Greetings to alumni, friends and colleagues!

When I first arrived at Pitt as a young Assistant Professor in 1978, Monto Ho, the chairman of the Department of Microbiology, was preparing to leave for a one-year sabbatical studying CMV immunology in Australia. Based on the Hebrew bible, as well as Latin and Greek terms, a sabbatical refers to an extended leave from one's job to both rest and learn new skills. From Leviticus 25: “six years you shall sow your field…but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of complete rest for the land, a sabbath for the Lord: you shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard”. Monto had done a sabbatical years before on interferon in Germany, and this time chose a different path. Clearly upon his return to Pittsburgh a year later, it was evident that Monto had a life-altering, rich experience ‘down under’.

It has taken me 25 years to decide to take a sabbatical leave since I was first able to. The idea came to me last January after I decided to learn the Italian language. I had always wanted to communicate in Italian with my Italian heritage parents and relatives. My story of not learning to speak Italian naturally as a child is common among my generation. Italian parents in the early-to-mid 20th century did not speak Italian to their children because they did not want their kids ostracized as ‘foreigners’ who couldn’t speak proper English. They had been through harsh prejudice as first-generation immigrants (i.e., first in their families to be naturally born USA citizens) for speaking Italian as well as English and did not want me to go through the same bigotry. Some things never change.
A message from the Chairman con’t……

So last year at age 70, I began a new journey - I took an Italian language immersion course at Middlebury College, followed by an intensive, self-learning Italian software course. I am now on a 6 month sabbatical leave in a laboratory at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center ISMETT hospital in Palermo, Sicily. I am working with Drs. Pier Giulio Conaldi, Alessia Gallo and Monica Mieli on developing an immunotherapy for preventing the herpesvirus KSHV (aka HHV-8) from causing severe primary non-malignant illnesses in organ transplant recipients, first detailed by ISMETT scientists (Pietrosi et al., Am J Transplant 11: 2715, 2011). The prevalence of KSHV infection is relatively high in southern Italy (ranging from 4% to 18% seropositive). Moreover, antiviral drugs have had minimal efficacy against KSHV. Our goal is to treat immunosuppressed organ transplant recipients with their own anti-KSHV killer T cells to prevent the development of disease, as has been successfully done for cytomegalovirus and Epstein-Barr virus.

My only other experience with a sabbatical was during my first year of graduate school at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 1969, when the hard-fisted chairman of my Department of Microbiology, Dr. Herbert R. Morgan, was ‘de-throned’ by the dean while he was away on sabbatical. The dean and faculty were so intimidated by and fearful of Dr. Morgan that they took the opportunity to remove his chairmanship clandestinely while he was far away, thus to avoid his thunder and lightning resistance. Hopefully, Dean Burke and my dear friend Dr. Phalguni Gupta, who is acting IDM chairman in my absence, will not have such intentions!

So at a time in life when most of my contemporaries are either retired, senile or dead, I have embarked on an exciting and challenging journey. I will let you know how it turns out.

Buona fortuna,

Charles Rienzi Rinaldo, Jr., Ph.D.
Chairman, IDM
Dr. Rinaldo suggested that I describe the early years of the Department and the Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH). Being one of the few remaining members of those early days, beginning in 1952, this seemed to be a good idea. However as I was composing my reflections I received the disturbing news of a proposal to remove Dr. Thomas Parran’s name from the main building. So I am defending Dr. Parran even under the present culture of judging persons on the basis of their negative accomplishments. His or her positive contributions, no matter how important, are ignored. Also, to paraphrase one of the sayings of Jesus, “Let him without sin, cast the first stone.”

I too condemn the Tuskegee and the Guatemala trials. Dr. Parran should have strongly protested. But, in judging him, we must consider his contributions to public health. Venereal diseases (called sexually transmitted diseases) were once not publicly discussed, even though they were among the most commonly occurring infectious diseases. Dr. Parran, as US Surgeon General, fostered public discussion and was instrumental in promoting the prevention and control of these diseases. For us in GSPH, he founded the School, led in the selection of the faculty. Under his leadership, the faculty, staff and students made the School one of the nationally and internationally recognized top schools of public health. Personally, I found him to be a caring and compassionate individual. I not only respect him, but like him as an outstanding human being. I will always consider the building to be Parran Hall.

