have a background in elite juvenile and college sport, as well as professional acting. I was drawn to the Institute for Public Health Summer Research Program due to a growing curiosity in the wider impact of medicine, and a desire to understand how medical evidence and learning applies beyond the purely clinical realm. I am particularly interested in the translation of medical evidence to public health policy. After qualifying as a physician, I hope to complete an MPH and pursue a role in public health, health promotion or health policy. I am delighted to work with Dr. Michael Kinch this summer to analyze approved and experimental medicines using the CDEK database curated by the Center for Research Innovation in Biotechnology at WUSTL. I very much look forward to engaging with like-minded peers and renowned public health experts in this exciting online format for the 2021 cohort.

## IPH Summer Research Program Handbook



### **Caroline Plaza – *SPRIGHT Scholar***

Hola! I am Caroline Plaza. I was born in Hermosillo, Sonora, but grew up in Culver City, California. I am an undergraduate at California State University, Northridge. I am interested in studying the health disparities of children and women to create evidence-based public health interventions. Additionally, I am an NIH BUILD PODER Scholar working on multiple public health research studies at California State University, Northridge. As vice president of the Health Education Student Organization and a member of Free The Period, I work as an advocate for menstrual equity and women's rights. This summer I will be working with Dr. Kuhlmann to study diarrheal disease and nutritional deficiencies of children in Haiti.



### **Arielle Smith – *SPRIGHT Scholar***

I am a rising senior at Washington University in St. Louis majoring in Psychological & Brain Sciences. After completing my undergraduate education, I intend to pursue a PhD in clinical psychology. My research interests include studying evidence-based digital mental health prevention and intervention programs that can be widely disseminated in order to reduce mental health disparities. With this focus in mind, I am very excited about participating in the Institute for Public Health Summer Research Program to learn more about public health models for improving access to mental health services. This summer, I will be working with Dr. Cavazos-Rehg examining how individuals struggling with mental health concerns and substance use engage with social media; how social media can be leveraged to direct people to digital interventions; and, the development and study of these interventions. I look forward to gaining research experience through this excellent mentorship!



### **Natalie VanderNoot – *SPRIGHT Scholar***

A New Hampshire native, I am a rising senior at George Mason University where I am studying biology with a minor in global systems. In the future, I plan to pursue an MD/PhD or MD/MPH dual degree program and have a wide variety of interests in the microbiome, environmental health and infectious diseases. Previously, I spent a year as a clinical research intern studying muscle loss in chronic liver disease patients and worked for six months in biostatistics research studying the associations between the gut microbiome and Parkinson's Disease. Outside of research, I work in my university's admissions office and enjoy meeting middle and high school students from around the world to talk about their goals and college ambitions. I am looking forward to virtually meeting the other Summer Research Program students and learning from my mentor!



### **Marley Vogel – *SPRIGHT Scholar***

I am a current freshman at CUNY Hunter College and will be transferring to Cornell University next year to study Human Development. I am from Westchester, NY and a New York State Certified Emergency Medical Technician. I have loved serving my community in this way. In my free time, I enjoy tennis, swimming, traveling, cooking and spending time with friends. I am a people person and love to make those around me laugh. I am interested in pursuing a career in healthcare, specifically an MD/MPH program. I am considering gerontology-based specialties, oncology, emergency medicine and neurology. This summer, I am ecstatic to work with Dr. Patrick Lyons on his project, an EHR system that alerts clinicians of health deterioration in ICU oncology patients. I cannot wait to see where this endeavor will go. I am thrilled to work with Dr. Lyons and other researchers this summer as a participant of the Institute for Public Health Summer Research Program!