



Commencement

University of Minnesota
School of Public Health

May 14, 2007



Order of Events

Processional

National Anthem

Welcome and Opening Remarks

John R. Finnegan, Jr., Ph.D.

Dean, School of Public Health

Student Address

Denise Feda

School of Public Health Student Senate President

Introduction of Commencement Speaker

John R. Finnegan, Jr., Ph.D.

Commencement Address

Laurie Garrett

Senior Fellow for Global Health for the Council on Foreign Relations

Presentation of the Candidates for the M.P.H. Degree

William Riley, Ph.D.

Associate Dean for Student Affairs

**Presentation of the Candidates for the M.H.A.,
M.S. and Ph.D. Degrees**

Judith Garrard, Ph.D.

Sr. Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Research

Conferring of Degrees

The Honorable Maureen Cisneros

Regent, University of Minnesota

Recitation of the Public Health Professionals Pledge

SPH Student Senate Officers and Graduates

Hail! Minnesota

Closing Remarks

John R. Finnegan, Jr., Ph.D.

Recessional

Reception

All graduates, faculty, and guests are invited to the reception on the Northrop plaza immediately following the ceremony.

Commencement Officials

University of Minnesota –

The Honorable Maureen Cisneros,
Regent

Arlene E. Carney, Ph.D.,
*Vice Provost for Faculty and
Academic Affairs*

Academic Health Center –

Mark S. Paller, M.D., M.S.,
Assistant Vice President for Research

School of Public Health –

John R. Finnegan Jr., Ph.D.,
Dean

Judith Garrard, Ph.D.,
*Sr. Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
and Research*

Debra Olson, M.P.H.,
*Associate Dean for Public Health
Practice Education*

William Riley, Ph.D.,
Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Macebearer –

Robert Veninga,
School of Public Health Professor Emeritus

Commencement Marshals

Yolanda Archibald
Stephanie Ball
Stacy Dickinson
Thuy Doan
Jooyeon Hwang
Andrea Jones

Musicians

Kate Lamb, Vocalist
Jazz Musicians:
Tom Lewis, Bass
Reid Kennedy, Drums
Adam Rossmiller, Trumpet
Steve Yeager, Vibraphone

MSDP
A328
dep

Graduates 2006-2007

Master of Public Health (MPH)

Community Health Education

Joy Ahern
Raiza Jemie M. Beltran
Emi M. Bennett
Rachel Mahon Bosman
Emily Brennan
Isaiah Brokenleg
Li-Fen Chien
Tsz Chun Choi "Kelvin"
Michael D. Golden
Allison Ishizaki
Mara M. Jiran
David Kurtzon
Angie Larson
Amy Leite
Laura Miller
Mary Jo Meuleners
Anne C. Samuelson
Julia Rose Sanem
Kristen Tharaldson
Jim Winkle

Environmental Health

Rebecca Joy Anderson
Deanna Brown
Linda Marie Carlson
Jamie L. C. Dion
Michelle Dittrich
Daniel Etsey Dodor
Kelly Elizabeth Johnson
Joseph Leland Kurland
Genelle Ruth Sanders Lamont
Lauren Ann Neils
Stacie E. Schanus
Benjamin Schulte

Margaret Spartz
Anna Maria Urban

Epidemiology

Kazuhiko Akasaka
Birtukan Belew
Jason Dehn
Yunhua Fan
Akira Fujiyoshi
Stephanie Gaston
Margherita E. Ghiselli
Maha Hag-Alshiekh
Taryn Ottilia Hall
Erin Hedican
Sara B Imholte
Katherine James
Jill R. Johnson
Brad Krier
Rebecca K Lien
Nicole Davina Longcore
Trisha Jean McDonald
Kristin A. Moy
Sarah O'Brien
Miles Ott
Misti Lyn Paudel
Ryan Ping
Zaynab Rezania
David Scott Hovey Simmons
Sarah Solarz
Krista Kathleen Stiffler
Emily Thompson
Karen Judith Wahmanholm
Ericka M. Walsh

Maternal and Child Health

Amy Crary
Susan Dicker
Aviane E. Forde
Shira Fox

Yasin Elmi Garad
Sarah J. Gordon
Elizabeth K. Hansen
Marusia Kachkowski
Gillian Marisa Lawrence
Michelle Lynn Thorsness
Jean Elizabeth Wentink

