



Indiana University School of Public Health

**NEW FACULTY &
POSTDOCTORAL
FELLOWS 2022**



DEAN'S WELCOME

Dear Students, Staff, Faculty, Emeriti, Alumni, Partners, and Friends of the School of Public Health,

Behind extraordinary accomplishments are extraordinary people with extraordinary energy, extraordinary acumen, and an extraordinary spirit. If there is one thing that merits our continued and constant investment and reinvestment in our school, it is our people. And it is our extraordinary people who have made the school so successful since 1946.

- It is the extraordinary emeriti, such as Hank Koren '72, a renowned scholar of environmental health, protection, sustainability, safety and public health who at the age of 87 published his 21st and 22nd books: *Management and Supervision for Working Professionals*, a two-volume handbook aimed at prevention of disease and promotion of good health on a local, national and global scale.
- It is the extraordinary alumni, such as Paul Hepfer '93, CEO of Project Open Hand, whom I recently spent time with at an organizing conference in advance of the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. Paul has dedicated his career advocating for greater access and support for community health and wellness services.
- It is the extraordinary current faculty, such as Keisuke Kawata, who through the support of a \$3 million dollar NIH grant seeks to uncover the fine line between harmless and harmful subconcussive impacts in adolescents by studying more than 100 Indiana high school football players.
- It is our extraordinary promoters of students and community engagement, such as Dr. Priscilla Barnes, a 2021 Fulbright US Scholar (Iceland) who upon returning to SPH-B designed and lead a course focused on the healthcare system in Iceland. The course culminated in 13 IU students traveling to Iceland during Spring Break 2022 to engage healthcare scholars and practitioners throughout Iceland in a scientific and cultural exchange.
- It is our extraordinary partners, such as Lieutenant Colonel Tony Giordano, Director and Professor of Military Science, Army ROTC, Indiana University, with whom SPH-B has developed a unique collaboration that integrates strength training and athletic trainers into ROTC's cadet training program.
- It is our extraordinary leaders, such as Executive Associate Dean now Interim Vice Provost Carrie Docherty, who set a bar for professionalism, unflappability, dedication, and commitment to progress in our school that is unmatched.
- It is the extraordinary excellence of our students, such as Whitney Cordoba-Grueso, who was recently honored with the Don Quixote Award

from the American Society of Hispanic Psychiatry, the premier award of the ASHP that recognizes early career scholars for outstanding scientific contributions by a Hispanic/Latino scholar or a scholar working with Hispanic/Latino populations.

- It is the extraordinary caring spirit of our staff, such as Cindy Moore, whose deep compassion for others shines through not only her devotion to her student advisees, but her passionate advocacy for suicide prevention and mental health wellbeing.
- It is our extraordinary teachers, such as Dr. Catherine Sherwood-Laughlin, who won the Association of Schools & Programs for Public Health Teaching Excellence Award for 2022.

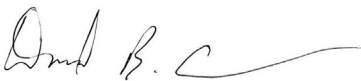
We can talk about strategy. We can chart numerical growth in space and resources. We can list our workshops, education plans, and incentive programs. Yet, in the end, it comes down to people. You are the great people who make great things happen in our school. We have made big moves in the last five years, with marked increases in not only the number of faculty and students within the SPH-B community, but also in the diversity within those groups. The faculty are seeking and receiving more and more major federal research grants. We continue to grow our educational opportunities for students at all levels through designing new classes, curriculum, and degree programs. All of this involves people.

It is those of you already in SPH-B who made it appealing to our new scholars. Our new scholars have come to work with you. They see your camaraderie, your dynamism, your excellence. I know you have seen theirs, and that is why we have invited them to join us.

It took great people to execute the recruitment. Ms. Cindy Broderick, Mr. David Archer, Mr. Henry Gabriel, Professor Richard Holden, Professor and former Executive Associate Dean Carrie Docherty, Ms. Monica Lee, our search committee chairs, search committee members, and department chairs, and every student, staff person, and faculty member who took time out to interact with the candidates and tell them what a wonderful place SPH-B is and how great Bloomington is – all of you made this happen. Kudos.

