

Center for Medicine, Health, and Society



Newsletter No. 2 / Spring 2015



From our Chair

It is my great pleasure to introduce the second annual newsletter of the Vanderbilt Center for Medicine, Health, and Society (MHS). The newsletter is a collaborative project of the faculty, staff, and students at our center, and represents an attempt to spread the word about our accomplishments, goals, and future plans. I particularly want to thank **Dominique Béhague** and **Nadia Rahman** for their tremendous efforts in pulling together this second volume.

As this newsletter attests, the past year has seen steady and important growth at MHS. The center continues to evolve into a cutting-edge research and teaching center that boasts a growing cohort of world-class scholars, expanding, innovative undergraduate and graduate curricula, and a number of vital projects and initiatives.

Our curriculum continues to thrive. We now offer over 60 MHS courses, and have nearly 450 [undergraduate majors](#) and a smaller number of minors. Our undergraduate major in MHS offers seven important concentration areas, driven by student interest and faculty expertise in global health; policy and health economics; health sciences; race, inequality, and health; and medicine, humanities, and the arts. We've also developed a new master's degree program—the M.A. in [Social Foundations of Health](#) and collaborate with a number of other departments to help support Ph.D. students.

MHS has become a hub for pioneering research and first-rate teaching that focuses on the many, diverse aspects of healthcare solutions. Our robust cohort of core [faculty](#) spans a continuum of expertise including mental health, global health, health policy and health economics, research ethics, military mental health, men's health and racial disparities, gender and disability studies, literature and medicine, and pre-med curricular innovation, to name but a few!

Jonathan Metz, M.D., Ph.D.,

Frederick B. Rentschler II Professor of Sociology and Medicine, Health, and Society

Director, Center for Medicine, Health, and Society

Professor of Psychiatry

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

jonathan.metzl@vanderbilt.edu

<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/mhs@JonathanMetz>

Two new faculty members will join MHS next year. **Tara McKay** is a sociologist from UCLA, and recently an Robert Wood Johnson health policy scholar at UC Berkeley/UCSF, who studies global health policy and health systems, particularly as they mobilize around the global response to AIDS. McKay will teach courses that explore the social determinants of health and global responses to health crises. And **Odie Lindsey** is an award-winning fiction writer and teacher whose story from the *Iowa Review*, *Evie M.* was just selected to appear in the Best American Short Stories 2014. Lindsey will teach medicine and literature, writing, and courses related to the literature of the U.S. South.

Our faculty have published important articles and books, won major grants and awards, made appearances on [MSNBC](#) and [NPR](#), and seen their research featured in such places as *The New York Times*, *Time* magazine, *the Guardian*, and *The Daily Beast*. With the added expertise of more than 90 jointly appointed and affiliated faculty members, the center is truly an trans-institutional node that bridges Vanderbilt's many institutional strengths.

Over the past year, we've hosted cross-campus [events](#) on such topics as [Ebola in Perspective](#), [Art, Design, and Adaptive Technologies](#), and [Men's Health and the Politics of Masculinity](#), and hosted an international conference on [Global Mental Health](#). And thanks to a generous grant from the REAM Foundation we've collaborated with the Anna Julia Cooper Center at Wake Forest on a conference on [Gender, Health, and the South](#) and with the Mode d'emploi arts festival in Lyon, France on a [program](#) about the politics of disease. Our center is also developing collaborative curricular and research projects in such locales as East London, Rio de Janeiro, Guatemala, and South Africa.

These and other initiatives are continually updated on our website, www.vanderbilt.edu/mhs, and our doors are always open to students, parents, scholars, community members, and all others. We hope that you will visit often and stay tuned as we grow!

MHS Faculty and Staff

Jonathan Metzl | Frederick B. Rentschler II Professor of Sociology and MHS | Director of MHS | Professor of Psychiatry

JuLeigh Petty | Assistant Director and Senior Lecturer of MHS

Hector Myers | Professor of MHS | Psychology

Dominique Béhague | Director of Undergraduate Studies and Associate Professor of MHS | Anthropology | Center for Latin American Studies

Derek Griffith | Associate Professor of MHS | General Internal Medicine and Public Health | Health Policy | Sociology | Director, Institute for Research on Men's Health

Martha Jones | Associate Professor of MHS

Aimi Hamraie | Assistant Professor of MHS

Kenneth MacLeish | Assistant Professor of MHS | Anthropology

Amy Non | Assistant Professor of MHS | Anthropology

Lijun Song | Assistant Professor of Sociology | MHS

Laura Stark | Assistant Professor of MHS | History

Tara McKay | Assistant Professor of MHS

Courtney Muse | Director of Advising and Senior Lecturer of MHS

Elisabeth Sandberg | Psychology | Senior Lecturer of MHS

Odie Lindsey | Senior Lecturer of MHS

Nadia Rahman | Grants Manager

Sheena Avery | Program Administrator | Communications Specialist

Jordaan McGill | Undergraduate Student Staff

Hannah Florian | Undergraduate Student Staff

Nabiha Mallick | Undergraduate Student Staff

For a list of secondary faculty, please see <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/mhs/people>

Join the MHS Alumni Association! Please subscribe at <http://list.vanderbilt.edu> and search for MHS-ALUMNI in the Subscriber's Corner. Stay tuned for alumni events, news, and professional networking opportunities!

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NEWS

MHS Welcomes New Faculty

TARA MCKAY (Assistant Professor of MHS) received her Ph.D. in sociology from UCLA and is currently completing a RWJ Health Policy Research Scholar postdoc at UC Berkeley/UCSF. McKay’s areas of interest include medical sociology, gender and sexualities, global/transnational sociology, international organizations, demographic and survey research, and qualitative methods, and her courses in MHS will include Responding to Global Health Crises and a series of classes that address global health, research methods, and the social implications of health policies. A prolific and diverse researcher, her scholarship explores the social, political and economic contexts that shape health and health policy with a focus on vulnerable populations in the U.S. and Africa. Key publications include studies of global AIDS policy; the role of [clinical trials](#) in providing access to basic health care in the U.S.; substance use, sexual identity formation and community membership among [young African American and Latino gay men](#) in the U.S.; doctor-patient interactions in [HIV/AIDS](#) care in the U.S.; and [relationship-level dynamics](#) among HIV positive bisexual men. Recently, she has also begun two new projects examining how the Affordable Care Act will affect communities and how social networks affect health among older LGBT populations. McKay’s research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the American Council for Learned Societies, and she received an Excellence in Teaching Award from the Department of Sociology at UCLA.



ODIE LINDSEY (Senior Lecturer of MHS) received his M.A. in Southern Studies from the University of Mississippi and his MFA in writing from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. A combat veteran, Lindsey’s creative and scholarly work often examines the cross-currents of war, gender, sexuality, and the South, likewise the role of the body in southern literature and culture. Lindsey’s MHS courses include Medicine and Literature, Medicine, Health and the Body, and Documenting the Body. He is managing editor of the forthcoming *Mississippi Encyclopedia* (University Press of Mississippi) and his writing appears in *Best American Short Stories*, the *Iowa Review*, *Columbia*, the Harper Perennial anthology *Forty Stories* and elsewhere. Lindsey’s novel and short story collection are both forthcoming from W.W. Norton. (Here’s a link to his *Iowa Review* story, “Evie M.,” which was reprinted in *Best American Short Stories 2014*, and to the anthology [Forty Stories: New Writing from Harper Perennial](#), which features the story, “Hers.”)



Faculty engage with health politics and policies

Over the past year, MHS faculty, through research, teaching, public talks, and political engagement became increasingly involved in providing solutions to some of the most pressing healthcare issues facing our state, nation, and world. For instance, MHS faculty have given a number of public talks about the health implications of [gun policy](#), [mental health](#), [military mental health](#), the Affordable Care Act, and evidence-based medicine in global health. They have engaged students in activism projects to examine gendered aspects of health and health policy, food inequalities in Nashville, and access

to transit and public space for people with disabilities. MHS faculty have become leading voices for using research to help shape policy around mental health service delivery in the U.S., the role and scope of institutional review boards, urban design, the gendering of mental illness, men’s health, and mental health and [gun control policy](#). At the international level, MHS faculty have been leaders in global mental health and health care in Brazil, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom.

MHS partners with Wake Forest

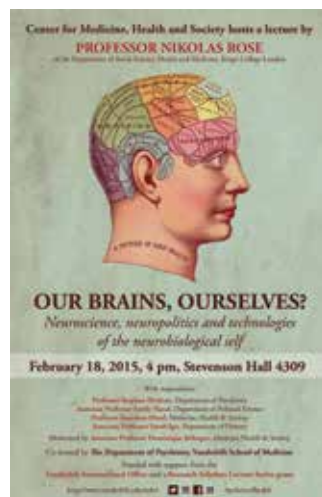
On April 16 and 17, MHS teamed with the [Anna Julia Cooper Center](#) at Wake Forest University, directed by Professor [Melissa Harris-Perry](#), to co-host a [two-day symposium](#) that explored the intersections of gender, race, region, and health in the U.S. South. Six MHS faculty traveled to Winston-Salem, North Carolina for the symposium, which served as the first of three planned collaborations between MHS and the AJC Center. In 2016-17, MHS will host the second symposium, on “The Politics of Health in the South,” in Nashville.



Alumni Notes

Yvonne Carter, Class of 2011, recently graduated from the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing and plans on traveling to Ecuador for approximately four months through the Nashville-based Center for Contemplative Justice as a 2015 Frist Global Health Leader. Once there, she will focus her attention on non-communicable diseases and adult health in order to complete an in-depth community health assessment and foster community partnerships and relationships in the area. She accredits much of her continued success to the programs she experienced as an MHS student as well as her departmental mentors and professors, many of whom played a central role in shaping her passion for global health and her commitment to social justice.

Katie Cardenas, Class of 2012, currently lives in Washington D.C.. After two years of working in consulting (pricewaterhousecoopers), she now works for Oceana, the largest ocean conservation non-profit. As she told us, “My MHS degree definitely gave me the education to hold a strong conversation about food politics and health to get this position.”



Cross-disciplinary fertilization in global mental health

In February 2015, MHS hosted a workshop, the first in a series of events for a project entitled “[Contested Global Biopsychiatry: Establishing an International Partnership For Critical and Constructive Global Mental Health.](#)” The project is funded with support from the [Vanderbilt International Office](#), a [Research Scholars Lecture Series grant](#) and led by Professor **Dominique Béhague** (PI) and Professor **Jonathan Metzl** and **Kenneth MacLeish** (Co-Is). The keynote, delivered by Professor **Nikolas Rose** of the [Department of Social Science, Health and Medicine](#), at King’s College London, was entitled, “Our Brains, Ourselves? Neuroscience, neuropolitics and technologies of the neurobiological self.” Panelists **Stephan Heckers** (Psychiatry), **Emily Nacol** (Political Science), **Jonathan Metzl** (MHS), and **Sarah Igo** (History) provided commentaries. Overall the workshop also established links with eminent scholars from the humanities, the social sciences, medicine, psychiatry, and public health based at Vanderbilt University and at three partner universities, [King’s College London](#), the [State University of Rio de Janeiro](#), and the [London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine](#), who came together to enhance cross-disciplinary debate and inter-fertilization in current debates on the globalization of psychiatry and in the emerging field of global mental health. Through publications and an ongoing speaker series, future work seeks to contribute positively global mental health while also furthering critical and nuanced understandings of the political sensibilities at stake in the globalization of health expertise.

Cross-campus dialogue on Ebola

On November 12th, 2014 MHS hosted a cross-campus panel entitled “[Ebola in Perspective: Health, Panic, and Politics.](#)” The panel brought clinicians and public health experts involved in treating the Ebola virus into conversation with humanists, social scientists, and students who study the cultural tropes and mainstream stereotypes that spread alongside the virus. The panel included contributions from Vanderbilt Professors **William Schaffner** (School of Medicine), **Dianna Bell** (Religious Studies), **Mukhtar Aliyu** (Institute for Global Health), **Dominique Béhague** (MHS), and **Jonathan Metzl** (MHS) as well





Ebola (continued)

as from MHS M.A. student **Else Sharp**. Framing questions for the panel included: how can we separate reasoned preparation from blind panic? In what ways does the spread of Ebola expose connections between local practices and global networks, impact travel or interpersonal interactions, or alter categories of “us” and “them”? How might the lessons of ethnography and history better inform our present-day response? And what are the implications for training students and health-care workers?

Men’s Health Report Card

Professor **Derek Griffith**, the director of the **Institute for Research on Men’s Health** in MHS, led the 2014 edition of the **Tennessee Men’s Health Report Card**: an initiative that brings together over 35 stakeholder organizations, seven universities, and state and local health departments to collate and disseminate a set of indicators to monitor men’s health and the factors that influence men’s health outcomes. This version of the report card also was launched at regional events across the state to highlight **the need** and create the opportunity for **local stakeholders** to discuss what the face of men’s health has looked like in their area. While this is the third in the series of **TN Men’s Health Report Cards**, this version of the report card garnered attention state and national attention, including several state and national organizations that are actively working to adapt this format to describe men’s health in their contexts. Specifically, this version of the report card has been identified as a model to shape a much-needed national men’s health report, since the U.S. is one of only a few industrialized nations without a systematic strategy for describing the health of men and informing national policies that influence men’s health.

Art, design and ‘Investigating Normal’

Artist and design researcher **Sara Hendren** delivered a lecture entitled, “Investigating Normal” on February 24 for an event organized by Professor **Aimi Hamraie**. Hendren, whose work appears in the permanent collection at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, is assistant professor of design at Olin College of Engineering. Her talk focused on contemporary technologies that challenge assumptions about normal bodies and encourage more creative thinking about disability. The standing-room-only event drew audience members from across the university and had broad interdisciplinary support. Panelists **Claire Sisco King** (Communication Studies), **Lutz Koepnik** (Media Studies), **Kevin Murphy** (Art History), and **Blythe Corbett** (Neuroscience) offered commentary. MHS co-sponsored the event with support from **Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities**, the **Curb Center for Art, Enterprise, and Public Policy**, the **Comparative Media Arts Project**, the **Department of Art History**, the **Department of Communication Studies**, **American Studies**, and the **Department of Teaching and Learning**. The event was live tweeted at #InvestigatingNormal. Earlier in the day, Hendren visited Hamraie’s class, MHS 242: Bionic Bodies, Cyborg Cultures, which heavily features her work.



Undergraduate Student Highlights

Two MHS students, **Karthik Yarlagadda** and **Holly Glass**, successfully presented posters at the American Association of Physical Anthropology in St. Louis, Missouri. Holly Glass’s exemplary writing was featured at the Vanderbilt Undergraduate Writing Symposium on March 29. Her paper was entitled, “*The risks and benefits of uncovering the past through genetic ancestry.*”

Under the guidance of Professor **Laura Stark**, Vanderbilt student **Kaitlyn Berry** (‘13) published a review of the edited volume, *The Neurological Patient in History in the Journal for the History of the Behavioral Sciences*. Berry worked with Stark on honors research, which resulted in this book review.

Holly Glass and **Emma Kelly** each presented research this summer related to a bioethics project regarding public perspectives on seeking genetics testing at the Vanderbilt Summer Science Academy poster session and the Vanderbilt Undergraduate Summer Research Program Presentation Series, respectively. They both completed their summer research under the mentorship of Professor **Amy Non** and Professor **Nanibaa’ Garrison**. Both students also presented this research at the Vanderbilt Undergraduate Research Fair and Poster session on Sept 1st 2015. Holly Glass won 2nd place for all of Arts and Sciences for her poster presentation at the campus-wide Research Fair. Emma Kelly also presented a talk on her research entitled, *Public Perspectives of Hispanic Americans on Genetic Testing* at the National Undergraduate Bioethics Conference at Florida State University, Tallahassee FL.



MA Student Highlights

“My ultimate goal is to become a physician who uses medical innovation to impact and improve



lives. I hope for my medical practice to be nothing short of holistic and stand in the gap where the promises made by science and research combine with human passion and compassion to transform curative measures into healing. During my undergraduate and graduate studies at Vanderbilt University in the department of Medicine, Health, and Society, I studied the mechanisms through which poverty and other social and cultural contexts impact health and health disparities. I believe holistic physicians have a unique position and opportunity to combat these mechanisms through preventive measures, scientific innovation, and clinical care with an extra layer of careful understanding and consideration to reach beyond the symptoms and effect the whole person. That is the type of doctor I hope to be. During my graduate studies at MHS, I researched and produced a thesis about the impact of violence and hopelessness on the development and pursuit of future orientation in middle-class African-American youth in Evanston, Illinois. I have truly enjoyed the interdisciplinary program of medicine, health, and society, and I hope to use it to bring a new perspective to clinical practice.”

– Kristin Hill

Book award for *Making War at Fort Hood*

Professor **Kenneth MacLeish**'s book *Making War at Fort Hood* (Princeton UP 2013) was awarded honorable mention for the Society for the Anthropology of North America's Delmos Jones and Dagna Scharff Book Award. MacLeish has recently launched a new related project on how the military and Americans in general understand the relationship between mental suffering and war experience. Amid the public attention to these issues sparked by the contentious hit film *American Sniper*, MacLeish was quoted in an editorial by veteran author and commentator Matt Gallagher on *The Daily Beast*. Military suicide, which has risen steadily since the beginning of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, is also a focus of MacLeish's current research. Recent epidemiological studies have revealed that the population-level links between wartime experience and suicide are not as straightforward as is often assumed, emphasizing the importance of ethnographic investigation of service members' everyday lives and the circumstances surrounding these deaths. Over the past year, MacLeish has presented preliminary findings from this work at the MHS research colloquium, MHS's fall panel on [masculinity and men's health](#), the [Clinical Psychology brown bag seminar series](#), as an invited talk at the [Department of Anthropology at University of Texas at Austin](#), and at MHS's co-sponsored conference [Gender, Health and the South at Wake Forest University](#).

The contested politics of firearms

Professors **Jonathan Metzl** and **Kenneth MacLeish** waded into the complex U.S. debate about gun violence with their article, published in the *American Journal of Public Health*, titled *Mental Illness, Mass Shootings, and the Politics of American Firearms*. The article surveyed an extensive array of gun and violence research



from the past 40 years in order to refute widely held assumptions that persons with mental illness are more likely than the general population to commit gun crimes. “In fact,” they argue, “as a group, persons diagnosed with mental illness are far less likely than everyone else to commit shootings, and are far more likely to be victims of gun violence.” This paper, together with Metzl's broader work on [gun violence](#), stigma, and mental illness, have been featured in an article in *Vanderbilt Magazine*, and twice in the *New York Times*.

Memorandum of agreement signed with Kings College London

Professor **Dominique Béhague**'s work and organizing this past year in critical global health and the globalization of psychiatry, funded by the [Vanderbilt International Office](#) and a [Research Scholar Grant](#), gave rise to a series of new international collaborations with similar departments across the globe. Amongst these is the [Department of Social Science, Health and Medicine \(SSHM\)](#) at King's College London, headed by Professor Nikolas Rose and housing a vibrant interdisciplinary group of scholars. A memorandum of agreement between MHS and SSHM has been signed and future collaborations will include faculty and student exchanges, pedagogic collaboration, and joint research proposals.

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New student organization devoted to disability

Professor **Aimi Hamraie** became faculty advisor for the newly established **Disabilities Awareness Partnership (DAP)**, Vanderbilt's first group of disabled students self-advocating for accessibility issues on campus. With Professor Hamraie's support, the organization ran a successful Disabilities Awareness Week in October. The week included several panels and cultural events.



Ph.D. student wins award

Brittany Hollister, a human genetics Ph.D. student working with Professor **Amy Non**, won an **award** for "outstanding student presentation in anthropological genetics" at the American Association of Physical Anthropology in St Louis, Missouri, for her talk entitled, "Improving access to socioeconomic data for genetic studies of racial health disparities."

M.A. fieldwork with Bhutanese refugees in Nashville

MHS M.A. student **Renée Martin-Willett** was named the 2014-2015 **Community Scholar by the Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance Community Engaged Research Core (CERC)** for her project entitled "Refugee Agricultural Programs, Mental Health and Social Integration." Martin-Willett was one of two scholars selected from Vanderbilt and Meharry respectively. The \$5,000 grant allowed her to work with **The Center for Refugees and Immigrants of Tennessee (CRIT)** to evaluate the psychosocial effects of a multimodal agricultural program currently being implemented to serve refugee groups in Nashville. Drawing on her MHS studies, Martin-Willett has developed unique evaluation methodologies that are multidisciplinary, culturally appropriate, and reflective of the complex social contexts in which refugees and the organizations working with them are situated. Professor **Dominique Béhague** is Martin-Willett's faculty mentor on the project, with consultation by Assistant Director **JuLeigh Petty**. This past year, Martin-Willett presented preliminary findings from her research at the **Society for Applied Anthropology**, the Meharry Vanderbilt Alliance Community Engaged Research Core, North American Refugee Health Conference, and the Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health!



MHS welcomes new M.A. students

Two new 2-year M.A. students will join MHS next year: **Peter Kent-Stoll** from University of California, Irvine (UCI) studies public health policies, particularly as they shape conversations about cancer survivorship and reinforce racial health disparities. And **Venus Green**, also from UCI, is a political science major who examines how the racial and sexual labeling of African American women continues to perpetuate and revive ideologies and myths about blackness and "otherness."



Alumni Notes

Steven Young, Class of 2014, relocated back to Nashville for a new position. His job title is managed care specialist, and he works under the Health Care Finance and Administration sector of the State of Tennessee Department of Health. He specifically works in the new Nursing Facility Resolution Advocate Unit in the Eligibility Waiver department, managing about 30+ nursing facilities, and he is responsible for any questions (usually regarding application status or patient liabilities or any issues really) that they may have regarding patients in their facilities that are receiving or trying to receive Medicaid.

Jacqueline Crain, Class of 2014, was accepted into the Public Health Associate Program, a two-year fellowship through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). She primarily works with violence and injury prevention and is stationed at the Utah Department of Health. She loves her job tremendously and remains grateful to the MHS department and the staff who guided her as a student.



MA Student Highlights

“During my MHS 4+1 year I have studied health law/policy at a deeper level than my undergraduate major allowed. With the MHS program, I secured permission to take classes in Owen Business School, the Law School, and Vanderbilt School of Global Health. Together, these courses have given me a “well-rounded” perspective on current issues within health care system. Next year I plan on attending law school in order to continue my study of health policy and its related subjects.”



-- **Garrett King**

“Within the 4+1 program I did my thesis research on: How Identity, Stressors and Obesity should be considered in Intervention Programs to Reduce Chronic Disease Risk among Southern African American Middle-Aged Men. I plan on going to medical school in fall of 2015. The 4+1 program was a great experience and allowed me to further my research experience and relate my interest in health and sociology. I plan to use the skills I gained within the program in future endeavors within the medical field.”



-- **Katie Marrero**

Museum outreach

Professor **Aimi Hamraie** presented research on the history of universal design at the [Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum](#) in January, which hosted the talk as part of the museum’s new exhibit, “Beautiful Users.” The sold-out event drew designers, engineers, art critics, and disability activists from New York City.

Trauma over the life-course

Professor **Hector Myers** and colleagues published a new paper, forthcoming in the journal *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice and Policy* in which they tested a model of cumulative history of lifetime adversities and trauma in predicting risk for psychological distress in a sample of 500 low income African American and Latino/a adults. The team confirmed that cumulative lifetime experiences of discrimination, childhood family adversities, childhood sexual abuse, non-sexual traumas, and chronic stresses conferred cumulative risk for depression, somatic anxiety and PTSD in this population. However, and despite their histories of life challenges, there was evidence of psychological resilience, and the model was equally effective in predicting mental health outcomes in both racial/ethnic and gender groups. Implications for the use of short measures of lifetime risk are currently being considered that can be applied in primary care to identify patients from ethnically diverse backgrounds who may be in need of supportive mental health services.

Genetics and Health Disparities Symposium

Professor **Amy Non** hosted a symposium with colleague Abigail Bigham (University of Michigan) on March 28th entitled “[Rethinking Racial Health Disparities: The genetic anthropologist’s contribution to debates over health inequalities](#),” at the American Association of Physical Anthropology in St. Louis, Missouri. Anthropologists at this symposium offered valuable insight into this debate by providing a more integrated understanding of how social, cultural, and genetic and epigenetic factors contribute to the origins and persistence of racial health disparities. Highlights from the symposium can be found on [Twitter \(http://sfy.co/q0hq4\)](#)

Early Career Award for the science of ethics

Professor **Laura Stark** received the 2014 Early Career Award from the Society for the History of Psychology. The society’s early career award recognizes specific scholarly research that is considered a significant contribution to the field, and a clear program of research that shows promise of continuing contributions to historical studies. The awards committee recognized Stark’s past scholarly work on the history of ethics review boards, which resulted in several journal articles and in her book, *Behind Closed Doors: IRBs and the Making of Ethical Research*. The committee also identified Stark’s influential article, *The Science of Ethics*, which previously won the best article prize from the Forum for the History of the Human Sciences of the History of Science Society. Stark’s current research on the history of human subjects in medical research is, according to the committee, a “fine example” of work that shows promise for further contributions to the field.



