



UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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UVA MPH Newsletter

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Support Us

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Save the Date

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Support Us!

Dear MPH Alumni,

Here at PHS, our department continues to grow, and we are setting the stage for even greater advancements. These achievements are made possible in part thanks to the generosity of alumni like you.

We will reach out again soon to ask that you support our educational programs. As you read in this newsletter, we were able to take advantage of our proximity to the APHA meeting in Washington DC to support the attendance of several of our MPH students. The students were grateful for the opportunity to be inspired by the large public health community that attends this meeting and to boost their networking – which as you all know is so important, particularly now, in thinking about careers after graduation.

We would like to make this a regular occurrence, even when APHA is farther away. This year, we are focusing on the establishment of travel awards for some of our MPH students to attend APHA. Any donation you can give this year will allow us to support more students to attend. Click [here](#) to make a donation.

Thank you for your support!

Save the Date



Alumni Networking Reception

When: Thursday, March 19, After ASPPH Annual Meeting at 5:30–7:30p.m.

Where: Northside Social, Upstairs Wine Bar | 205 Park Ave, Falls Church, VA

What: Hor d'oeuvres, drinks, and great company

We can't wait to reconnect with our amazing alumni!

[RSVP Here](#)

Contact Aaron Pannone (afp2n@virginia.edu) with any questions.

Welcome New MPH Students!



MPH Student Cohort 2025–26

This fall, the Department of Public Health Sciences (PHS) welcomed 52 new students to the UVA School of Medicine (SOM). Among them, 47 new students joined the Master of Public Health (MPH) Program, along with 5 students in the Master of Clinical Science (MS-CR) Program. We are excited to see how this new class will make their mark both within UVA PHS and beyond! Check out our [summer student highlights](#) welcoming the 2025–26 cohort.

See more in [SOM Medicine in Motion News](#).

Student News



APHA Annual Meeting & Expo

In November, 10 MPH students traveled to the APHA 2025 Annual Meeting & Expo with Dr. Aaron Pannone.



MPH Tailgate

MPH students took advantage of UVA football's success! SAC hosted a tailgate for the home game against Wake Forest.



MPH Bake Sale

SAC hosted a bake sale and donated proceeds to the Monticello Area Community Action Agency (MACAA). Remaining baked goods were donated to the Charlottesville Fire Department.



United Way Day of Caring

In September, the Program participated in the 2025 United Way Day of Caring. Faculty, staff, and students volunteered at the local Virginia Discovery Museum.

Research Glimpse



Rajesh Balkrishnan, PhD

Over the summer, Dr. Rajesh Balkrishnan partnered with Nepali colleagues on EMS Training and Public Health. Under the direction of Dr. Balkrishnan, students participated in workshops focused on trauma registry development and grant writing.

2025
MAPP2Health

MPH Faculty & Students

MPH Program Director, Dr. Aaron Pannone, and Applied Practice students contributed to the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) process supported by the Blue Ridge Health District (BRHD). The latest report was released in 2025. On page 5, Dr. Pannone and MPH students are thanked for their contribution to the report.

Re-Accreditation

CEPH Re-Accreditation

The UVA MPH Program has been accredited by the **Council on Education for Public Health** (CEPH) since 2006. Every eight years, the Program undergoes a re-accreditation process. This coming year, 2026, marks the Program's fifth accreditation cycle.

Part of this process includes the provision of a third-party comment period, which allows anyone, including students, alumni, faculty, staff, community and practice partners, and members of the public, to share relevant information about the Program directly with CEPH.

If you have any information about the Program you would like to share with CEPH to inform their upcoming review, send your comments to submissions@ceph.org by December 22nd, 2025.



Alumni Award Opportunities

Happy Holidays from Gamma Pi!

The **Delta Omega Honorary Society** was founded to honor students, faculty, and alumni making standout contributions to public health. This year, our chapter has been busy organizing service projects, supporting current students, and hosting educational webinars that bring our community together. As an MPH alumnus, you are eligible for induction into Delta Omega!

The Department is also excited to offer a new **Outstanding Alumni Award**, which recognizes an alumni of the MPH or MS-CR program who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to public health in their careers. The nominee for this award will automatically be inducted into Delta Omega.

Do you know an alumnus/a – including yourself! – who should be nominated? If so, we warmly encourage you to submit the following information to Dr. Paige Hornsby at pph8c@virginia.edu: no more than three sentences telling us why you are nominating this person/yourself and the nominee's/your contact information.

Your thoughtful nomination will help us highlight and celebrate individuals whose work reflects the highest ideals of the public health profession. Thank you for helping us stay connected, strengthen our public health community, and support one another.