Please extend a warm welcome to all of the new members of our community and to their families and help make their transition into our home and our family a glorious one.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David B. Allison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David B. Allison, Ph.D.
Dean

FACULTY ADMINISTRATION



Ellen Evans, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Kinesiology

Dr. Evans earned a Ph.D. in Exercise Science from the University of Georgia. Most recently, she was associate dean for research and graduate education at the U.G. Mary Frances Early College of Education. Dr. Evans is an elected fellow of the National Academy of Kinesiology, the Obesity Society (NASSO), and the American College of Sports Medicine.

In addition to directing both the U.G. Center for Physical Activity and Health and Office of Research and Graduate Education, Dr. Evans is a highly respected researcher with expertise in clinical exercise physiology, body composition, and weight management.

In her free time, she enjoys riding and spending time with her horses.



Kelli Ryckman, Ph.D.
Professor and Associate Dean for Research
Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Office of the Dean

Dr. Ryckman earned a Ph.D. in Human Genetics from Vanderbilt University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Iowa in 2011. She joins SPH-B from Iowa, where she was hired following her postdoctoral work and most recently served as a professor of Epidemiology and Pediatrics in the College of Public Health. She has also served as director of the Iowa Perinatal Health Research Collaborative and the Maternal-Child Health Catalyst Training Program.

Dr. Ryckman is a genetic epidemiologist with a focus on metabolic pathways that contribute to complications of pregnancy such as preterm delivery and preeclampsia. She has published more than 145 papers in such peer-reviewed journals as *Clinical Biochemistry*, *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*, and *PLOS One*. As PI of an NICHD-funded R00 award, she investigated genetic contributions to newborn metabolism and the implications for development of later life chronic disease such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. She has served as PI or co-investigator on more than 20 completed grants and is currently PI or co-I on six grants with HRSA, NICHD, and NIDA. Dr. Ryckman most enjoys reading and playing cards with her family during her down time and would most like to experience the unique culture, food and drink of the Republic of Ireland.



Jerono Rotich, Ph.D.

Professor and Associate Dean for Organizational Climate, Inclusion, and Belonging
Kinesiology, Office of the Dean

Dr. Rotich earned a Ph.D. in Exercise and Sport Science from the University of North Carolina Greensboro. She joins SPH-B from North Carolina Central University, where she has served as chair and professor of the Department of Kinesiology and Recreation since 2019.

Dr. Rotich has led academic initiatives in institutions both domestic and abroad, including facilitating the establishment of the Kinesiology and Sports Institute at the University of The Gambia and developing the Global Understandings Course with Mahatma Gandhi University, in India, and with Dalian University China. In 2021, she served as a Carnegie Fellow at the University of Nairobi, Kenya. She is a member of numerous organizations, including the American College of Sports Medicine, American Public Health Association, Kenyan Students and Scholars Association, Kappa Delta Pi, and the National Association for Kinesiology in Higher Education.

Dr. Rotich is also CEO and Founder of Women & Youth Global Diversity Consultant, JVV Wellness and Safety LLC., and the Kenya Students in Diaspora Foundation and is president of the Kenya Scholars & Studies Association.



APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCE



Sixtus Aguree, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Applied Health Science

Dr. Aguree earned a Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences from the Pennsylvania State University. He joins the SPH-B faculty from Iowa State University, where he has been a postdoctoral research associate in Nutrition Sciences since 2019.

Dr. Aguree's research has focused on iron metabolism and obesity in women of childbearing bearing age. At IU, he will expand his research to focus on the differential effects of obesity and inflammation in pregnant and non-pregnant women to understand the mechanisms contributing to iron status, including iron deficiency and anemia, and how these affect birth outcomes and infant growth in the first two years of life.

In his free time, Dr. Aguree enjoys bowling and soccer. His favorite book is *Thinking, Fast and Slow*, by Daniel Kahneman.



Angela Campbell, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Applied Health Science

Dr. Campbell earned a dual-title Ph.D. in Demography and Population Studies and Health Policy and Administration from the Pennsylvania State University and an M.P.H. from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. She joins SPH-B from the IU School of Medicine, where she began a postdoctoral fellowship in Pediatrics in 2019.

Dr. Campbell's research focuses on maternal/child health and addictions. Her published works include examinations of fertility, breastfeeding, and pharmacological weaning of infants.

An anthropology major in undergrad, Dr. Campbell enjoys learning about other ways of viewing the world and how different people make decisions. While her current work is quantitative in nature, she brings the lessons she learned from anthropology into her work. She questions her assumptions and asks herself how the people she studies would interpret the data.



Angela De Leon, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Applied Health Science

Dr. De Leon earned a Ph.D. in Nutritional Biology with a specialization in Public Health from the University of California, Davis and was a postdoctoral research associate at the USDA-ARS Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center from 2017 to 2020. She joins SPH-B after serving as a private consultant/science writer for Basic Research, LLC and as an interviewer and science researcher for Leadwire.com.

Dr. De Leon focuses her research on exploring the implicit associations between healthy and unhealthy foods and taste preferences in parent-child dyads to better understand the evolution of food preferences through childhood with an eye toward identifying specific ages/developmental stages for effective intervention.

In her free time, Dr. De Leon loves to be outdoors, walking in the parks around her neighborhood, hiking mountain trails, camping and backpacking, and snowshoeing in the wintertime. If she could go anywhere in the world, she would go to Amsterdam, where she lived for nearly 10 years.



Brent Flickinger, Ph.D.
Adjunct Associate Professor
Applied Health Science

Dr. Flickinger earned a PhD. In Nutritional Sciences from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Biochemistry at UT Health Science Center at San Antonio. He comes to SPH-B following a more than two-decade career with Archer Daniels Midland Company, where he began as a nutrition research scientist and rose to VP, Regulatory and Scientific Affairs.

Dr. Flickinger's areas of expertise include food and nutrition regulations and policy; intersection of food science and nutrition and public health; and integrity of claims made by research and products. He is looking forward to engaging with faculty and students to grow and advance pursuits in the field of nutrition as well as share an industry perspective.

During his undergraduate years, Dr. Flickinger's favorite courses were Analytical Chemistry, Physical Chemistry, Bioinorganic Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Physiology. In his free time, he enjoys waterskiing, bicycling, and archery.

APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCE



Wura Jacobs, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Applied Health Science

Dr. Jacobs earned a Ph.D. in Health Education and Health Promotion from Texas A&M University, where she completed postdoctoral research in the Department of Health and Kinesiology. She joins SPH-B from California State University, Stanislaus, where she has served as an assistant professor in the Department of Kinesiology & Public Health Promotion since 2018.

Dr. Jacobs' research aims to understand the cultural, biopsychosocial, and environmental determinants of adolescent/young adult substance use. Specifically, her work has two main foci: 1) tobacco, cannabis product, and drug use among vulnerable populations (adolescents and young adults, racial/ethnic minorities); and (2) human capital development, social connectedness, and substance use risk.

In her free time, Dr. Jacobs enjoys reading fiction, cooking and baking, and creating new recipes.



Alyssa Lederer, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Applied Health Science

Dr. Lederer earned a Ph.D. in Health Behavior from SPH-B and an M.P.H. in Behavioral Sciences and Health Education from Emory University Rollins School of Public Health. She returns to SPH-B from Tulane University, where she served as director of the Health Education and Communication M.P.H. program since 2017 and as assistant professor of Social, Behavioral, and Population Sciences since 2016.

Dr. Lederer is an applied behavioral scientist whose research relates to the design and evaluation of interventions that aim to improve adolescent health and public health workforce development. Most recently, her work has focused on sexual health, sexual violence prevention, and the impact of COVID-19 among young people, as well as strategies to train current and emerging public health professionals. She is especially interested in the intersection of health education and behavior change. This summer, Dr. Lederer became a Fellow of the American College Health Association (ACHA).

An avid animal lover, Dr. Lederer enjoys going on long walks with her Pembroke Welsh Corgi rescue, Beignet, and teaching Beignet new tricks.



Carla Miller, Ph.D.

Professor
Applied Health Science

Dr. Miller earned a Ph.D. in Human Nutrition from the Pennsylvania State University. She joins SPH-B from The Ohio State University, where she has been a professor of Human Nutrition and a professor of Health Behavior and Health Promotion since 2014 and a professor of Medicine since 2019.

Dr. Miller's research investigates how and why people engage in nutrition and physical activity-related behavioral change, especially among adults with prediabetes or type 2 diabetes. Central to her research are the development, implementation, and evaluation of theory-based interventions and mechanisms of behavioral change. Her goal is to evaluate theoretical models of change to better tailor lifestyle interventions to improve intervention efficacy to prevent diabetes and reduce the morbidity associated with type 2 diabetes.

Dr. Miller's favorite undergraduate course was Physiology, whose instructor opened her eyes to how the human body functions.



Kelly Walsh, Ph.D.

Adjunct Associate Professor
Applied Health Science

Dr. Walsh earned a Ph.D. in Nutritional Biochemistry from Ohio State University and M.B.A. from the University of Evansville. He is a registered dietitian and nutritionist and president of Walsh Nutrition Solutions, LLC.

Dr. Walsh's research focuses on pediatric nutrition with an emphasis on premature infant nutrition and metabolism, along with the physiology and biochemistry of lactogenesis. He is the co-inventor of numerous pediatric nutritional products with multiple patents. Dr. Walsh is an elected fellow of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and a member of the American Society for Nutrition.

Dr. Walsh is a proud veteran of the United States Army. In his free time he plays lead guitar in a rock band and loves to record and work with musical electronic technology.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH



Drew Capone, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Environmental and Occupational Health

Dr. Capone earned a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering with a doctoral minor in Public Health from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He joins SPH-B from the Gillings School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he has held a postdoctoral fellowship since 2020.

Dr. Capone uses environmental microbiology, epidemiology, and risk assessment to study water and sanitation in low-income settings. He has been the principal investigator on several studies of urban and rural soil and water contamination, both domestically and abroad.

Dr. Capone served with the United States Peace Corps in Mozambique from 2014 to 2016. He ran his first marathon in 2022 and is looking forward to running around Bloomington.



Luis F. Chaves, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Environmental and Occupational Health

Dr. Chaves earned a Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Michigan and an M.S. in Ecology from the Universidad Central de Venezuela. He joins SPH-B from the Instituto Conmemorativo Gorgas de Estudios de la Salud (Gorgas Memorial Institute for Health Studies) in Panama, where he has served as an external consultant and associate researcher since 2017.

Dr. Chaves' research interests include vector ecology and medical entomology, ecology of infectious diseases, tropical biology, and analysis of epidemiologic data. He combines fieldwork and modeling to answer questions about the impact of rising temperatures and changing environments on vectors and the diseases they transmit. He also studies the coupling of natural and social phenomena in pathogen transmission, primarily looking at political, economic and geographic factors that affect the emergence and transmission of pathogens.

Dr. Chaves enjoys traveling, trying new foods, and meeting people who think differently. His favorite book is *On Blindness*, by José Saramago.



Michelle Del Rio, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Environmental and Occupational Health

Dr. Del Rio earned a Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences and an M.P.H. with a concentration in Hispanic and Border Health from the University of Texas at El Paso. She was a postdoctoral fellow at IU SPH-B in the Environmental and Occupational Health Department prior to joining the faculty in July 2022.

Dr. Del Rio is an environmental health scientist trained in biomedical sciences, public health, and interdisciplinary health sciences and has worked at the intersection of public health, social science, environmental science, and engineering to improve the health, environment, and quality of life of under-resourced communities. For her M.P.H. thesis, Dr. Del Rio worked with a community that relied on poor-quality water from domestic wells for drinking water and helped collect data to support water and sanitation infrastructure. Currently, she is working on two areas of research: improving water security (access and quality) and preventing lead (Pb) exposure from contaminated water, soil, household dust, lead-based paint, and consumer products.

In her free time, Dr. Del Rio enjoys singing or playing the violin with her partner and for her church community.



Justin Greaves, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Environmental and Occupational Health

Dr. Greaves earned a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from the University of Notre Dame. He joins SPH-B from Loyola University Chicago, where he has served as an assistant professor since January of 2022.

Dr. Greaves' professional interests include environmental microbiology, sustainability, water and wastewater treatment, and transportation engineering. His research focuses on molecular mechanisms of transport for a number of different bacterial and viral pathogens in the environment. Additional research interests involve microbial source tracking and environmental detections to protect human health along with wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2.

Dr. Greaves' favorite undergraduate course was Education Philosophy, as it instilled in him a passion for teaching. In his free time, he enjoys hiking, canoeing, kayaking, game nights, and tennis. If he could go anywhere in the world, he would go to Jamaica, as "there's no place like home."

ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH



Roberto Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Environmental and Occupational Health

Dr. Rodriguez earned a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences from the University of Arizona and did postdoctoral work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of Colorado at Boulder. He joins SPH-B from Analytical Services Inc. in Williston, Vermont, where he has been a senior virologist since 2019.