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New digital archive on human experiments

The dean of libraries has selected research by Professor **Laura Stark** to preserve in a digital historical archive. [The Library's Dean Fellowship](#) funds a graduate student to work with Stark and a digital archive team at Vanderbilt create a digital repository of more than 100 oral histories that Stark has collected from former "human subjects" of medical experiments at the National Institutes of Health's Clinical Center.

'Politics of Masculinity'

In October 2014, Professor **Jonathan Metzl** organized an interdisciplinary panel to discuss "[Men's Health and the Politics of Masculinity](#)," featuring the work of Professors **Derek Griffith** (MHS), **Claire King** (Communication Studies), **Tyson Brown** (Sociology), and **Kenneth MacLeish** (MHS). The panel examined how men's health is shaped by ideals of manhood promoted in the media, expectations of men and male bodies in the military, stressors that may promote unhealthy behavior and that wear on men's bodies, gendered and racialized sources of discrimination in the lives of men of color, and the health effects of discrimination for diverse groups of men.



Alumni Notes

Natasha Abdullah, Class of 2014, currently is completing her Fulbright English Teaching assistantship in Bangladesh. While there Natasha is pursuing her research interest in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) during her free time.

Abby Hannifan, Class of 2012, lives in Washington, D.C., and works for the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence as a project coordinator for a grant from the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women that aims to train law enforcement agencies and domestic violence service programs in communities across the U.S. in intimate partner homicide prevention.

Hannah Packman, Class of 2014, currently resides in Boston, Massachusetts. She is pursuing a graduate degree at Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy in their Agriculture, Food, and Environment program.

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MA Student Highlights

“I will be working Bernard Health, a healthcare/tech start up based in Nashville, as a healthcare advisor to individuals and families. I will also be writing content for the company’s online presence. My research interests revolve around health policy, how immigration affects health status, and health and education reform. Through the 4+1, I had the chance to collaborate with remarkable faculty and peers and really expand my understanding of the interconnectedness of medicine, health and society. It has inspired lifelong passion and curiosity in a wide range of topics. In fact, I am strongly considering law school in a few years to study human rights, policy and social justice. This was a one-of-a-kind experience I would highly recommend to anyone considering it!”

-- Jessica Meyer



Faculty Profile

MHS instructor **A. Scott Pearson, M.D.** is a surgical oncologist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, as well as an author and an educator. In these roles, Pearson serves as both an associate professor of surgery –where he instructs resident physicians and medical students – as well as an associate professor in MHS. His MHS course, “Narrative Medicine: Stories of Illness and the Doctor-Patient Relationship,” was the inaugural course offered under the MHS program during its inception in 2004. Years spent in the classroom have afforded him a unique perspective on the long-term benefits students take away from his course and the practical significance of a liberal arts education.

When asked about how he saw MHS intersecting with medicine, he responded, “There are so many issues that come in the context of medicine and society that are so important to medicine ... MHS gives a great time in a pre-health professional student’s education to explore those [important] medical issues.” Pearson believes that emphasizing the patient’s story within the context of their illness will have a direct and positive impact on patient care.

His favorite part of the course? Pearson values the discussion-based format that allows for lots of interaction in a small class setting. Students share their personal stories, which enable them to see how the issues introduced in this course can impact their own approach to medicine later in life. Pearson relishes “...see[ing] the light in a student’s eyes when they see the practical value of narrative medicine... as opposed to [it being] just didactic knowledge.” Being able to impart practical knowledge that goes beyond the confines of an academic classroom is what Pearson finds really meaningful.

In an effort to expand this ongoing scholarship, Pearson and colleagues collaborated with the Robert Wood Johnson foundation to create a volume entitled *The Narrative Playbook: Strategic Use of Story to Improve Care, Healing and Health*. Like the Narrative Medicine course itself, this work is an interdisciplinary, multi-sectorial exchange of narrative methods among clinicians, caregivers, and patients. This collection explores practical ways in which story can work to improve patient care and outcomes. In essence, this volume is an extension of Narrative Medicine to the public sphere.



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Curricular News

MHS major continues to grow

This spring, Vanderbilt graduates the largest MHS cohort to date. Begun in 2005 with a handful of students and now with nearly 450 undergraduate majors, the MHS major continues to expand. It has been our pleasure to teach and learn from this group of accomplished students, and we look forward to their future success. About half plan to go to medical or nursing school and a quarter to public health school, law school, or other graduate school. The rest plan careers in hospital administration, healthcare consulting, nonprofits, research, and policy.

New curricular skills evaluation project launched

With this 2015 cohort of graduating seniors, MHS is launching a new curricular skills evaluation that aims to assess MHS students' understanding of the social determinants of health. The evaluation responds to the new MHS curriculum, recent changes in medical education, and growing attention to health as a political issue. According to the American Association of Medical Colleges' (AAMC), learning to become a good doctor now includes understanding the perspectives of the behavioral and social sciences as well as the traditionally important physical and biological sciences, and the MCAT (medical school admissions exam) will address the Social Foundations of Health, effective 2015.

New concentration-area courses

Recently added courses on health policy, global health, public health, and urban design, and representations of race and gender develop the [new curriculum](#) we rolled out in 2014-2015. As part of the new curriculum, MHS majors concentrate in one of six areas that reflect MHS's strengths and address student interests and career goals: Global Health; Health Behaviors and Health Sciences; Medicine, Humanities and the Arts; Health Policies and Economies; Race, Inequality and Health; Critical Health Studies. In the first year, Health Behaviors and Health Sciences is the most popular concentration followed by Health Policies and Economies and Global Health.

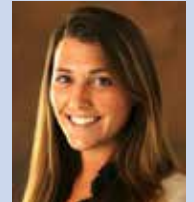
The MHS major in a nutshell

MHS students learn to think critically about complex social issues that impact health, health care, and health policy. By teaching students to grapple with these monumental questions, the center is helping develop sophisticated thinkers who are trained to be unsatisfied with the status quo—a generation of students who are globally savvy and prepared to find new solutions out of a complex web of challenges. MHS offers approximately 50 courses a year taught by core MHS faculty and affiliated faculty in Arts and Science departments and the School of Medicine.

Join the MHS Alumni Association! Please subscribe at <http://list.vanderbilt.edu> and search for MHS-ALUMNI in the Subscriber's Corner. Stay tuned for alumni events, news, and professional networking opportunities!

MA Student Highlights

“After the MHS 4+1 program, I plan to pursue a career in global public health, focusing specifically on capacity building and health systems strengthening. Working off of my thesis research, I may continue working in HIV/AIDS programming domestically or internationally. Motivated by personal experiences studying in South Africa in 2012 and working with Nashville CARES in 2014, my master’s thesis focused on intra-personal stigma of HIV/AIDS in post-apartheid South Africa. The MHS 4+1 program has provided a year to sharpen critical thinking and research skills and tailor the MHS degree to my more specific interests in global health.”



– Else Sharpe

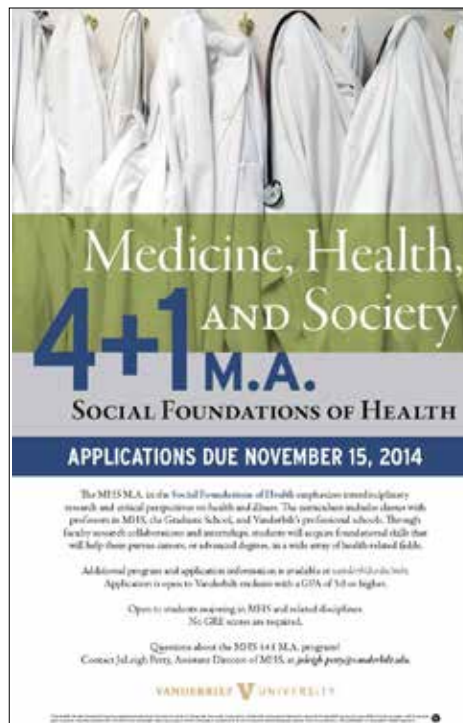


MA Student Highlights

“My research has included the importance of incorporating complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) into child and adolescent health regimens in the U.S. and community-based interventions for youth obesity. As a student in the 4+1 program, I have solidified my interest in youth nutrition, physical activity, and health education. In the future, I will be gaining work experience in a public health position before going on to pursue another academic degree. Like Aristotle, I believe “Good habits formed at youth make all the difference,” and I want to make a difference in the world through impacting the lives of youth.”



