



Human Biology Newsletter

The Program in Human Biology | Stanford University

Summer 2017

Teaching Human Migration Health Challenges and the Effects of Social Policies on Health



Eunice Rodriguez, Associate Professor (Teaching) for the Department of Pediatrics (General Pediatrics) teaches the Human Biology courses *Health Challenges of Human Migration*, and *Beyond Health Care: the Effects of Social Policies on Health*.

In her courses, students learn that social policies can wield a powerful influence on biological health issues. An immigrant to the U.S. herself, Rodriguez emigrated from Barcelona after discovering the topic of public health during her one year stay here to learn English. Now, Rodriguez brings her research, which includes studies in Spain, Germany, China and the U.S., into the classroom.

In *Beyond Health Care: the Effects of Social Policies on Health*, a key objective is to teach students that social, unemployment, education, and housing programs have significant indirect affects on health.

In *Health Challenges of Human Migration*, students learn about the disease spectrum and health patterns of immigrants, including how health behaviors change over the course of first, second, and third generations.

Continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Teaching: Migrant Health, Social Programs.....	1-2
Internship Replaced by Capstone.....	3-4
Student Showcase.....	5
Student News.....	6-7
Alumni News.....	8
Faculty News.....	9
Connect: Reunion, Travel with Profs.....	10

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I am often asked to describe Human Biology to alumni and faculty. I refer to some of the most incredibly diverse, motivated, and bright people I know. These people appreciate the world from 30,000 feet above, but are also comfortable understanding function at just a few microns. This description is still spot on for today's students. Peruse this newsletter and appreciate how HumBio students serve diverse communities in our world. Whether our students travel to a [BOSP](#) program, pursue field work across the globe, earn a Fulbright grant, serve those who need our help abroad, or find yet another way to bring the best of Stanford to advance the human condition, their foundation in Human Biology serves them well. They understand the human being from biological, behavioral, social, and cultural perspectives, and apply their knowledge of such.

As we enter a new era at Stanford under President Marc Tessier-Lavigne's leadership and directive toward a "purposeful university," Human Biology and its students and graduates are well positioned more than ever to be a global neighbor, teacher, and leader. Find a way that you too can embrace this mission. It is a small – and interconnected – world, after all.



As always, email me pfisher@stanford.edu with your thoughts, Go HumBio, and Go Stanford!
Paul



Teaching Human Migration Health Challenges and the Effects of Social Policies on Health

Continued from page 1

Rodriguez maximizes participation

with a student-centric classroom structure and by using novel methods from the Stanford [d.school](#). Shaden Alsheik (HB '18) said, "We learned about logic models by using materials like pipe-cleaners, and post-it notes galore. It really gave us a different way of interacting. It engaged the creative brain, which fits in the context of the HumBio major in solving problems." Logic models are used by funders and managers to evaluate the effectiveness of programs.

Another way that Rodriguez engages her students is by charging them with presenting and leading one-third of the quarter's discussions. Students take intellectual ownership of the material and build valuable presentation skills.

In a coffee-shop interview, Ildemaro Jose Gonzalez (HB '18) recalled without consulting his notes that, "The Federal Minimum Wage has been stagnant since 2009. It's still \$7.25, so it is effectively lower than in 1968. Studies show that where income inequality is greater, health outcomes are worse."

Expert guests further enrich the class

with their professional perspective. San Mateo County's Senior Community Health Planner, Jasneet Sharma, explained that the county's long-term goal to reduce overall county costs could be met by reducing health care costs. The county, in partnership with its residents, is developing programs that will increase access to resources like active

transportation options, healthy food, diverse public places, parks and open space, high-quality education, stable housing, complete neighborhoods, and an inclusive economy. None of these programs provide health care, yet they will improve overall resident health and lower county health care costs. Students recalled a visit by Dr. Victor Cueto, of Stanford's School of Medicine, who talked memorably about immigrants suffering health consequences due to language barriers in the medical setting.

Students scour research papers

then roll up their sleeves and condense them into four-page policy briefs. These cover the health effects of programs and policies on diverse populations that include foster children, the elderly, international sex-workers, U.S. minorities, and undocumented immigrants. Students show that even policies not directly related to healthcare have side effects on health.

Shaden explained, "The USDA found that there are 418 'food-deserts' across the U.S., and the nearly 23.5 million people, including 6.5 million children, who live in these areas lack access to healthy foods."

Zoning policies that limit fast food outlets are correlated with reduced obesity. A "distance decay" pattern shows that if people have to travel more than 1.75 miles to buy healthy foods, BMI increases. People eat the fast food available in their immediate radius.