![Department of Microbiology faculty, circa 1968.](image)

*Back Row:* Balwant Singh, Russell Rycheck, William Hammon, John Armstrong, Anders Otterland  
*Middle Row:* Monto Ho, Bosco Postic, Unknown, Gladys Sather, R. Wayne Atchison  
*Bottom Row:* Yang Ke, H. Michael Utidjian, Robert Yee
Martinique Free (IDM 2006 MPH), who is now faculty with the Department of Health Studies at the American University in Washington, DC, recently addressed the Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls to discuss missing black women and girls nationwide. The convening addressed the many structural and institutional components contributing to the issues, including economic disadvantages and/or poverty in communities of color and lack of public awareness or response to missing black women and girls. She spoke specifically to the heightened risk for women and girls who are sexually trafficked as it relates to the contraction of HIV/STIs. Nancy Pelosi attended the presentation for some time.

Luc Blazejewski (IDM 2015 MPH) recently began a new position of Quality Management Coordinator at Positive Health Clinic of Allegheny Health Network. As a participant in the Peace Corps Master’s International program at GSPH, Luc graduated from the MPH-MIC program in 2015 after serving in Peace Corps Kenya. Since graduation, Luc has been the Pharmacy Services Manager at a growing pharmacy in Toledo, Ohio.

Neuro-Oncology Researcher Gary Kohanbash at Children’s Hospital Receives Grant from St. Baldrick’s Foundation

Gary Kohanbash, PhD (IDM 2012), a neuro-oncology researcher and assistant professor of neurological surgery at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, has been awarded a scholar grant of $298,000 from the St. Baldrick’s Foundation, a volunteer-driven charity dedicated to raising money for childhood cancer research. These grants provide resources to institutions to conduct more research and enroll more children in ongoing clinical trials. Kohanbash and his team will look at improving immunotherapy for ependymomas, the third most common kind of brain tumor in children.

“As a scientist and a father, I am driven to help save kids from brain cancers, so I am very excited about the potential of immunotherapy. Unimaginable advances within the last 10 years are enabling us to create new, safer and more effective treatments,” said Kohanbash, who works at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC. “With this funding from the St. Baldrick's Foundation, I am hopeful that we can bridge the gap between lab research and clinical care for kids with ependymomas.”

Sara Miller Strowd, MD (IDM 2010 MPH), went onto medical school at Loyola in Chicago. She graduated and entered an anesthesia residency there. Sara recently learned that she received the Global Anesthesia Fellowship.
Amarendra Pegu, PhD (IDM 2007). Dr. Pegu did his dissertation work under Dr. Todd Reinhart, studying response of the lymphatic endothelium to inflammation and infection by SIV. Following graduation, he joined the laboratory of legendary vaccine researcher Gary Nabel at NIH as a post-doctoral fellow. Amar’s hard work and perseverance paid off when he published his first paper in Science Translational Medicine in 2014, and subsequently in Nature Communications in 2015 and in Science in 2017, not to mention he is a co-author in another 20 publications including other high profile journals Nature, Nature Medicine, and J. Virology. Amar’s major contribution is in antibody-mediated vaccine development against HIV. Amar keeps a low profile in social circles. However, that was not a detriment to finding his wife, Dr. Poonam Pegu (IDM 2007 PhD), now a scientist at Walter Reed. Amar is currently a Staff Scientist at the NIH. Amar and his wife Poonam have a 6 yr old daughter (Avni) and a 3 year old son (Siddhartha). Whenever Amar has the time (which is rare), he loves cooking and enjoys music.

Mimi Ghosh, PhD (IDM 2005) did her PhD work under Dr. Todd Reinhart involving application of differential gene expression analysis in SIV-induced neuropathogenesis. Mimi always had an interest in women’s causes. Such interest was galvanized in her post-doctoral work at Dartmouth Medical School under Dr. Charles Wira where she studied HIV-1 pathogenesis and transmission in female reproductive tract and the effect of reproductive hormones. This work has resulted in more than 25 papers in a span of 6 years. In 2011 she joined School of Public Health at George Washington University as an Assistant Professor. She continued to work on women’s health issues at GW. She projects herself as a laid-back person, but her activities at GW do not portray her like this. Besides being involved in regular faculty activities, she managed to be awarded a number of NIH and internal grants, including a recent 5 year RO1 grant on sexual trauma and HIV susceptibility among women. She is a soft-spoken person and has a big heart to help others. She is the Co-founder and Chief Communication and Compliance Officer of International Kionditi Development Initiative (I-KODI), a non-profit organization that promotes development of education and health conditions in Kenya. See: http://ikodi.org/who-we-are/board-of-directors/. Somehow she found time to be married to Dr. Tahir Malik, a scientist at the FDA.