**Public Health Administration
and Policy**

Megan Zahra Alavi
Aliyah AbdelRahman Ali
John Humphrey Amuasi
Lannesse O. Baker
Melissa M. Boney
Cathleen Clouse, MD
Katherine Downing
Marisa Lynn Groninga
Linda J. Grupa
Senka Hadzic
Rachel Renee Hardeman
Andrea Donvito Johnson
Laura Lynn Klein
Tabitha R. Leighton
Amin Mohamed
Susan N. Nwoke
Diaa S. Osman, ND.
Carmen Parrotta
Jennifer M. Pierquet
Dawn Sillars
Dr. Pinaki Vaidya
Alissa Michelle Van Wie
Natalie Vestin
Amanda M. Woodfield
Emily B. Zylla

Public Health Nutrition

Elissa Marguerite Downs
Deb Fossum

Rebecca A. Kocos
Dominique Lopez-Stickney
Katie A Loth
Gina Mary Melbo
Jayme Shimek
Melissa Speich (Posthumous)
Jerri R. Wachter
Azza Zarroug

**Public Health Practice –
Executive Program**

Kelly Barton
Margaret Carl
Deborah Lane Freeman, M.D.
Heberth G. Gutierrez
Shams-UI-Haq Najib
Linda Ann Nelson
Jeffry Alan Stampohar

**Public Health Practice –
Veterinary Public Health Program**

Margaret Carl
Diana Collette
Theresa Rose de Blicck
Amanda Sue Denisen
Stacey Schwabenlander
Heather J. Swan

**Master of Healthcare
Administration (MHA)**

Scott Ackman
David Batulis
Joni Lynn Becker
Christina Bourland
Susanna Chang
Tracy Lynn Hanson
Corbett Jackson
Heather A. Jensen
Aaron W. Johnson

Lindsay C. Johnson
Catherine Ann Moser Klugherz
Mubina Lakha
Robert Lenio
Michael D. Miller
Brigid M. Murphy
Allison J. Prusak
Ankur Sharma
Kaajal Singh
Nicholas Smith
Kaitlin Swanson
Nicole Elizabeth Szalay

Master of Science (MS)

Biostatistics

Daniel Dvorkin
Juanran Feng
Hong Ge
Zhi Huang
Wenjun Kang
Xiaoxiao Kong
Pei Li
Ran Li
Haiying Lin
Fang Liu
Jianmin Liu
Xiaobo Liu
James Pottala
Nicholas Salkowski
Milan Seth
Qun Shi
Jia Xu
Na Yuan

Clinical Research

Selcuk Adabag
Muna Canales
Mohamed Eid
Nauman Moazzam

Johan Nordenstam
Ina Park
George M. Tadros

Environmental Health

Emily Abbott
Bonnie Brooks
Geoffrey E. Lynn
Megan Ogdahl

**Health Services Research, Policy,
and Administration**

Shadi Awwad
Matthias Kirch
Meixia Liu
Zhiying Zhao

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Environmental Health

Sook Ja Cho
Denise Marie Grant Feda
Mira M. Grice
Deborah Merchant Langner
Leslie Nordgren
Evette Denise Pinder
Deanna Scher

Epidemiology

Mary O. Hearst
Emily D. Parker
Keryn E. Pasch

**Health Services Research, Policy,
and Administration**

Melissa L. Constantine
Rada Dagher



Melissa Speich Memorial

Today's celebration is tempered by the passing of School of Public Health student Melissa Speich, who was pursuing a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree in Public Health Nutrition. Melissa died as a result of injuries sustained in a car accident on Easter Sunday.

Melissa is remembered as a vibrant young woman who dreamed of making a difference in our world. She planned to attend medical school after receiving her public health degree.

Melissa will be awarded her MPH degree posthumously. Her name is listed and will be read along with those of her fellow Public Health Nutrition students. Melissa's fiancé, Adam Doyle, will accept her diploma.

2007 Commencement Speaker



Laurie Garrett

Science journalist and Gates Senior Fellow in Global Health is a medical writer for Newsday in New York City. Garrett is the only writer ever to have been awarded all three of the “Big P’s” of journalism: The Peabody (for excellence in broadcast journalism), The Polk (for outstanding reporting), and The Pulitzer (for those at the height of journalistic practice). A noted expert on infectious disease and global health, Garrett is the best-selling author of the books *The*

Coming Plague: Newly Emerging Diseases in a World Out of Balance and *Betrayal of Trust: The Collapse of Global Public Health*.

In 2004, Garrett took the position of Senior Fellow for Global Health at the Washington, D.C.-based Council on Foreign Relations. Her articles in the Council’s journal *Foreign Affairs* have helped to firmly position Garrett as one of the world’s leading authorities on global health, and specifically newly emerging and re-emerging diseases, public health, and their effects on foreign policy and national security.

A fifth-generation Los Angeleno, Garrett earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from the University of California. She was pursuing a Ph.D. in the department of bacteriology and immunology at the University of California at Berkeley when she was bitten by the journalistic bug. In the midst of her doctoral studies, Garrett began reporting on science news at KPFA, a Berkeley-based public radio station. She took a leave of absence from graduate school to explore journalism and never looked back. Her career has taken her to posts at BBC Radio, Reuters, the Associated Press, and National Public Radio (NPR), where she was recognized with numerous awards. She left NPR in 1988 to join Newsday.

Garrett has contributed chapters to numerous public health tomes, including *AIDS in the World* (ed. Jonathan Mann, Daniel Tarantola and Thomas Netter, Oxford University Press) and *Disease in Evolution: Global Changes and Emergence of Infectious Diseases* (ed. Mary E. Wilson, New York Academy of Sciences). She is especially gifted at making the complex understandable for a wide audience of laypersons. She has written for many publications including *Vanity Fair* and *The Washington Post*. She appears frequently on such national television programs as *Nightline*, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, and *The Jim Lehrer NewsHour*.

Academic Regalia

The hood worn by graduates displays the colors of the institution and discipline. The lining colors of maroon and gold identify the University of Minnesota. The border color of salmon identifies public health (M.P.H. and M.H.A.), gold identifies science (M.S.), and dark blue identifies philosophy (Ph.D.). Graduates wear black gowns; those earning a Ph.D. are distinguished with bell sleeves and velvet chevrons.

Faculty members wear gowns and hoods identifying the institution and field in which they earned their highest degree. Faculty in the School of Public Health have backgrounds in many different areas of study including green for medicine, dark blue for philosophy, and purple for law.

The University Mace

The University's first official mace made its debut in 1961 at the inauguration of O. Meredith Wilson (1960-67), 110 years after the University was founded and eight centuries after the mace's warlike image faded and it became a symbol of peaceful leadership. Art professor Philip Morton designed the University's mace, choosing a star as its crowning feature. The University machine shop made the mace with a solid aluminum handle set with the regents' seal and a 4-inch crystal sphere surmounted by the aluminum "Star of the North."

Carrying the mace is a great honor accorded to someone who is being singled out for tribute. Today's macebearer is School of Public Health Professor Emeritus Robert Veninga, who retired in December 2006 after a distinguished three-decade career at the School.

The flags onstage represent the native countries and tribal nations of School of Public Health graduates. Countries represented include:

Afghanistan	Lebanon
Argentina	Nepal
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa (Minnesota)	Netherlands
Brazil	Nigeria
Bulgaria	Norway
Canada	Pakistan
China	Philippines
Colombia	Romania
Denmark	Rosebud Sioux Tribe (South Dakota)
Egypt	Serbia
El Salvador	Somalia
Ethiopia	Sudan
France	Sweden
Gambia	Taiwan
Ghana	Tanzania
Hong Kong	Thailand
India	Turkey
Iran	Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa (North Dakota)
Italy	Uganda
Jamaica	United Kingdom
Japan	United States of America
Jordan	Vietnam
Kenya	Vietnam (South)
Korea (South – Republic)	Zimbabwe

Public Health Professionals Pledge

As a public health professional dedicated to enhancing the health status and well being of individuals and communities, I pledge to hold the public interest and health of populations as my highest professional goals.

Hail! Minnesota

Hail! Minnesota
Minnesota, hail to thee!
Hail to thee, our college dear!
Thy light shall ever be
A beacon bright and clear.
Thy sons and daughters true
Will proclaim thee near and far.
They will guard thy fame, and adore thy name;
Thou shalt be their Northern Star!
Like the stream that bends to sea,
Like the pine that seeks the blue;
Minnesota, still to thee
Thy sons are strong and true.
From the woods and waters fair;
From thy prairies waving far,
At thy call they throng
With their shout and song
Hailing thee their Northern Star.