-- Jori Turner



Largest 4+1 B.A./M.A. cohort to date

In 2014, MHS graduated three 4+1 students and welcomed **nine new 4+1 students**, our largest cohort to date. Our 2014 and 2015 M.A. cohorts completed extraordinary thesis projects on topics ranging from methodological advancements in measuring refugee mental health to HIV stigma and the legacy of Apartheid to an examination of how masculinity shapes attitudes toward health-care reform. Students in these cohorts have gained acceptance to medical schools, law school, a Ph.D. program, and a clinical ethics fellowship program, as well as positions in research, biotechnology and consulting at firms including, Epic Systems, InVivo Link, and Bernard Health. Student presented their works at the research colloquium on April 7, 2015, drawing a large audience of fellow students and faculty from MHS and other departments across campus.

4+1 B.A./M.A. program now open to Vanderbilt alumni

MHS is now accepting applications from former Vanderbilt students for the one-year 4+1 B.A./M.A. program in the **Social Foundations of Health**. The program, originally offered only to current Vanderbilt juniors and seniors, is designed to teach students about the social and cultural aspects of health that are of rapidly growing importance in medical education, health policy, and public health. The most salient indicator of this shift in medicine is the American Association of Medical Colleges' (AAMC) revision of the Medical School Admissions Test (MCAT) to include cultural analysis, social science, and critical-thinking questions beginning in 2015. MHS also offers a two-year expanded M.A. degree program in the Social Foundations of Health which is open to prospective students nationwide.

Graduate student collaborations with VIGH

Renee Martin-Willet, one of our current M.A. students, has developed a tool for measuring refugee's mental health through her Graduate Certificate in Global Health practicum. She later received a grant through **Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health's** Ann Potter Wilson Awards to expand her work. Graduate courses taught by the Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health are open to our M.A. and 4+1 program and give them the opportunity to earn the Graduate Certificate in Global Health. Collaborations with VIGH increase students' professional and academic prospects.

Commons event

MHS regularly hold events for students in dean of the Ingram Commons' residence. This year we hosted a dinner for freshmen; six faculty members attended and discussed their research projects and future plans with students.

Pedagogic Highlights

MHS 290: HIV-AIDS and Stigma in South Africa

In April 2013, Justice Edwin Cameron, a justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, visited Vanderbilt as part of the Chancellor’s Lecture Series. His story left a mark on Vanderbilt students, Vanderbilt faculty, and the larger Nashville community. In the aftermath of Justice Cameron’s visit, Vanderbilt’s [Office of Active Citizenship and Service \(OACS\)](#) in partnership with MHS envisioned a service-learning project that would bring to life and make real much of what Justice Cameron spoke about during his lectures and discussions at Vanderbilt. MHS 290, taught by OACS director [Clive Mentzel](#), and the service-learning experience in South Africa represent the culmination of continued correspondence, planning and project and curriculum development aimed at creating a service-learning trip to Soweto/Johannesburg, South Africa that would allow students to further explore the stigmatization of HIV/AIDS that Justice Cameron so eloquently spoke of in Nashville as well as the impact HIV/AIDS and the attendant stigma has on child-headed households, the latter to be achieved primarily through immersion with the NGO “Ikageng.” Centered on linking the classroom with an immersive service-learning experience, OACS has designed an immersive project linked to the classroom that will allow students to gain a deeper understanding of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in South Africa. For this reason, this immersive experience places equal emphasis and priority on meeting the needs of the communities Vanderbilt students will work with as it does on meeting the needs of the Vanderbilt students themselves. Participants were enrolled in a credit-bearing class, MHS 290, aimed at preparing them for the subsequent service-learning immersion; the latter is scheduled for June 20th to July 19th 2015. Students will live in Soweto for the month, in accommodation owned by the University of Johannesburg for the duration of the project in South Africa. Naomi Tutu, daughter of the Nobel Peace Prize laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu, will oversee the project on site in South Africa.

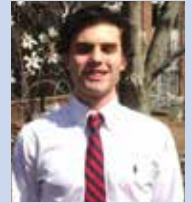
Digital learning project

Professor **Laura Stark** is using the *New Books Network* to train students in social studies of medicine through the digital humanities. *The New Books Network* is an online broadcast of interviews with scholars and scientists who have recently published books. In her course “Medicine on Trial” and “Healing Animals,” Stark mentored students to interview important authors in the field, ask good questions, and produce podcasts for public consumption. These interviews and interactions not only enable direct engagement with leaders in our fields of study, but also train students to approach critical questioning and engagement with an ethos of constructive intellectual generosity. At the end of the classes, students had a product that they could share to demonstrate their skills and knowledge. In light of these successes, Stark will be teaching a graduate seminar based on this method in 2015.

The interview with Emilie Cloatre, author of Pills for the Poorest (2013), is available on the website [New Books in Medicine](#); The interview with Elena Conis, author of Vaccine Nation: America’s Changing Relationship with Immunization (University Of Chicago Press, 2014), is also available on [New Books in Medicine](#); Finally, the interview with Jain, S. Lochlann, author of Malignant: How Cancer Becomes Us (University of California Press, 2013), is also available on [New Books in Medicine](#).

MA Student Highlights

“After graduating from the MHS 4+1 Program, I plan on moving to Madison, Wisconsin where I will be working for Epic Systems in their Quality Assurance department. This past year, I have been writing a thesis, under the supervision of Professor Kenneth MacLeish, on genital injury suffered in modern warfare, focusing on the clashing intersection between intimacy and bio-power within the military. Looking back on the 4+1 program, I can proudly say that it was a terrific experience that allowed me to discover and pursue my true interests. It exposed me to greater independence and responsibility that I believe will benefit me in the next stage of my life.”



-- Robert Sacks



On the move with educational technologies

Professors **Aimi Hamraie** and **Kenneth MacLeish**, who received fellowships to investigate digital teaching methods from the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities and the Center for Teaching, respectively, launched the first of a series of undergraduate student conferences on the topic of technology, disability, and war in Spring 2014. The conference integrated Twitter, collaborative note-taking, and student-led design projects into the presentation of scholarly work.



Use our Twitter hashtags

Social media has been a crucial tool for communicating MHS's distinct approach to medicine and health to our potential collaborators and publics, both in the classroom and at workshops and conferences. Following a highly successful conference in October 2013, the #politicsofhealth hashtag, used at each of our subsequent events, has stimulated a vibrant, ongoing discussion on the social and political dimensions of health policy and access. Professor **Aimi Hamraie** also manages the #modesofembodiment and #criticaldisabilitytech hashtags, where designers, users, athletes, and policymakers join classroom conversations on disability, embodiment, and technology.

Join the MHS Alumni Association! Please subscribe at <http://list.vanderbilt.edu> and search for MHS-ALUMNI in the Subscriber's Corner. Stay tuned for alumni events, news, and professional networking opportunities!

Want to stay abreast of MHS events? Join the mailing list MHS@Vanderbilt.edu

MA Student Highlights

"This past year, I have written a thesis, under the supervision of Dr. Jonathan Metzl, on symbolic racism in relation to the Affordable Care Act and the impact it has on the health of white men. After graduating from the MHS 4+ 1 Program, I plan on staying in Nashville and continuing my research with Dr. Metzl while also applying to medical schools. Looking back on the 4+1 program, I can sincerely say it was a phenomenal experience in which I was able to mature as a researcher, writer, and as an overall student. The skills I learned throughout the MHS 4+1 program will greatly benefit me in my academic pursuits moving forward, and I would like to wholeheartedly express my gratitude to the entire MHS staff for all the tremendous support they have given me throughout my time at Vanderbilt."



– **Brian Smith**

Lectures and Conference Presentations

Béhague, Dominique. “Science, Psychiatry, Pedagogy, and Adolescence: The Making of Troubled Teen Motherhood in Southern Brazil.” Invited lecture at the Centre de Recherche Médecine, Sciences, Santé, Santé Mentale, Société (Cermes3, CNRS, Paris), Discussant: Pierre-Henri Castel, Paris, France, June 10, 2015.

Béhague, Dominique. “The rise of cost-effectiveness evidence in global health: contingencies of ‘context’ and the politics of contingency.” Invited lecture at the Department of Methodology, London School of Economics, London, UK, May 21, 2015.

Béhague, Dominique. “The social production of mental morbidity among teen mothers in Southern Brazil.” Invited panelist at the Gender, Health and the South Symposium sponsored by the Anna Julia Cooper Center, Wake Forest University and Medicine, Health and Society, Vanderbilt University, Winston-Salem, NC, April 16-17, 2015.

Béhague, Dominique. “Experiments in Brazilian Social Psychiatry and the Opportunities of Adolescence.” Invited talk at the Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN, March 27, 2015.

Béhague, Dominique. “Experiments in Brazilian social psychiatry: Insights for global mental health?” Lead organizer and panelist at the workshop, Contested Global Biopsychiatry: Establishing an International Partnership For Critical and Constructive Global Mental Health, Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, February 17, 2015.

Béhague, Dominique. “Taking pills for developmental ails in Southern Brazil: The biologization of adolescence?” Invited speaker at the conference, Global Mental Health in the Age of Evidence-Based Psychiatry, the State University of Rio de Janeiro, sponsored by the Brazilian government, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, November, 2014.

Béhague, Dominique. “Ebola in Perspective: Health, Panic, and Politics.” Invited panellist at Cross-Campus Dialogue on Ebola, Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, November 12, 2014.

Béhague, Dominique. “Differential ideologies of psycho-sexual developmental failure and the (dis)empowerment of adolescence: class politics, epidemiology and psychiatric practice in Southern Brazil” School for Advanced Research (SAR) Seminar, Santa Fe, Arizona “Questioning the “Global” in Global Psychiatry” Organizers: Elizabeth Davis and Li Zhang, October 7-9, 2014.

Béhague, Dominique. “The eco-politics of adolescent mental health in Brazilian psychodynamic psychiatry.” Invited speaker at the Brocher Foundation Symposium, DSM-5 and the Future of Psychiatric Diagnosis, Geneva, Switzerland, July 7-8, 2014.

Béhague, Dominique. “Researching the political and material life of diagnostic unravelling in Southern Brazilian psychiatry” Invited speaker at the workshop, The Challenges of Mental Health for Social Science and Policy at the Department of Social Science Health and Medicine, King’s College London, UK, June 19, 2014.

Béhague, Dominique. “Science, Psychiatry and Adolescence: The shaping of troubled teen motherhood in Southern Brazil.” Invited panelist at the Latin American Studies Association panel on Brazilian Technoscience: Technology, Politics and Knowledge in 21st Century Brazil, Chicago, IL, May 24, 2014.

Griffith, Derek. “Behavioral Health and Well-being: Impact of Trauma, Violence, and Stress.” Invited speaker at the Pathways to Behavioral Health Equity: Addressing Disparities in Men and Boys of Color Conference, Washington, DC, March 15, 2015.

Griffith, Derek. “The Implications of Social Determinants of Health for African American Men’s Mental Health.” Invited talk at the Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN, March 1, 2015.

Griffith, Derek. “Where and how do we intervene to address racial disparities in infant mortality? Lessons Learned from the PRIME Project.” Invited speaker at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health, Department of Maternal and Child Health at Chapel Hill, NC, March 1, 2015.

Griffith, Derek. “Masculinity, Messaging and Promoting the Health of Minority Men.” Invited speaker at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, School of Public Health at Brownsville, TX, February 1, 2015.

Griffith, Derek. “Tennessee Men’s Health Report Card: Lessons learned and Implications.” Invited speaker at the American Society for Men’s Health Annual Meeting, Scottsdale, AZ, December 6, 2014.

Griffith, Derek. “Addressing Institutional Racism By Using Systems Change Theory.” Delivered keynote address at the National Māori Public Health Leaders Conference, New Zealand, December 3, 2014.

- Griffith, Derek.** “The 2014 Tennessee Men’s Health Report Card: Findings and Lessons Learned.” Invited lecture at the Meharry Medical College, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy, Nashville, TN, December 1, 2014.
- Griffith, Derek.** “Tennessee Men’s Health Report Card: Lessons learned and Implications.” Invited speaker at the American Public Health Association annual meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 1, 2014.
- Griffith, Derek.** “How do African American men define health and what implications do these definitions have for health practices?” Invited speaker at the American Public Health Association annual meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 1, 2014.
- Griffith, Derek.** “Improving Black Men’s Health: Context, Challenges & Intervention Considerations.” Delivered keynote address at the Caribbean Exploratory NIMHD Research Center of Excellence, 7th Annual Health Disparities Institute, University of the Virgin Islands, School of Nursing, October 1, 2014.
- Griffith, Derek.** “‘He’s discriminated against for who he is...’: Intersectionality and African American men’s experience of gendered racism.” Invited panellist at the Men’s Health Panel, Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, September 1, 2014.
- Griffith, Derek.** “Stress and Health among Vulnerable Men and Boys.” Invited lecture at the American Psychological Association annual convention, Washington, DC, August 1, 2014.
- Hamraie, Aimi.** “The Cultural Model of Disability.” Invited lecture at the Department of Psychiatry, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN, April 22, 2015.
- Hamraie, Aimi.** “Crip Non-conformity: Conversations Between Disabled Users and Built Environments.” Invited lecture at the Philadelphia Feminist Philosophy conference, Atlanta, GA, April 14-17, 2015.
- Hamraie, Aimi.** “Crip Technoscience.” Invited speaker at the Department of Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, February 6, 2015.
- Hamraie, Aimi.** “The History of Universal Design.” Invited Lecture at the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, New York, January 15, 2015.
- Hamraie, Aimi.** “Turn the Dial: Bodies, Thermostat Interfaces, and Cold War Design.” Invited speaker at the Society for History of Technology, Dearborn, MI, November 8, 2014.
- Hamraie, Aimi.** Invited seminar leader and discussant at the Age, Ability, and Healthcare Summit, Hiram College, Hiram, OH, July 16, 2014.
- Hamraie, Aimi.** “Politics of Fit.” Invited lecture at the Open Style Lab, MIT, Cambridge, MA, July 5, 2014.
- Hamraie, Aimi.** “Politics of Fit.” Invited speaker at the Society for Disability Studies, Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 7, 2014.
- Hamraie, Aimi.** “Sloped Technoscience.” Invited speaker at the Design@Large Speaker Series, UC-San Diego, CA, May 28, 2014.
- Hamraie, Aimi.** “Disability and Identity.” Invited lecture at the Department of Psychiatry, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN, April 22, 2014.
- Jones, Martha.** “Workers’ Compensation Denominators.” Invited WEBINAR presentation at the CDC National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Center for Workers’ Compensation Studies, September 17, 2014.
- Jones, Martha.** “Geographic Distribution of 2012 Health Insurance Coverage.” Invited poster presentation at the TN Public Health Association, Nashville, TN, September 10, 2014.
- Jones, Martha.** “Calculating Full-time Equivalent Employees.” Invited speaker at the Annual Meeting of the Council on State and Territorial Epidemiologists, Nashville TN, June 23, 2014.
- Jones, Martha.** “Calculating Full-time Equivalent Employees.” Invited speaker at the American Community Survey Data Users Conference, Washington, DC, May 29, 2014.
- Jones, Martha.** “Thoughts on Health Equity and Inequalities.” Invited speaker at the Vanderbilt Student Group, Volunteer around the World, Nashville, TN, February 8, 2014.
- MacLeish, Ken.** “Suicide and the Intimate Governance of Military Life.” Invited lecture at the University of Texas at Austin, TX, February 14, 2015.