Congratulations to alumnus Charles John Schleupner, MD (IDM 1968 MS), an infectious disease specialist and doctor at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Salem, Virginia. He has been appointed to the Dean’s Council on Advancement for the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine. The council is a committee of volunteers created to advance the stature of the medical school by providing guidance, assistance, advocacy, and philanthropic investment in support of the school’s strategic objectives.

Previously Schleupner worked as chief of medical services at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Reno and professor and vice chair of the department of medicine at the University of Nevada. He has also co-directed the program in internal medicine at the University of Virginia in Salem since 1992.
Coming Home
Charles Rinaldo, Ph.D., Chairman

This January, after more than 50 years, almost all the faculty and staff offices and meeting rooms of the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology (IDM) are in Parran Hall. The building underwent a complete renovation during the past several years led by Dean Donald Burke. I speak for the entire IDM faculty in stating our delight and satisfaction with our new quarters. What is particularly special is that it integrates most of our primary faculty members and staff on one uninterrupted 2nd floor of Parran Hall. Included is dedicated office space for our postdoctoral fellows and graduate students. Moreover, we are now only a few steps from our IDM laboratories in the school’s adjacent new research pavilion. We offer an open invitation to all alumni, former staff and friends of IDM to visit, especially during the upcoming Pitt Public Health 70th anniversary alumni reunion and building rededication on March 16–17, 2018 (see below).

70th ANNIVERSARY ALUMNI REUNION and BUILDING Rededication

MARCH 16–17, 2018

Celebrate the history and future of public health education, practice, and research at Pitt Public Health during a grand celebration marking 70 years since the founding of the school. At the same time, we’ll host our second-ever all-classes alumni reunion and a building rededication ceremony recognizing the completion of our six-year, $80 million “Building for a Healthier World” renovation and expansion project. With this investment in our facilities, the school is uniquely equipped to fulfill our three-component mission of research, education, and service to benefit human health. Join fellow alumni—outstanding practitioners, researcher scientists, policy-makers, educators, and thought-leaders from around the world—in proudly celebrating 70 years of public health leadership!

Click to register
MidAtlantic AETC Collaboration with Venango County Drug Overdose Task Force Community Engagement Event and Clinical Conference in Franklin, PA  
September 21, 2017

The MidAtlantic AETC held two conferences in Franklin, PA as part of our ongoing relationship with the Venango County Drug Overdose Task Force and PA State Senator Scott Hutchinson’s office. This was the culmination of about a year of collaborative work after Dr. Linda Frank met with Senator Hutchinson at Pitt Day in Harrisburg in 2016. Over 50 community members and over 40 local clinicians were in attendance.

Speakers at the Venango County Task Force Event (left to right)

**Antoine Douaihy, MD**, Medical Director, Addiction Medicine Services, University of Pittsburgh, Department of Psychiatry and MidAtlantic AETC faculty

**Mark Fuller, MD**, CEO, Value Behavioral Health of Pennsylvania, Inc.

**Linda Frank, PhD, MSN, ACRN, FAAN**, Professor of Public Health, Medicine, & Nursing, University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health, Principal Investigator, MidAtlantic AETC

Pennsylvania Senator Scott Hutchinson for the 21st District

Pennsylvania Interprofessional HIV Conference, State College PA  
October 24-25, 2017

The MidAtlantic AETC hosted a two-day conference for health professionals working in HIV prevention and treatment. There were 78 participants from across Pennsylvania who were engaged in presentations focused around interprofessional education. Several presenters and facilitators at this conference were representing the IDM Department, including Dr. Linda Frank, Dr. Derrick Matthews, Dr. Oladoyin Desalu, and Marilyn Blasingame.

Allegheny County Health Department STD Clinic  
October 18, 2017

The MidAtlantic AETC HIV Educators held a training for the STD Clinic staff at the Allegheny County Health Department on “Giving Positive HIV Test Results.” This is one example of the ongoing collaboration and education that the AETC conducts in Pittsburgh and throughout the MidAtlantic region.
Spotlight News…

IDM Staff Recognition
June 28, 2017

Please join us in applauding the following for their service and commitment to the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology

5 Years

David Givens, Project Director of the HIV Prevention and Care Project & Associate Director & Co-founder of the Center for Mindfulness and Consciousness Studies

Susan Winters, Data Analyst for the PA/MidAlantic AETC, and Dr. Linda Frank
IDM Announces 2017 Public Health Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to

