

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD TALKING POINTS

UOFL'S NEWEST SCHOOL IS ON AN UPWARD TRAJECTORY

The School of Public Health and Information Sciences (SPHIS) is the newest school at UofL and is undergoing a period of sustained growth under the direction of Dean Craig Blakely, PhD, MPH.

OUR PRIORITIES ARE CLEAR

We are well on our way to achieving the priorities set when Dr. Blakely's tenure began in April 2013.

- Becoming visibly engaged in West Louisville
- Establishing a global health presence
- Building a strong health policy focus

PUBLIC HEALTH IS ALL ABOUT COMMUNITY

The faculty, staff, and students are dedicated to working in partnership with public, private, and community-based non-profit groups to impact the conditions in which we work, eat, sleep, and play.

- We are proud of our longstanding collaborations with the Kentucky Department for Public Health and the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness to improve the health outcomes of our citizens.
- In 2015, the SPHIS Office of Public Health Practice relocated to The Old Walnut Street development at 1300 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd. The OPHP engages residents and community groups to advance social justice, reduce health disparities, and build capacity for improved health.

THE SPHIS RESEARCH PROGRAM IS GROWING

We've received new awards with projects designed to improve health outcomes in high need communities in Louisville.

- \$2.8 million from NIH to study whether children with higher exposure to fly coal ash and metals experience negative health effects. The study started in May 2015 and will continue for five years, ending in January 2020.
- \$5.7 million from CDC to establish a Center of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention. The project begins September 2015 and will continue for five years.
- SPHIS established The Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky with a three-year \$4 million investment from KentuckyOne Health. The Institute's mission is to inform policy and practice that will improve the health of populations in Kentucky and beyond by facilitating and supporting transdisciplinary collaborations for research and data analytics.

EDUCATION IS OUR BUSINESS

The school prepares the next generation of public health professionals through 10+ undergraduate, masters, and doctoral degrees.

- We successfully launched our undergraduate program in fall 2014. Our bachelor of science (BS) and bachelor of arts (BA) degrees have a combined total of 150+ students.
- SPHIS will expand the Master of Public Health (MPH) program to students living in Lahore, Pakistan through the support of a major gift agreement with the NUR Foundation.

ONE OF OUR MOST PRESSING FINANCIAL NEEDS IS SCHOLARSHIPS.

Most of our students work full- or part-time while pursuing their degrees, and many go into public service after graduation. Scholarships are needed to keep debt down for our students.

MORE BACKGROUND

- As of spring 2016, SPHIS has:
 - 340 graduate and undergraduate students
 - 43 Faculty
 - 450+ Alumni
- SPHIS officially opened in September 2002 under our first dean, Dr. Richard Clover.
- SPHIS has five departments
 - Bioinformatics and Biostatistics
 - Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences
 - Epidemiology and Population Health
 - Health Management and Systems Sciences
 - Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences