



SASKATCHEWAN POPULATION HEALTH AND EVALUATION RESEARCH UNIT

University
of Regina



Transitioning into the new year has kept SPHERU busy. While wrapping up the 2017 fall semester, SPHERU held its second faculty meeting of the year.

During the past couple of months, SPHERU members have been recognized for their work, published op-eds, and new studies.



Dr. Cory Neudorf received the SHRF Impact Award at the 2017 Santé Awards Evening on December 7. Photo via Twitter by Thilina Bandara

SHRF Impact Award

SPHERU associate researcher Dr. Cory Neudorf was presented with the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF) Impact Award at the 2017 Santé Awards Evening on December 7.

The Impact Award recognizes a SHRF Establishment grant recipient for their work during the past five years to build capacity, advance knowledge, inform decision making, and to provide health, economic

and social impacts in Saskatchewan.

The evening provided a chance learn more about health research in the province, while recognizing research achievements.

Congratulations, Dr. Neudorf!

Guest faculty in India

SPHERU's Dr. Shanthi Johnson was invited to be a guest faculty member at Punjabi University in Chandigarh, India in December.

Dr. Johnson attended the university as part of the Global Initiative of Academic Networks (GiAn) population health workshop.

The purpose of the workshop was to encourage public health professionals to design better social and environmental interventions for individual health and improvement in quality of life.

New study released

Dr. Rachel Engler-Stringer's study on

university student food insecurity was published in December.

Of the 1,359 students who responded to a random sample survey, 40 per cent reported some degree of food insecurity.

Students reporting experiencing food insecurity included:

- 58 per cent of international students
- 53 per cent of students who are parents
- 55 per cent of students who rely on government student



loans (as primary income)

- 64 per cent of Indigenous students
Caitlin Olauson

(Community Health and Epidemiology Master's program graduate, U of S) conducted the study with Dr. Engler-Stringer, Dr. Hassan Vatanparast (Nutrition and School of Public Health, U of S) and Rita Hanoski (Student Health Services, U of S).

The study appeared in Eaglefeather News, MBC, CBC, Saskatoon Star Phoenix and the Regina Leader Post.

Find the full study here.

Op-Ed on opioids picked up by HuffPo

Dr. Tom McIntosh and Dr. Gabriela Novotna's opinion editorial piece on how the use of opioids have escalated from a medical issue to a population health crisis. The piece was published by the Huffington Post in

January.

The op-ed first appeared in iPolitics in October. It was also picked up by the Evidence Network, the Winnipeg Free Press and HuffPo Quebec.

Read the full op-ed here.

Muhajarine selected as journal editor

SPHERU director Dr. Nazeem Muhajarine has been selected to act as a senior editor of the Canadian Journal of Public Health.

Since January, Dr. Muhajarine will review and participate in shaping the content and future for the Canadian Journal of Public Health (CJPH).

Some of his responsibilities will include reviewing submitted articles to the journal upon request of the Editor-in-Chief. He will participate in annual and quarterly meetings of the CJPH editorial board.

Dr. Muhajarine has also been invited to contribute scholarly work to the journal during his four-year term as senior editor.

In accepting this position, Dr Muhajarine said, "CJPH is the flagship public health journal in Canada and has long-served the public health community. I thank Louise Potvin [the editor-in-chief] and the editorial board for inviting me to serve.

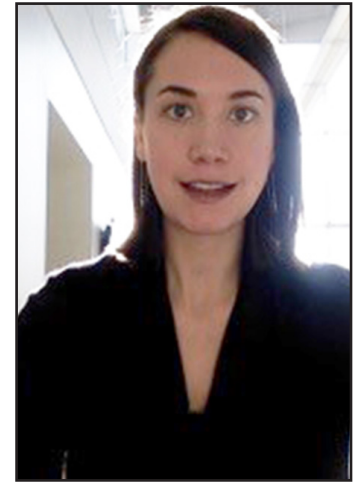
"I am looking forward to joining the board, and adding my voice at a time when the journal is elevating its profile not only in Canada but worldwide."

Congratulations, Nazeem!

New Post-doc

In January, Dr. Kristjana Loptson became SPHERU's latest postdoctoral fellow.

Kristjana recently completed her Ph.D. in political science at the University of



Dr. Kristjana Loptson

Alberta. Her doctoral research examined the economic significance of residential real estate in Canada, and its implications for political initiatives aiming to address homelessness and other forms of housing insecurity.

Prior to her Ph.D. studies, Kristjana was part of the team evaluating the Saskatchewan KidsFirst program, with SPHERU.

Kristjana will be working with the Multisectoral Urban Systems for Health and Equity in Canadian Cities (MUSE) project, under Nazeem Muhajarine's direction.

Welcome, Kristjana!