Instituted in 2004 to recognize academic excellence among incoming Master of Public Health and Master of Science students, the IDM Public Health Scholarship has again been awarded to three new master’s level students. The scholarship is based on academic merit which includes undergraduate grades and Graduate Record Examination scores. The student’s letters of recommendation are also reviewed during the selection process. This year’s recipients are:

Byron Chuan (MS)

- **Undergrad:** University of Pittsburgh
- **Major:** Biology
- **Hometown:** Atherton, CA
- **Interests:** Boxing Judo & SSBM

Saniya Sabnis (MPH-PEL)

- **Undergrad:** University of Pittsburgh
- **Major:** Chemistry – Bioscience focus
- **Hometown:** Monroeville, PA
- **Interests:** Reading, Hiking & Learning the Guitar

Jessica Salerno (MPH-MIC)

- **Undergrad:** University of Pittsburgh
- **Major:** Anthropology
- **Hometown:** Pittsburgh, PA
- **Interests:** Traveling, Reading & Animals

Support for this scholarship is provided by the Bob Yee Fund in the department. Donations to this fund can be made by personal check to the University of Pittsburgh, subscript “The Bob Yee Fund”, and sent to: University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health, Attn: Ms. Robin Tierno, A419B Crabtree Hall, 130 DeSoto Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261. Contact Ms. Tierno with questions at: 412-624-3105 or email: rtierno@pitt.edu
Phalguni Gupta, PhD as well as Simon Barratt-Boyes, BVSc, PhD are leading a group of Pitt faculty engaged in AIDS research who received a 1 million dollar T32 training grant from the NIH for five years. This grant is now in its twelfth year. This year the grant will train three new predoctoral researchers, and two have been reappointed for an additional year in the study of HIV/AIDS. The PART Program is based on concepts of interdisciplinary courses and collaborative basic research that provide the foundation for understanding HIV/AIDS and controlling the epidemic.

Congratulations to this year’s trainees:

**Appointed Fellowship 2017/2018**

Nicole Grant (IDM Program)  
**Research:** “Uncovering Functional and Spatial T Cell Parameters in Granuloma Pathology and Bacterial Control in Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Infection of Non-Human Primates”  
Mentor: JoAnne Flynn, PhD

Benni Vargas (MVM Program)  
**Research:** “Silencing the HIV Provirus”  
Mentor: Nic Sluis-Cremer, PhD

Kindra Whitlatch (MVM Program)  
**Research:** “Structural Basis of Tec Family Kinase Activation by HIV-1 Nef at Biological Membranes”  
Mentor: Thomas Smithgall, PhD

**Reappointed 2nd yr. Fellowship**

Ben Policicchio (IDM Program)  
**Research:** “Quantifying Immune vs. Viral Killing in SIV Productively and Latently Infected Cells”  
Mentor: Ivana Pandrea, MD, PhD

Ryan Staudt (MVM Program)  
**Research:** “Mapping the Binding Site for Small Molecule Inhibitors on HIV-1 Nef”  
Mentor: Thomas Smithgall, Ph.D.

**CONGRATULATIONS…..**

Georgie Scott, MPH-PEL Program, received a $1,000 award from the Pitt Public Health scholarship “Campaign for the Next 5000 Alumni”, as a result of the Department of IDM’s nomination. Criteria for such an award, includes academic performance, financial need, and faculty recommendation.

Ashlyn Lancaster, MPH-PEL Program, was awarded $500 for the Russell Rule Rycheck Award for a Promising Public Health Student. As someone who often spoke of the physician’s traditional black bag of tools and believed that public health professionals should also have a similar “professional bag”, Dr. Rycheck established this award as a way to enable students to develop their own “professional bag” of tools and skills needed to effect change in the public’s health. Dr. Rycheck served on the faculty of the Department of Epidemiology for 42 years. He was both a physician and an epidemiologist, and his devotion to teaching and mentoring benefited countless Pitt Public Health students.
And the Award Goes To ……

IDM Annual Research Day
September 14, 2017

Congratulations to this year’s Poster Winners!!!

