



11/11

# global health meet and greet

A NETWORKING EVENT FOR STUDENTS AND GLOBAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Nov. 11, 2017  
9:30am-2:30pm  
Icahn School of  
Medicine at Mount Sinai

# Program

Registration and Breakfast	9:15-9:30 AM
Welcome Remarks	9:30-9:35 AM
Speaker Panels and Q & A	9:35-11:30 AM
Panel 1: Environmental Health & Planetary Health Jack Caravanos, Pure Earth Sarah Ruel-Bergeron and Riksum Kazi, ARCHIVE Global	
Panel 2: Maternal Health Pamela Bolton, Just Actions Rasha Khoury, Médecins Sans Frontières Veronica Ades, New York University, Médecins Sans Frontières Gloria Fung Chaw, Doctors for Global Health	
Panel 3: Emerging Diseases & Epidemics Catherine Machalaba, EcoHealth Alliance Fabienne Laraque, NYC Department of Homeless Services Alyssa Smaldino, Arnhold Institute for Global Health	
Break	11:30-12:00 PM
Roundtable Discussions	12:00-2:30 PM
<i>In addition to the panelists, the following people and organizations will be participating in roundtable discussions:</i>	
Renata Schiavo, Health Equity Initiative	
Ashish Joshi, CUNY School of Public Health	
Anna Ableson, AMDD/Global Health Corps	
Valentina Buj, UNICEF	
Morgen Yao-Cohen, Doctors for Global Health	

## Environmental Health & Planetary Health



**Jack Caravanos**

***Pure Earth***

For Dr. Jack Caravanos, life in the field ranges from jumping onto a motorcycle and navigating the jungles of Madre de Dios in the Peruvian Amazon studying toxic substances to traveling to remotes areas in Zambia, Indonesia, and Bolivia studying lead and other toxic wastes. By cooperating with local governments, his work provides safe, healthy, and evidence-based solutions for pollution problems in low- and middle-income countries. In partnership with Pure Earth, an international non-profit organization, Dr. Caravanos is studying the impact of gold extraction with mercury in Peru and Indonesia. Since miners are in danger of mercury poisoning, his research team is planning interventions that teach safer techniques for gold extraction. Dr. Caravanos teaches Environmental Health for graduate students and Environmental Health in a Global World for undergraduate students. He also provides opportunities for student researchers in his ongoing projects, including in Indonesia (mercury) and Ghana (e-waste).



**Sarah Ruel-Bergeron**

***ARCHIVE Global***

Sarah holds a Master's Degree in Architecture from Pratt Institute, is a licensed architect, and a LEED Accredited Professional specialized in Building Design and Construction. She joined ARCHIVE Global as a project architect, with multiple years of experience in affordable housing, healthcare, and construction expertise. She is particularly interested in sustainable design, resiliency and hazard mitigation in vulnerable environments and has been a volunteer in the Design for Risk and Reconstruction Committee at AIA NYC since 2014. Sarah is trilingual and in her spare time loves to cook, ride her bicycle, and spend time with family and friends.

## Maternal Health



**Pamela Bolton**

***Just Actions***

Pam Bolton recently joined Just Actions, a new organization dedicated to tackling the most pressing global social justice challenges of our days. Previously, she was the Vice President, Global Health and Innovation at Concern Worldwide. She has an extensive background in global public health, including programmatic and technical expertise in reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and malaria, as well as a solid understanding of private sector perspectives. Pam previously served as Director for Francophone Africa at Family Care International, an NGO dedicated to improving sexual and reproductive health and rights globally, with an integral focus on HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care. Prior to her work at Family Care International, Pam spent eight years at EngenderHealth, where she held both direct program management responsibilities and technical advisory positions focused on research and evaluation. Pam gained greater appreciation for the interplay between public health, corporate citizenship and core business interests while working in Pfizer's Worldwide Public Affairs & Policy division, where she contributed to the design and development of Mobilize Against Malaria, Pfizer's five-year program to fight malaria in Kenya, Ghana and Senegal. Most recently, she was a member of the consulting team at Strategyx/inVentiv Health, a specialty practice providing evidence-based guidance to pharmaceutical and biotechnology executives in the areas of marketing strategy and organizational design.



**Rasha Khoury**  
*Médecins Sans Frontières*

Dr. Rasha Khoury received her M.D. from Yale School of Medicine. She later completed her specialization in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of California, San Francisco and her fellowship in Family Planning and Global Women's Health at Brigham and Women's Hospital. She also holds an M.P.H from the Harvard School of Public Health. In her time at MSF, Rasha has worked as an obstetrician in rural Afghanistan, providing free, specialized care to an underserved population of women while also offering vaccinations and family planning.



