



**Arnold School of
Public Health**

Global Health Newsletter

The purpose of our Global Health Newsletter is to disseminate the global health research, education, and outreach of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

Alumni Spotlight

*Amira Osman, PhD, MPH, BSN, Chair of Nursing Department,
Zefat Academic College*

**What degree did you receive
from UofSC?**

*PhD in Health Promotion,
Education and Behavior*



Tell us a little bit about your current position and what you do in the field of global health.

I currently serve as the chair of the nursing department at Zefat Academic College (ZAC) in northern Israel. The department offers a bachelor degree in nursing program (B.S.N) and a master's degree in nursing program (M.S.N) and serves around 400 students annually. In addition to the administrative role of department chair, I also teach a variety of courses to undergraduate and master level nursing students including academic writing, quantitative research methods, and evidence based nursing. I also teach two elective courses on tobacco use and addiction which are the direct product of my training in tobacco control at UofSC under the mentorship of Dr. James Thrasher. Dr. Thrasher introduced me to global tobacco research, first as his research assistant in the field of tobacco control, and later as a student member of the global health initiative. In these two courses, I take a global health perspective, using them as a platform to introduce my students to health issues, such as tobacco use and addiction, as global health problems affecting many and diverse populations. I talk to them about tobacco use as a pandemic and about the Opioid addiction epidemic in the United States. I use examples of data and regulations from different countries including the U.S, Canada, Australia, and Indonesia, while discussing differences and similarities to the Israeli context as well as their adaptability to solving the tobacco use problem in Israel. Moreover, the course on understanding addiction

as global public health problem is taught in the English language in order to prepare and empower students to engage in international studies and collaborative projects with institutions of higher education in foreign countries.

How did your time at UofSC prepare you for the career path you are on now?

During my doctoral studies I took a class on global health with Dr. Edward Frongillo. I also worked with Dr. James Thrasher to conduct research on tobacco use and health warning labels on cigarette packs in different countries, including the United States, Canada, Australia, and Mexico. These were valuable experiences as I developed an understanding of the major health problems facing populations around the world. I also learned how to manage large quantitative data sets and got tremendous practice in analyzing data on different populations and articulating the results in light of the context of each country. Based on this rich research experience, I was able to publish a number of scientific manuscripts in international peer reviewed journals. I also had the pleasure to meet, work with and publish with researchers from all these different countries.

All these experiences at UofSC deemed valuable to me in advancing my career goals. Upon graduating from UofSC, I was accepted to a two-year postdoctoral position at the Center for Regulatory Research on Tobacco Communication at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, during which I conducted research on multiple tobacco product use among US youth and on disparities in tobacco coupon use among US adult smokers.

Upon my return to Israel in 2018, I joined Zefat Academic College Department of Nursing as a full time lecturer aiming to cultivate my teaching skills, and in 2020, I was appointed chair of the

department. In both my administrative and teaching roles I emphasize the global health perspective. As chair, I use the knowledge and skills I gained at UofSC to lead the nursing department with academic excellence and teaching quality that conforms to international standards. The research experiences I acquired at UofSC are allowing me mentor junior researchers at my department and to work towards building the research capacity and productivity of the department.

What do you recommend to current students at UofSC that are interested in global health?

I recommend that they join the global health initiative and find a mentor who can help them kick start their path to a career in global health. I also recommend that they keep an open mind and be amenable to collaborate on projects other than their main interest and that's because, I believe, knowledge, skills, and experiences gained in one particular area (for example tobacco control) could be used, transferred, or adapted to other health problems. Lastly, I recommend that they use their time at UofSC to the fullest and specifically use the global health initiative platform to network and build connections which can be advantageous to their career later on.

Highlighting Global Health Work at UofSC

As we continue to build our semester newsletters, it would be helpful to get your suggestions on individuals (faculty, staff, students, or alumni) that we should highlight. If you know of anyone at UofSC or affiliated with UofSC who is currently doing global health work that you recommend we reach out to, please email emkenney@email.sc.edu.



ANH2022 ONLINE & SOUTH AFRICA

7th Annual Agriculture, Nutrition and Health (ANH) Academy Week
20-30 JUNE 2022



The 7th Annual Agriculture, Nutrition & Health Academy Week, will take place over two weeks from **June 20-July 1, 2022**. The ANH Academy Week is a series of annual events that bring together the community of researchers, practitioners and policymakers working at the intersection of agriculture, food systems, nutrition and health. The objective of the ANH Academy Week is to foster knowledge exchange, innovation and learning around interdisciplinary ANH research.

- **Learning Labs** - Monday 20 to Thursday 23 June
- **Research Conference** - Tuesday 28 to Thursday 30 June

A preliminary program is available and registration is open! See more information at the link below.

[Conference Details](#)

THE ARNOLD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH PRESENTS

THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND GLOBAL HEALTH FORUM

The International Student and Global Health Forum is a place for students to present their international interests and expertise in global health. The forum presentations will start back up during the Fall semester. Please email emkenney@email.sc.edu if you are interested in presenting. Also, join the Global Health Student listserv for updates on events, opportunities, and more.

[Join the Listserv](#)

Recent Publications

Anderson D, Cronk R, Pak E, **Fuente D**, Tracy J, Mofolo I, Hoffman I, Bartram J. 2021. Development and Application of Tools to Cost Delivery of Environmental Health Services in Healthcare Facilities: A Financial Analysis in Urban Malawi. *BMC Health Services Research* 21: 329. 2021.
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Faculty Directory update – we've recently updated our [Global Health Faculty Directory](#). If you would like to be included in the directory, please email emkenney@email.sc.edu.

Help us showcase your work! If you would like to be featured in the next newsletter, email emkenney@email.sc.edu with your latest global health related publications, presentations, awards, grants and any other accomplishments.

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