Dr. Rodriguez has served as an assistant professor at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston and as an assistant research professor at CECIA-Inter-American University of Puerto Rico. His research interests include fate and transport of viruses in the environment, disinfection of enteric pathogens and water reuse treatment technologies, and water disparities in communities around the U.S.-Mexico border. He is a member of the American Society of Microbiology and the American Water Works Association.



Eduardo Ximenes, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Environmental and Occupational Health

Dr. Ximenes earned a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the University of Georgia and completed postdoctoral research at multiple institutions. He joins SPH-B from Purdue University, where he has served as principal bioprocess research scientist since 2007.

Dr. Ximenes' research focuses on microbiology applied to environmentally friendly processes and human and animal well-being.

He has served as PI or co-investigator on several FDA-funded multidisciplinary projects. Since 2009, he has worked to establish and build a cooperative research program with Brazilian research organizations, resulting in multiple collaborations.

If he could go anywhere in the world, Dr. Ximenes would like to take more time to explore the biodiversity of the Amazonian region. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family doing outside activities, traveling, watching movies, reading, and listening to music. Among his favorites are the movie *Cinema Paradiso*, H. G. Wells' *War of the Worlds*, and Paul Simon.





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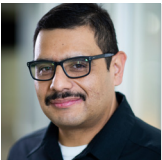


Suvo Chatterjee, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Dr. Chatterjee earned a Ph.D. in Mathematical Sciences from Northern Illinois University and joins SPH-B from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), where he has been a postdoctoral fellow since 2019.

Dr. Chatterjee's dissertation was on Bayesian functional data analysis over dependent regions and its application for identification of differentially methylated regions. His research focuses largely on developing and applying statistical methodologies to identify genetic, epigenetic, and transcriptomic factors associated with fetal development and prevalence of cardiovascular and cardiometabolic disorders.

Dr. Chatterjee enjoys all things outdoors, particularly camping and hiking in the Rocky Mountains. He would love to visit Norway someday to experience its pristine beauty and serenity. When not working, hiking or camping, Dr. Chatterjee enjoys playing guitar, badminton, ping pong, chess and exploring various ethnic foods.



Raul Cruz-Cano, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Dr. Cruz-Cano earned a Ph.D. in Computer Engineering from the University of Texas at El Paso, where he also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Bioinformatics. He joins SPH-B from the University of Maryland, College Park, where he has served as an associate research professor of Biostatistics since 2010.

A seasoned educator, Dr. Cruz-Cano has taught courses in biostatistics, public health data management, and biostatistical programming. His research interests include computational statistics and data analysis as applied to study the effects of climate change on infectious diseases, tobacco and nicotine research, emergency medicine, and environmental health. He has first author publications at *JAMA* and the *American Journal of Public Health* related to the excess deaths in Puerto Rico due to Hurricane Maria.

Dr. Cruz-Cano enjoys reading, following college football, and watch auto racing. His favorite undergraduate class was Numerical Analysis, and he still loves applying numerical approximation and computer programming to solve mathematical problems. Bloomington will be his first real college town.

EPIDEMIOLOGY AND BIostatISTICS



Corey Kalbaugh, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Dr. Kalbaugh earned a Ph.D. in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an M.A. in Medicine, Health, and Society from Vanderbilt University and was the first embedded scholar in the Department of Surgery at Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center. He joins SPH-B from Clemson University, where he has served as an assistant professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences since 2019 and in Bioengineering since 2021.

Dr. Kalbaugh is an NIH- and AHA-funded scientist whose research interests include health disparities, cardiovascular disease, implicit bias, health equity, clinical epidemiology, vascular surgery, and health care delivery. His aim is to reduce racial disparities in peripheral artery disease-related treatment and outcomes. He was the site PI of the first clinical trial conducted on the Clemson University campus.

His favorite course in undergrad was the History of Medicine and in his free time he enjoys playing games with his daughters, playing piano, doing puzzles, and working on his house.



Maria Litvinova, Ph.D.
Assistant Research Scientist
Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Dr. Litvinova earned a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Trento in Italy and completed postdoctoral work at the Network Science Institute at Northeastern University in Boston and at the ISI Foundation in Turin, Italy, before joining SPH-B as a postdoctoral fellow in Epidemiology and Biostatistics in 2020. She joins the department as an assistant research scientist.