**Veronica Ades**  
*New York University, Médecins Sans Frontières*

Veronica Ades, MD, MPH is a board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist. She attended medical school at the State University of New York at Downstate in Brooklyn, NY, and obtained residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at the Albert Einstein School of Medicine in the Bronx, NY. After residency, she obtained a Master's degree in Public Health with a concentration in Quantitative Methods at the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Ades then completed a three-year fellowship in Reproductive Infectious Disease at the University of California, San Francisco, in which she lived and worked in rural Uganda, and conducted research on placental malaria in HIV-infected and -uninfected women. Dr. Ades is currently an Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Director of Global Women's Health at the

New York University School of Medicine (NYUMC). Her clinical work is at the New York Harbor VA and at Governor Health. At NYUMC, Dr. Ades has created an educational and research partnership with Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra, Ghana. She is also the Director of the EMPOWER Clinic for Survivors of Sex Trafficking and Sexual Violence at Governor Health on the Lower East Side.



**Gloria Fung Chaw**  
*Doctors for Global Health*

Gloria Fung Chaw is an internal medicine physician working as a primary care doctor in the South Bronx. She teaches residents from the Primary Care and Social Medicine Residency program at Einstein and also serves as the Associate Director of the Global Health and Clinical Skills Fellowship program. She has extensive field experience in clinical and programmatic work predominantly in Rwanda and Uganda. Since her time as an Einstein student (Class of 2008), she has collaborated with Doctors for Global Health and Kisoro District Hospital building and strengthening numerous community health initiatives, including the Village Health Worker Program and Chronic Care Clinic. In her current role as a Global Health faculty member she is

involved in teaching and mentoring medical students and residents overseas during their field elective in Kisoro, Uganda.

## Emerging Diseases & Epidemics



**Catherine Machalaba**

***EcoHealth Alliance***

Catherine is a policy advisor at EcoHealth Alliance. She supports the organization's efforts to operationalize One Health approaches for more coordinated and preventive systems that promote human, animal, and environmental health given their integral links. As part of the USAID Emerging Pandemic Threats PREDICT-2 project, she is currently analyzing the effectiveness of One Health policies and practices. Catherine manages the Future Earth oneHEALTH project, which seeks to understand the health implications of current and anticipated global environmental change to identify healthy and sustainable solutions. She works closely on One Health initiatives with the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), as well as the World

Bank. She holds a degree in biology from Wake Forest University, a Master's in Public Health from Dartmouth, and is currently a doctoral student in environmental and occupational health at City University of New York.



**Fabienne Laraque**

***NYC Department of Homeless Services***

Dr. Fabienne Laraque is an internal medicine physician with a preventive medicine/public health specialty and a master in public health, and she is a graduate of the CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service. From 1997 to 2011, Dr. Laraque worked at the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), in leadership and research positions in maternal and infant health, tuberculosis surveillance, and HIV Care, Treatment and Housing. In her various positions, Dr. Laraque conducted breaking ground research and developed and implemented innovative public health programs, such as the landmark Ryan White funded HIV comprehensive care coordination program. As a result of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, Dr. Laraque decided to join the CDC to implement a field epidemiology training program for the

Haitian Ministry of Health, as part of the Haitian Health System Reconstruction Program. She took her family to Haiti from 2011 to 2012. Upon returning to NYC at DOHMH, Dr. Laraque started working on viral hepatitis, and is now the Medical Director of NYC Department of Homeless Services.



**Alyssa Smaldino**

***Arnhold Institute for Global Health***

Alyssa Smaldino is Education Program Manager at the Arnhold Institute for Global Health. She is responsible for developing education and training programs that prepare medical students to become 21st century leaders in global healthcare. Alyssa has been an advocate for health equity since her undergraduate years, and most recently served as Executive Director of GlobeMed. She began working for GlobeMed in 2011 as Director of Partnerships. Over four life-changing years she visited 50 grassroots organizations in 19 countries and used the resultant data to develop training programs for students and grassroots leaders. For her work in this role, Alyssa received a Cordes Fellowship for "exceptional nonprofit leaders," and was

featured in podcasts, on panels, and in global health textbooks. Alyssa spends her free time volunteering with racial justice organizations, doing yoga and finding new ways to expand her knowledge.