PhD Presentations

1st Place: Lyndsay Avery

“TIM-3 Co-Stimulation Promotes Short-Term Effector T Cells, Restricts memory Precursors and is Dispensable for T Cell Exhaustion”
Advisor: Dr. Lawrence Kane

2nd Place: Parichat Duangkhae

“Interplay Between Keratinocytes and Myeloid Cells Drives Dengue Virus Spread in Human Skin”
Advisor: Dr. Simon Barratt-Boyes

3rd Place: Michael Kujawa

“Cytokine Response in the Encephalitic Disease Model of Lewis Rats Infected with Rift Valley Fever Virus”
Advisor: Dr. Amy Hartman
And the Award Goes To ……

**MS Presentations**

1\textsuperscript{st} Place:
John Mandell

“Cationic Amphipathic Peptide WLBU2 Eradicates S. Aureus Biofilms Associated with Periprosthetic Joint Infection”
Advisor: Dr. Kenneth Urish

2\textsuperscript{nd} Place:
Matthew Good

“Impact of Zika Virus on Human Dendritic Cell Survival and Function”
Advisor: Dr. Robbie Mailliard

3\textsuperscript{rd} Place:
Michael Yee

“Approaches to Visualize Varicella Zoster Virus Genomes in Live Cell and Neuron Cultures”
Advisor: Dr. Paul (Kip) Kinchington
And the Award Goes To ……

MPH-MIC Presentations

1st Place:
Erica Berry

“Factors Influencing the Utilization of Intermittent Preventative Treatment in Pregnant Women in Sub-Saharan Africa”
Advisor: Dr. Derrick Matthews

2nd Place:
Daniel Lomauro

“Improving PA PDMP Utilization in Providing Patient Care”
Advisor: Dr. Linda Frank

3rd Place Tie:
JT Stoner

“Guy Talk: A Guide to Educating and Empowering Young Men to Develop Healthy Relationships and Sexual Practices”
Advisor: Dr. Mackey Friedman

3rd Place Tie:
Jocelin Teachout

“Strategies to Reduce the High Cost of Hepatitis C Treatment: A Literature Review”
Advisor: Dr. Mackey Friedman
And the Award Goes To ……

MPH-PEL Presentations

1st Place:       Megan Beary

“Quantitative Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction Assay to Detect and Quantify Francisella Tularensis in Infected Rabbit Tissues”
Advisor: Dr. Doug Reed

2nd Place:       Vessela Miladinova

“Development of Educational Products for PDMP System User and Stakeholder”
Advisor: Dr. Jeremy Martinson

3rd Place:       Scott Chadwell

“Measures of Equity and Their Role in Vaccination Coverage”
Advisor: Dr. Jeremy Martinson

We would like to thank the 14 Judges who were assigned to review the posters: 2 for MS, 4 for PhD, 6 for MPH. The Judges were:

MS: Tatiana Garcia-Bates, PhD (IDM), Giovanna Rappocciolo, PhD (IDM), Robbie Mailliard, PhD (IDM)
PhD: Moses Bility, PhD (IDM), Josh Mattila, PhD (IDM), Paolo Piazza, PhD (IDM), David Rowe, PhD (IDM), Jay Venkatatchari (IDM)
MPH-PEL: Yue Chen, PhD (IDM), Derrick Matthews, PhD, MPH (IDM), Alexander Sundermann, MPH (Epi)
MPH-MIC: Linda Frank, PhD, (IDM), Mackey Friedman, PhD (IDM), Martha Terry, PhD (BCHS)
Kellie Smith, IDM PhD 2013 graduate, and her husband Mike Swecker welcomed a baby girl, Easter Vaughn Eleanora Swecker on September 8, 2017.

**Congratulations to the Smith & Swecker Families!**

Emilee Knowlton Andrianos, IDM PhD 2012 graduate, and her husband Theo welcomed a baby girl, Lillianna Rose Marie on October 26, 2017.

**Congratulations to the Knowlton & Andrianos Families!**

Jessica Radzio-Basu, IDM PhD 2010 graduate, and her husband Saurabh welcomed a baby girl, Maya Lee Basu on November 6, 2017.

**Congratulations to the Radzio & Basu Families!**
Morgan Midgett, Awarded MS  
April 6, 2017

Advisor: Dr. Doug Reed

Henry Ma, Awarded MPH-PEL  
April 10, 2017

Essay: “Investigation of the Natural History of Equine Encephalitis Viruses with Radiofrequency Telemetry for Detection of Subclinical Disease Patterns”  
Advisor: Dr. Doug Reed

MacKenzie Bryant, Awarded MS  
April 11, 2017

Thesis: “Determining the Variability in the Lung Microbiome Throughout the Course of M. tuberculosis Infection”  
Advisor: Dr. Joanne Flynn
Yunhan Jiang, Awarded MS  
April 13, 2017