- MacLeish, Ken.** “The Long Shadow of War: Veterans’ Experiences on the Home-front.” Invited panelist at the Southern Festival of Books, Nashville, TN, October 11, 2014.
- MacLeish, Ken.** “War Stories.” Invited speaker at the Mission Forward Military Friendly Symposium at the University of Austin, TX, September 29, 2014.
- MacLeish, Ken.** “Threat Governmentality and ‘Moral Injury’: the structure of decision and the pathology of feeling in US military behavioral health.” Invited speaker at the Society for the Social Studies of Science annual meeting, Buenos Aires, Argentina, August 20, 2014.
- MacLeish, Ken.** “Interdisciplinary Conversations on Diagnosis and the State.” Invited lecture at the Society for the Social History of Medicine, Oxford, UK, July 10, 2014.
- MacLeish, Ken.** “Military Mental Health and this History of ‘Moral Injury.’” Invited lecture at the Psychopathological Fringes workshop at the University of Berlin/Le Charité Institute for the History of Medicine, Berlin, Germany, February 14, 2014.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** MSNBC Melissa Harris Perry Show, commentary on what it’s like to be white in Ferguson, March 14, 2015.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** “Mental Illness, Mass Shootings, and Psychiatry’s Role in the US Gun Debate.” Invited speaker at the Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds, Yale University, New Haven, CT, March 13, 2015.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** “Does Political Protest Incite Mental Illness?” Invited speaker at the Department of Sociology, USC, February 27, 2015.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** MSNBC Melissa Harris Perry show, commentary on how we define hate after the three Muslim-American students were shot to death, February 14, 2015.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** “Psychiatry, Race, and the Politics of Incarceration.” Invited speaker at the Social Issues and Historical Contexts (SIHC) Initiative, endowed lecture, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO, January 28, 2015.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** MSNBC MHP Show, commentary on if open carry laws make people less safe, January 25, 2015.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** NPR, discussing “Does Political Protest Incite Mental illness?” December 23, 2014.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** NY1, discussing the mental health aspect of the recent killings of two NYPD officers, December 23, 2014.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** “MHS and Medical Humanities.” Invited speaker at the Mode d’emploi Festival of Ideas in Lyon, France, November 22, 2014.
- Metzl, J.M.M.** (2014, November 20). Invited speaker, Radio France.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** “Illness Narrative, Networked Subjects, and Intimate Publics.” Invited speaker for the Department of Media, Culture, and Communication at NYU, NY, November 14, 2014.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** “Ferguson, Race, and Psychiatric Diagnosis.” Invited speaker at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds; Henry & Janet Claman Endowed Professorship in Medical Humanities, Fulginiti Pavilion for Bioethics & Humanities, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Boulder, CO, October 23, 2014.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** MSNBC Melissa Harris Perry Show, commentary on how Ferguson reacts to shooting, August 16, 2014.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** “Race and Psychiatric Diagnosis.” Invited keynote speaker at the Durham Critical Medical Humanities Conference, Durham, UK, April 17, 2014.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** “Psychiatry’s Role in the US Gun Debate.” Invited guest speaker at the Conte Center for Neuroscience Research Public Lecture Series, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, April 15, 2014.
- Metzl, Jonathan.** MHP Show, commentary on the issue of race during Obama’s presidency, April 13, 2014.
- Non, Amy.** “Development of culturally relevant measures of stress among Mexican immigrant families to improve investigations of racial disparities in health.” Invited speaker and organizer at the American Association of Physical Anthropology 84th annual meeting, American Association Anthropological Geneticists symposium titled, “Rethinking Racial Health Disparities: the genetic anthropologist’s contribution to debates over health inequalities,” St. Louis, MO, March 29, 2015.
- Non, Amy.** “Epigenetics as a mechanism for the biological embedding of early life experience.” Invited speaker at the P3 Initiative Working Group (Preventing Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes and Prematurity), Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, January 26, 2015.

Non, Amy. “Discrimination towards immigrant children.” Invited workshop participant at the Foundation for Child Development, sponsored by the Migration Policy Institute and the Foundation for Child Development, Washington DC, November 20, 2014.

Stark, Laura. “Contracting Health: A Shadow History of Human Experiment, 1950-1980.” Invited speaker at the Max Planck Institutes for the History of Science, Berlin, Germany, May 2015.

Stark, Laura. “Suffering History.” Invited speaker at the Les Mots et les Choses & beyond, Harvard Center for European Studies, Cambridge, MA, April 18, 2015.

Stark, Laura. “Welfare, Work, and Witness: Why Clinical Research Can Survive the Death of a Healthy Human Subject.” Invited lecture at the Program in Ethics in Science, University of Houston, Houston, TX, April 3, 2015.

Stark, Laura. “What are ‘Local Precedents’? Findings from Behind Closed Door.” Invited speaker at the Public Responsibility in Research & Medicine, AER Convention, Baltimore, MD, December 6, 2014.

Stark, Laura. “Moral Kinds.” Invited co-organizer and speaker at the Annual Meeting of the History of Science Society, Chicago, IL, November 7, 2014.

Stark, Laura. “Law in Science Bureaucracies.” Invited lecture at the American Sociological Association annual meeting, San Francisco, CA, August 19, 2014.

Stark, Laura. “What Are Declarative Bodies?” Invited lecture at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA, August 19, 2014.



Publications

Béhague, D.P., & Lézé, S. [Forthcoming]. The rise of developmental child science: Debates on health and humanity. Editorial for Special issue of *Social Science and Medicine*.

Béhague, D.P. (2014). Taking pills for developmental ails in Southern Brazil: The biologization of adolescence? *Social Science and Medicine*, 1-9 doi:10.1016/j.socscimed.2014.11.028 Retrieved from <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0277953614007515>

Béhague, D.P., & Storeng, K.T. (2014). Reflexive relations: The contested creation of epistemological diversity in the Safe Motherhood Initiative. In L. Camfield, R. Palmer-Jones, Palgrave (Eds.), *Research in International Development: a critical review* (283-308). UK: Palgrave MacMillan.

Bruce, M.A., **Griffith, D.M.**, & Thorpe, Jr., R. J. (2015). Stress and kidney disease. *Advances in Chronic Kidney Disease*, 22(1), 46-53.

Campbell, N., & **Stark, L.** [Forthcoming]. Making up ‘Vulnerable’ People: Human Subjects and the Subjective Experience of Medical Experiment. *Social History of Medicine*.

Davis, C. M., **Myers, H.F.**, Nyamathi, A.M., Brecht, M.L., Lewis, M.A., & Hamilton, N. (2014) Biopsychosocial predictors of psychological functioning among African American breast cancer survivors. *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, 32, 493–516.

Davis, C. M., **Myers, H.F.**, Nyamathi, A.M., Brecht, M.L., Lewis, M.A., & Hamilton, N. (2014, November). The meaning of survivorship as defined by African American breast cancer survivors. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing* doi:10.1177/1043659614561678.

Thorpe, Jr. R.J., Kelley, E., Bowie, J., **Griffith, D.M.**, Bruce, M.A., & LaVeist, T.A. (2014, September 23). Explaining Racial Disparities in Obesity Among Men: Does Place Matter? *American Journal of Men’s Health* doi:10.1177/1557988314551197.

Garrison, N.A., & **Non, A.L.** Direct-to-consumer genomics companies should provide guidance to their customers on (not) sharing personal genomic information. *American Journal of Bioethics*, 14(11), 55-57.

Griffith, D.M., & Thorpe, Jr., R.J. [Forthcoming]. Men’s physical health and health behaviors. *APA Handbook of the Psychology of Men and Masculinities*.

Griffith, D.M., Jegede, B., Weir, S., & Canady, R.B. (2015). Practices to reduce infant mortality through equity: Recommendations for state public health departments. Lansing, MI: Michigan Department of Community Health; Bureau of Family, Maternal and Child Health.

Hamraie, A. (2015). Historical Epistemology as Disability Studies Methodology: from the models framework to Foucault’s archaeology of cure. *Foucault Studies*.

Hamraie, A. (2014). Crippling Feminist Technoscience Hypatia. *Journal of Feminist Philosophy*, 30(1), 307-313. Retrieved from <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/hypa.12124>

Jones, M., Joe, L., Roisman, R., Beckman, M., Beckman, J., Frederick, M., & Harrison, R. (2014). Using Multiple Data sets for public health tracking of work-related injuries and illnesses in California. *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*, 57(10), 1110–1119. Retrieved from <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ajim.22361/abstract>

Kelley, E., Bowie, J., **Griffith, D.M.**, Bruce, M., Hill, S., & Thorpe, Jr. R.J. (2015). Geography, Race/Ethnicity, and Obesity among Men in the United States. *American Journal of Men’s Health*, doi:10.1177/1557988314565811.