An applied data scientist with an economic background, Dr. Litvinova leverages multidisciplinary micro and macro data to investigate complex social, economic, and demographic contexts affecting infectious disease characteristics and dynamics. She also specializes in epidemiologic data analysis.



Colby Vorland, Ph.D.
Assistant Research Scientist
Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Dr. Vorland earned a Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences from Purdue University in 2019. He joined SPH-B in 2019 as a postdoctoral fellow performing meta-research related to questions of rigor, reproducibility, and transparency within research on nutrition, obesity, and aging.

Dr. Vorland's research focuses on reporting quality in animal studies, error detection and correction, semi-automated methods to improve research quality, and other meta-research related to nutrition, obesity, and aging. Dr. Vorland is a member of the American Society for Nutrition, The Obesity Society, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and the American Statistical Association.

Dr. Vorland is a member of the American Society for Nutrition, The Obesity Society, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and the American Statistical Association.



KINESIOLOGY



Kyle Kercher, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Kinesiology

Dr. Kercher earned a Ph.D. in Health Behavior from SPH-B and holds certifications from the Project Management Institute, National Strength & Conditioning Association, American College of Sports Medicine, and Wellcoaches School of Coaching. He joins the Department of Kinesiology from the Department of Applied Health Science, where he has served as an associate instructor since 2020 and as an NIH R01 research coordinator since 2021.

Dr. Kercher's writing and research interests include subconcussive head impacts, student athlete motivation, and the intersection of mental and physical wellness. His primary research focus is multilevel sport-based youth development interventions in underserved/at-risk children.

In his free time, Dr. Kercher enjoys walking his Corgis, Dash and Roo, with his wife, Vanessa, playing pickleball, strength training, attempting to play piano, reading, and cooking while listening to music. and as an NIH R01 research coordinator since 2021.

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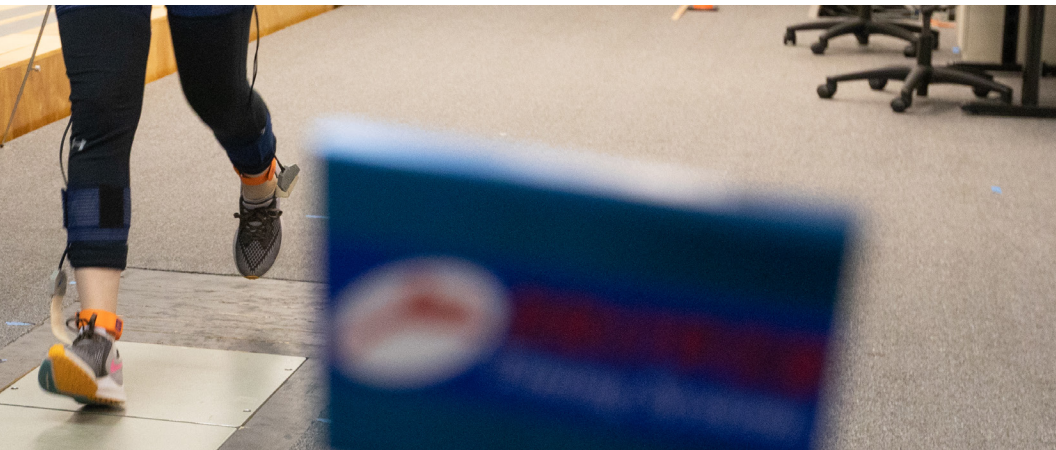


Melissa Pangelinan, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Kinesiology

Dr. Pangelinan earned a Ph.D. in Neuroscience and Cognitive Science from the University of Maryland, College Park and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Toronto. She joins SPH-B from Auburn University, where she has served as an assistant professor since 2015.

Dr. Pangelinan's research uses neurocognitive and movement assessments, as well as neuroimaging, to examine how motor skills and physical activity affect various dimensions of health. She is interested in developing and measuring the efficacy of adapted physical activity participation in individuals with developmental and acquired disabilities across the lifespan. Over the course of her research, she has worked with more than 1,000 underserved individuals.

Dr. Pangelinan's two little ones keep her and her husband busy, and, as a family, they enjoy outdoor activities such as swimming and hiking. She loves to travel and would like to go to Singapore with her husband to experience the food scene and the interesting mix of cultures. Her favorite movie is *Amélie*.