Thesis: “Characterization of Memory Cytotoxic T Lymphocyte Responses in Chronic HIV-1 Infected Individuals”  
Advisor: Dr. Paolo Piazza

Joe Albe, Awarded MPH-PEL  
April 13, 2017

Pranali Ravikumar, Awarded MS  
April 18, 2017

Thesis: “Programming Dendritic Cells for Intercellular Delivery of T-bet to Enhance Function of Cytotoxic T Cells”  
Advisor: Dr. Robbie Mailliard

Dana Woell, Awarded MPH-PEL  
April 18, 2017

Essay: “Impact of H5N1 Influenza Virus Infection of Macaques on Natural Killer Cells and Innate Lymphoid Cell Populations”  
Advisor: Dr. Simon Barratt-Boyes
Noah Salama, Awarded MS
April 19, 2017

Thesis: “Analysis of Peripheral Immune Responses for the Development of an NHP Animal Model for Encephalitic Alphaviruses EEV, VEEV, and WEEV”
Advisor: Dr. Amy Hartman

Hong Liu, Awarded MS
April 20, 2017

Thesis: “Glucose Transporter Expression in Lung Granulomas from Mycobacterium tuberculosis-Infected Monkeys”
Advisor: Dr. Josh Mattila

Gregory Shedlock, Awarded MPH-MIC
April 20, 2017

Essay: “A literature Review and Analysis of Organizational Frameworks and Systems-Level Outcomes of HIV Primary Care Integration”
Advisor: Dr. Derrick Matthews

Julie Laux, Awarded MPH-PEL
April 20, 2017

Essay: “CCR5 Antagonists Used as Topical Microbicides Modulate CCR5 Expression and May Compound HIV Infection”
Advisor: Dr. Charlene Dezzutti
Phil Han, Awarded MS  
April 21, 2017

Thesis: “Chemical-Biology Approach to Delineate the Mechanism on Action of HIV-1 Latency reversing Agents”  
Advisor: Dr. Nic Sluis-Cremer

Chris Healy, Awarded MS  
June 15, 2017

Thesis: “Evaluation of a Novel Computationally Designed Prophylactic Against Pandemic Influenza Virus in the Ferret Model”  
Advisor: Dr. Kelly Stefano Cole

Marilee Clunk, Awarded MS  
June 19, 2017

Thesis: “Siglec-10, CD1b, and Palladin are Differentially Expressed Between HIV- Progressors and Nonprogressors”  
Advisor: Dr. Jeremy Martinson

Tiffany Thompson, Awarded MPH  
June 23, 2017

Essay: “A Literature Review of the Histology of Rift Valley Fever Virus Neurological Disease Comparing Rodent and NHP Models to Human Disease”  
Advisor: Dr. Amy Hartman
Mariah Cole, Awarded MS
August 7, 2017

Thesis: “Pre and Post Serconversion Gut Microbiome Analysis in HIV-Infected Individuals”
Advisor: Dr. Charles Rinaldo

Ben Policicchio, Awarded PhD
December 7, 2017

Dissertation: “Use of Integrase Inhibitor to Assess the Cytotoxic T Lymphocyte Response During Simian Immunodeficiency Virus Infection in Rhesus Macaques”
Advisor: Dr. Ivona Pandrea

Taylor Poston, Awarded PhD
October 16, 2017

Dissertation: “T-cell Dependent and Independent Mechanisms of Chlamydial Eradication and Control”
Advisor: Dr. Charles Rinaldo

Ruhee Jain, Awarded MPH
December 13, 2017

Essay: “Understanding the Role of Astrocytes in HIV-1 Neuropathogenesis: Novel Strategies to Target Astrocyte Function and HIV-1 Associated Neurocognitive Disorder”
Advisor: Dr. Velpandi Ayyavoo
Noreen Chatta, Awarded MPH  
December 13, 2017

Essay: “Identification of Major Barriers and Solutions in Effective Vaccination Coverage for Refugees in Conflict Zones”  
Advisor: Dr. Derrick Matthews

Alison Feathers, Awarded MPH  
December 13, 2017

Essay: “Hepatitis C in Allegheny County: 2015-2016”  
Advisor: Dr. Derrick Matthews

Jocelin Teachout, Award MPH  
December 13, 2017

Essay: “Strategies to Reduce the High Cost of Hepatitis C Treatment: A Literature Review”  
Advisor: Dr. Mackey Friedman
Visit the IDM website at:
http://www.publichealth.pitt.edu/idm

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