MacLeish, K., Dedios, M.C., & Anderson, E. (2014). Top of the Heap: Kenneth MacLeish. *Somatosphere*, Retrieved from <http://somatosphere.net/2014/04/ken-macleish.html>

Langford, A., **Griffith, D.M.**, Beasley, D.D., & Id-Deen Braxton, E. (2014). A Cancer Center’s Approach to Engaging African American Men About Cancer: The Men’s Fellowship Breakfast, Southeastern Michigan, 2008–2014. *Preventing Chronic Disease*, 11, E164.

Lindsey, O.A. “Evie M,” Iowa Review (2013); *Best American Short Stories* (2014) <http://www.iowareview.org/blog/oa-lindsey-best-american-short-stories-quick-interview>

- Liu, H., Prause, N., Wyatt, G.E., Williams, J.K., Chin, D., Davis, T., Loeb, T., Marchand, E., Zang, M., & Myers, H.F. (2014, December). Development of a Composite Trauma Exposure Risk Index. *Psychological Assessment*, In Press.
- Macleish, K.** (2015). The Ethnography of 'Good Machines.' *Ashgate Companion to Military Research*.
- Martin, L.A., Neighbors, H.W. & **Griffith, D.M.** (2014). Is It All Depression?—Reply. *JAMA Psychiatry*, 71(3), 337-338.
- Metzl, J.M.M.**, & Kirkalnd, A. (Hg.). [forthcoming]. *Anti Körper: Wie Gesundheit zur neuen Moral wurde* Ü: A. Kühn, T. Bresemann u.a., ca. 300 S. Englisch Broschur, Isbn: 978-3-939557-17-3.
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Grants and Fellowships

Dominique Béhague (PI) (Co-PIs: Drs. Jonathan Metzl and Kenneth MacLeish). Vanderbilt University Central Research Scholars Grant Program, funds for Seminar Series & Working Groups, “Globalization, psychiatry and the politics of global mental health.” 2014-2016. \$16,000. <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/mhs/2014/12/mhs-professors-dominique-Béhague-jonathan-metzl-and-ken-macleish-awarded-a-university-central-research-scholars-grant/>

Dominique Béhague (PI) (Co-PIs: Drs. Jonathan Metzl, Iilina Singh, Francisco Ortega, Alex Cohen, Edward Fischer, Katharine Donato). Vanderbilt International Office Grant, “Contested Global Biopsychiatry: Establishing an International Partnership for Critical and Constructive Global Mental Health.” 2014 – 2015. \$17,000. <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/mhs/2014/01/mhs-professor-dominique-Béhague-pi-and-jonathan-metzl-co-pi-awarded-the-vanderbilt-international-office-vio-grant-for-%E2%80%9Ccontested-global-biopsychiatry%E2%80%9D/>

Derek Griffith (PI). AETNA Foundation, “Using Tailoring and Technology to Promote Health Equity in African American Men.” 2015-2016 \$89,806.

Derek Griffith (Co-PI) (PI: Dr. Melicia C. Whitt-Glover). Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), “Active and Healthy Brotherhood”. 2014-2017. \$2,075,51.

Derek Griffith (Co-PI) (PI: Dr. Bettina Beech). National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institute of Health, HBCU PRIDE. 2014-2018. \$287,570

- Derek Griffith.** National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health (R21), “Tailoring Healthy Eating and Physical Activity for African American Men.” 2012-2015. \$444,789.
- Derek Griffith** (Co-PI) (PI: Dr. Gordon Bernard). The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, National Institutes of Health, Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (VICTR) (UL1), Vanderbilt School of Medicine. 2012-2017. \$6,986,576 (annual).
- Derek Griffith** (Consultant) (PIs: Drs. Ebony O. McGee, William H. Robinson). National Science Foundation, “Beyond the Basics: Race and Gender Conscious Mentoring for Black Faculty.” 2015-2017.
- Derek Griffith** (Co-PI) (PI: Douglas C. Heimburger, MD, MS). US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, University of Guyana-Vanderbilt-UCSF MPH Program for Guyana, 2012-2015. \$361,694 (annual).
- Derek Griffith** (PI). Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, Faculty Development Support Grant, “Psychometric survey of the relationship between masculinity, eating and physical activity in Black, Latino and White men; and Men on the Move Nashville: Pilot Physical Activity Study for Middle-aged and Older African American Men.” 2012-2014. \$70,000.
- Derek Griffith** (PI). Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy at Meharry Medical College pilot mini-grant “Social Determinants of Obesogenic Behaviors of Middle-aged African American Men.” 2013-2014. \$20,000.
- Derek Griffith** (Co-PI) (PI: Alethia Carr, RD, MBA). W. K Kellogg Foundation, “Promising Practices for Reducing Racial Disparities in Infant Mortality in Michigan- A Pilot Study.” 2010-2014. \$1,336,356.
- Aimi Hamraie** Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Faculty Fellow, “Public Scholarship in the Humanities,” 2014-2015. \$4000.
- Kenneth MacLeish.** Vanderbilt Center for Teaching, Junior Faculty Teaching Fellowship. \$2000. Amy Non (PI). Vanderbilt Institute of Clinical and Translational Research (VICTR), “Vanderbilt Medical School, DNA Methylation of Stress-Related Genes in Children Exposed to Synthetic Glucocorticoids in Utero.” 2014. \$5,000.
- Amy Non.** Littlejohn Faculty Fellow, “Faculty Undergraduate Research Program Fellowship Funding”. 2014-2015. \$4,000.
- Amy Non** (PI). The Foundation for Child Development: Changing Faces of America’s Children-Young Scholars Program (YSP), “Biological Embedding of Stress in Children of Mexican Immigrants.” 2014-2017. \$160,000.
- Jonathan Metzl** (PI). REAM Foundation Project Grant. 2013-2016. \$60,000
- Jonathan Metzl** (PI). The Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Center at Meharry Medical College Pilot Project Grant, “Masculinity, Race, and the Politics of American Men’s Health Policy.” 2012-2014. \$20,000.
- Jonathan Metzl** (Co-PI) (PI: Dr. Dominique Behague). Vanderbilt International Office (VIO) Seed Grant, “Contested Global Biopsychiatry: Establishing an international partnership for critical and constructive global mental health.” 2014 – 2015. \$17,000.
- Jonathan Metzl** (Co-PI) (PI: Dr. Dominique Behague). Vanderbilt University Central Research Scholars Grant Program, funds for Seminar Series & Working Groups, “Globalization, psychiatry and the politics of global mental health.” 2014-2016. \$16,000.
- Jonathan Metzl** (PI). The National Science Foundation, “Protest Psychosis: Science, Race, and the Stigma of Schizophrenia.” 2011-2014. \$164,797.
- Laura Stark** (PI). Joseph H. Fichter Research Grant, Association for the Sociology of Religion, “Gender equity in postwar Anabaptist voluntary service programs & the definition of gender-based disease.” 2014-2015. \$3,000.
- Laura Stark.** Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (Berlin, Germany) summer research fellowship project, “Normals: A shadow history of human experiment.” 2015. \$2,200.
- Laura Stark.** Harvard University, Department of the History of Science, Visiting Scholar, “The Normals: A Shadow History of Human Experiment.” 2013-14.

Calendar of recent events 2014-2015

MHS Graduation Reception, May 7th 2015

[Gender, Health, and the South Symposium](#)
April 16 - 17, 2015

[MHS Spring Lecture Series: Hot Topics in MHS:
Design, Disability, and Public Art](#)
featuring Sara Hendren, February 24, 2015

[Contested Global Biopsychiatry: Establishing an International
Partnership for Critical and Constructive Global Mental Health,](#)
MHS-VIO Special Workshop
February 17 - 20, 2015

[Ebola in Perspective: Health, Panic, and Politics](#)
November 12, 2014

[Men's Health and the Politics of Masculinity](#)
October 21, 2014

[MHS Student and Faculty Ice Cream Social](#)
September 2, 2014

[MHS All-Faculty Reception](#)
August 26, 2014

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programming and research
initiatives contact
jonathan.metzl@vanderbilt.edu

Upcoming Events 2015-2016

For event dates, check out the [MHS calendar](#) online.
All-Faculty Reception (Fall 2015)

Ice Cream Social (Fall 2015)

MHS Spring Lecture Series: Hot Topics in Medicine,
Health, and Society (Fall/Spring 2016)

The Politics of Health in the US South Conference
(Spring 2016)