HEALTH & WELLNESS DESIGN



Kristen Allen-Watts, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Health & Wellness Design

Dr. Allen Watts earned a Ph.D. in Health Education and Promotion and an M.P.H. from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and completed her postdoctoral fellowship at UAB in 2021. She joins SPH-B from UAB, where she was a scientist in the Department of Biostatistics in the School of Public Health.

Dr. Allen Watts' research includes managing chronic overlapping medical conditions in traditionally underserved populations. Specifically, she examines the unique self-management needs of cardiometabolic multimorbidity (i.e., chronic pain, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cognitive impairment, and high depressive symptoms) among underresourced and underrepresented communities with the goal of improving patient self-management and self-efficacy by focusing on self-identified needs and individualizing therapy (i.e., precision health).

Dr. Allen Watts enjoys spending time with family, decorating, and listening to music and podcasts. She loves learning about new cultures, exploring local cuisine, and getting to know people. Her favorite book is *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr.



Misty Hawkins, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Health & Wellness Design

Dr. Hawkins earned a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology with a Health Concentration from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and completed a postdoctoral research fellowship in Health Psychology and Neuropsychology at Kent State University. She joins SPH-B from Oklahoma State University, where she has served in the Department of Psychology since 2015, most recently as an associate professor.

Dr. Hawkins' research seeks to understand the relationships between emotional and cognitive factors, chronic diseases, and health behaviors, particularly the intersection of neurocognition and emotions in cardiometabolic health and associated interventions in underserved populations. A first-

generation scholar and NIH-funded principal investigator, Dr. Hawkins is proud and grateful that she can pay her education forward by facilitating research and training among other underserved or disadvantaged groups.

Her favorite undergraduate course was Health Psychology, taught by Dr. Cara Wellman in IU's own Psychology Department. This was the first time she was exposed to scientific evidence of how stress "gets under the skin" and how our physical bodies and social environment impact our wellness.



Andrew (Drew) Pickett, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Health & Wellness Design

Dr. Pickett completed a Ph.D. in Kinesiology (Sport Management) from Texas A&M University. He joins SPH-B from the University of South Dakota, where he has served as an assistant professor in the Division of Kinesiology & Sport Management since 2016.

Dr. Pickett develops and manages physical activity programs for underserved older adult populations and behavioral interventions to address health disparities and prevent chronic disease (e.g., ADRD). He has received numerous awards for the quality of his academic research and is a member of several esteemed organizations including the American Academy of Health Behavior, American Association for Public Opinion Research, North American Society for Sport Management, and the Sport and Recreation Law Association.

During his undergraduate years, Dr. Pickett's favorite course was Plants, Plagues, and People, a biohistory course starting at the Big Bang and ending in the distant future. In his free time, he enjoys playing tennis, outdoor activities (e.g., hiking, walking dogs), and cooking. If he could go anywhere in the world, he would go to South America to explore its rich culture and history and great food.

HEALTH & WELLNESS DESIGN



Miriam Jocelyn Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Health & Wellness Design

Dr. Rodriguez earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology with a Neuropsychology Concentration from Nova Southeastern University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Neuropsychology at the Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pennsylvania. She joins SPH-B from Albizu University, where, since 2015, she has served in the Goodman Center for Psychological Services as a clinical supervisor and clinical neuropsychologist and in Neuropsychology, most recently as associate professor.

Dr. Rodriguez's research focus is on Hispanic older adults at risk for developing dementia and on identifying cultural factors that contribute to cognitive decline, neurodegeneration, risk/protection against developing dementia, and the caregiver experience among Hispanic families. She has used neuroimaging measures to distinguish between dementia types and early/prodromal stages of Alzheimer's disease (AD) and has identified sensitive measures of cognition among Hispanic populations.

The undergraduate courses that paved the way to Dr. Rodriguez's career path were Experimental Neuropsychology and Statistics, but her most memorable undergraduate course was Master Chorale, where she honed her skills as a singer, met her future husband, and performed Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana."





Nicole Werner, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Health & Wellness Design

Dr. Werner earned a Ph.D. in Psychology from George Mason University and was a fellow in the Virtual Environments Group at the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery. She joins SPH-B from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she has served in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering since 2015, most recently as associate professor.

Dr. Werner's research applies human-centered systems engineering approaches to transform the health journey for people living with chronic conditions and their care networks through the design and implementation of technology and care process innovations. Her interests include patient ergonomics, consumer health informatics, and health information technology. She is PI or co-I on multiple NIH/NIA grants focused on developing tools to support caregivers of those with Alzheimer's disease.