## Roundtable Discussions



### **Renata Schiavo**

#### ***Health Equity Initiative***

Renata Schiavo, PhD, MA, CCL is a global health, public health, health equity, healthcare, health communication, and social innovation specialist with 20+ years of experience. Dr. Schiavo is Founding President, Board of Directors, *Health Equity Initiative*, a member-driven nonprofit membership organization dedicated to building and sustaining a global community that engages across sectors and disciplines to advance health equity. She is also a Senior Lecturer, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health; and Adjunct Associate Professor, Long Island University-Brooklyn. Renata has made major contributions to advancing the public's health. She is the author of the internationally acclaimed book, *Health Communication: From Theory to Practice*, now in its second edition, as well as 30+ publications and 130+ scientific presentations. As a researcher, advocate and practitioner, Renata is interested in community- and system-driven multisectoral models, partnerships, and interventions to address health, equity, and social issues. She has experience in 20+ health and medical areas, and has worked in the United States and several countries in Europe, Latin America, and Africa. Her consulting experience via Strategic Communication Resources, a global consulting practice she founded, includes leading organizations, both in the U.S. and globally. Her capacity building and training experience includes staff members and officers from 350+ organizations. Among her many honors, Dr. Schiavo was recognized as one 300 Women Leaders in Global Health by the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva (2015). A frequent speaker in a variety of U.S. and international settings, Renata is fluent in English, Italian, and Portuguese, and can read and understand Spanish and French.



### **Ashish Joshi**

#### ***CUNY School of Public Health***

Ashish Joshi's combined training in medicine, public health, and informatics provides unique opportunity to utilize innovative technology enabled interventions at the intersection of clinical care and population health. He continues to pursue his career as an applied researcher, mentor, administrator, innovator and an entrepreneur and designs, develop, implement and evaluate Sustainable, Multisector, Accessible, Affordable, Reimbursable and Tailored technology (SMAART) interventions to address population health challenges of the 21st century. He has designed and implemented more than 20 health technology systems in various languages including English, Portuguese, Creole, Spanish, and several other Indian dialects in urban, urban slum, rural and tribal settings. His research has been funded by various Federal agencies including NIH, AHRQ, US Department of Veteran Affairs, Fulbright, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Ministry of Health Brazil, Indian Council of Medical Research, Government of India, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and New York State AIDS Society and other private foundations and industry. His recent collaboration with Digital India, Government of India has been to explore innovatively on how technology can be used to address SDGs. He has also developed fully online certificate and an executive program in population health informatics and just wrote the first textbook on "Population Health Informatics: Driving Evidence Based Solutions into Practice" to be published by Jones Bartlett and will be available in fall 2017.



**Anna Abelson**  
*AMDD/Global Health Corps*

Anna Abelson is a Program Officer at Averting Maternal Death and Disability (AMDD) at Columbia University, focusing on disrespect and abuse in the US. Anna's interests sit at the intersection of health and human rights, and she is experienced in designing and implementing rigorous research with and for marginalized populations both in the US and abroad. Anna has previously focused on HIV and reproductive rights in sub-Saharan Africa with the Center for Public Health and Human Rights at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, where she was based in Cameroon. Prior to that position, Anna lived in Lusaka, Zambia, where she was a Program Officer and Global Health Corps Fellow at

Population Council and focused on abortion research through a program evaluation of the Prevention of Maternal Deaths from Unwanted Pregnancies project. Anna has a Master of Science of Public Health in Population, Family and Reproductive Health from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and a BA in Women and Gender Studies from Bates College.



**Valentina Buj**  
*UNICEF*

Mrs. Buj has been with UNICEF since 2008 as Global Malaria Advisor in the Health Section, Programme Division, New York. In her role with UNICEF, she assists countries to continue scaling up integrated malaria interventions, and works to foster greater harmonization among global malaria initiatives. Mrs. Buj spends much of her time working in malaria endemic countries, such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Kenya, Madagascar, Cameroon and Mozambique. Prior to joining UNICEF, Mrs Buj worked for the World Health Organization's Global Malaria Programme, the International Rescue Committee, the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Development Programme. She

holds a Master's Degree in Public Health, focusing on malaria control in refugee populations, as well as a Masters in International Affairs, focusing on Economic and Political Development and Refugee Law, both from Columbia University and has recently initiated her PhD (Epidemiology) with the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute focused on improved delivery of malaria interventions in difficult contexts. Her initial training is in biochemistry from Bryn Mawr University.



**Morgen Yao-Cohen**  
*Doctors for Global Health*

Morgen Yao-Cohen, MD is an Assistant Professor at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She attended medical school at Einstein and obtained residency training in internal medicine at UCSF Medical Center. Through her work with Doctors for Global Health, Morgen has conducted research in Kisoro, Uganda on cultural perceptions surrounding the practice of crude tonsillectomy. The organization's work in Mexico, El Salvador, Europe, Uganda, and the United States focuses on participatory investigation, partnering with local stakeholders to address the health needs of their communities.

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