She loves spending her free time outside – walking in the woods or prairie or paddling on the water. Dr. Werner has also recently developed a love for bird watching and enjoys learning about and spotting native Indiana birds.



POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS



Kiara Chan, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral Fellow
Kinesiology

Dr. Chan earned a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Florida Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering in 2022. She joins SPH-B as a postdoctoral fellow in Kinesiology.

Dr. Chan has expertise collecting and processing gait data from high-speed videos and force plates to analyze spatiotemporal patterns and dynamic ground reaction forces generated while walking. She has an advanced understanding of gait and biomechanical changes in preclinical post-traumatic osteoarthritis models, including knowledge of exercise and physical activity interventions to improve joint function.

During her undergrad years, Dr. Chan served as the president and treasurer of the Cornell University Club Gymnastics Team.

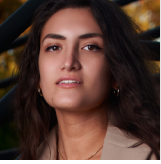


Amelia Hawbacker, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral Fellow
Applied Health Science

Dr. Hawbacker earned a Ph.D. in Sociology with a doctoral minor in Social Science Research Methods from IU in 2022. She joins SPH-B as a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Applied Health Sciences.

Dr. Hawbacker's dissertation focused on medical decision-making and hospital-based childbirth. Her research interests include qualitative and quantitative methods, medical sociology, healthcare systems, organizational sociology, institutional theory, and health policy.

Dr. Hawbacker is a certified counselor/advocate for the All Options Pregnancy Resource Center and a member of the Reproductive Health Planning Task Force of the Indiana Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative.



Hannah Javidi, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral Fellow
Applied Health Science

Dr. Javidi earned a Ph.D. in Applied Social and Community Psychology from North Carolina State University in 2022. She joins the Department of Applied Health Science as a postdoctoral Fellow.

Most recently, Dr. Javidi has served as a graduate research assistant in the Teen Health Lab at NC State University, conducting projects related to adolescent sexual health, mentoring undergraduate research assistants, managing lab projects, and assisting with data collection and manuscript preparation. She has also co-developed two separate online, five-module courses as part of the Addictions Specialist Certificate Program for Paraprofessionals through the Center for Family and Community Engagement and School of Social Work at NC State University.

Dr. Javidi served as a GLBT advocate and as an applied social and community area representative for the Graduate Students in Psychology Association at NC State University.



Armando Peña, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral Fellow
Health & Wellness Design

Dr. Peña earned a Ph.D. in Exercise and Nutritional Sciences with a focus on Pediatric Diabetes Prevention and Health Disparities from Arizona State University in 2022. He joins the Department of Health & Wellness Design as a postdoctoral fellow.

Dr. Peña received funding from the NIDDK to support his doctoral research focused on redox balance and inflammation associated with obesity and type 2 diabetes in Latino youth, before and after a lifestyle intervention. He is a member of The Obesity Society, the Society for Behavioral Medicine, the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity, the National Research Mentoring Network, the American Heart Association, the American College of Sports Medicine, and the Arizona Physiological Society.

A lifelong sports lover, Dr. Peña played football in college before choosing to pursue an undergraduate degree in Kinesiology rather than go pro. Dr. Peña has owned his own personal training business, Kinesio Health and Performance, and has served as a strength and conditioning coach, a fitness program coordinator, and a diabetes coordinator.

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS



Abu Bakkar Siddique, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral Fellow
Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Dr. Siddique earned a Ph.D. in Public Policy from George Mason University in 2022. He also holds master's degrees in Public Policy from the National University of Singapore and the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies in Tokyo, Development Policy from the KDI School of Public Policy and Management in Seoul, and Public Administration from Jahangirnagar University in Dhaka. He joins the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics as a postdoctoral fellow.

Dr. Siddique's research interests are at the intersection of politics, economics, and social psychology covering fields that include public, political, behavioral, health, and developmental affairs. He received academic training in applied economics, public administration, and quantitative public policy analysis. The ultimate objectives of his applied research are to inform public policies and practices that improve social and economic justice, reduce inequality and poverty, and increase common and welfare goods provisions.

Dr. Siddique's teaching goals are to foster students' critical thinking skills, meet the learning needs of students from diverse backgrounds, and actively engage students in the learning process.





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