Learning to evaluate research methods

is an important objective in both of these courses, but Rodriguez emphasizes this more when teaching students how to analyze the impact of social policies. By taking the lead on presenting and discussing specific research papers, and in developing policy briefs, students really have to understand the research. "We talk about content, but also about methods and how to evaluate those methods," Rodriguez said. "I emphasize how different research is done, so students know how to educate themselves and how to talk to others about these topics."

Rodriguez' global and local projects

focus on health disparities and social epidemiology, within the broader area of public health and program evaluation. She began in Spain where she asked what the impact of 25% unemployment was on health, and asks similar questions about programs and policies in California. Her paper with Dr. Nancy Morioka-Douglas – "Training At-Risk Youth to Become Diabetes Self-Management Coaches for Family Members: Partnering Family Medicine Residents with Underserved Schools" – was featured in *World Biomedical Frontiers* for its innovation and potential for significant impact.

Rodriguez' classes are quintessentially HumBio, where students learn how social policy intersects with health.

Check out student [policy briefs](#) on Rodriguez' website.

Internship Requirement Retires

THE CAPSTONE

replaces Human Biology's long-standing internship requirement, giving students various options for reflecting on their undergraduate studies within the context of their broader interests and values.

The Practicum

is appropriate for students who aim to expand their community-engaged learning, research or pre-professional experiences through reflective written work and presentation. This is well-suited for a career-focused, career-enhancing project presentation.

The Synthesis

expands upon the work of the Practicum, and gives students the opportunity to craft a culminating, creative work of scholarship based on a synthesis of personal and academic interests, including service projects. This project is exhibited during senior year.

The Honors Program provides qualified majors the opportunity to work closely with faculty on an individual research project, culminating in an honors thesis and presentation.

CAPSTONE SYNTHESIS PROJECTS

Immigrant U.S. Food Workers, by Maria Chicuen

Recent political focus on immigrants in the U.S. compelled Maria to create a video on the experience of immigrants working in the U.S. food system. She asked them how they got to the U.S., how working in the food system has shaped their lives, what type of work they did in their home countries, what opportunities and difficulties they encountered in the U.S., and if they had to do it all over again, would they still immigrate?

In developing her video, Maria drew from a large number and variety of classes, internships, service experiences in the U.S. food system, and conversations with immigrant food-workers. Her internships ranged from working with Miami's non-profit [Urban Oasis Project](#), to a summer stint at a ballpark concession with Bon Appetit. Her classes spanned a range of food topics that included obesity in America and sustainability initiatives, like reducing waste in dining halls. She dedicated time each week as an English language tutor



for a Spanish-speaking campus worker. She attended the True Cost of American Food conference, which featured panels of the food industry's heavy hitters. Another organization that Maria learned about was the [Kitchen Table Advisors](#) which provides small-scale farmers with tools, and help with business plans. Digging in at the campus, city, and national levels, Maria built her knowledge base of the U.S. food system and the critical role that immigrant workers play in it.

Maria was awarded as a Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellow at the Congressional Hunger Center in Washington D.C..

Stanford Workers Collaborative, by Vanessa Ochavillo

Vanessa's synthesis project enhanced student engagement with campus workers by organizing events to foster conversations among them. With an interest in journalism and public health, she oriented her community-engaged scholarship by using the cross-sectoral similarity of these three fields in their underlying mission to improve social conditions. She aimed to hybridize these fields in a way that could benefit a marginalized group, which in this case was the Filipino worker community in

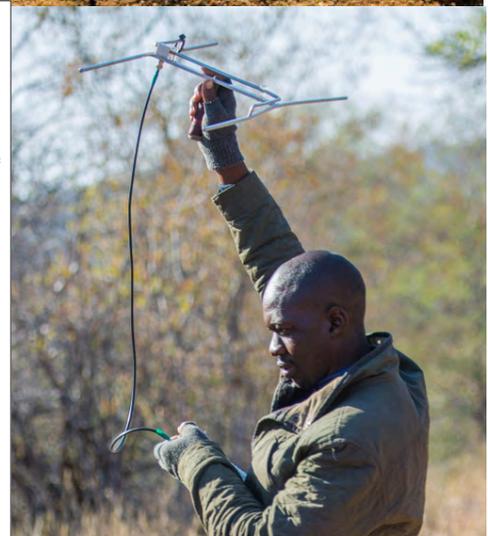
the South Bay. Storytelling, community building and collaboration were the three pillars of Vanessa's Stanford Worker Collaborative. Enhanced engagement was achieved through new events and a collaborative newsletter. At the *Meet Our Workers* event, on-campus Filipino workers shared their stories about moving to the U.S. and what some of their first jobs here were like. In the *Workers Appreciation Dinner*, students and workers engaged in casual conversation, and collaborated on rap, poetry, and writing based on the theme, "What's in your heart?"



BLOOD IN THE SAND: LIVES LOST IN THE FIGHT FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S RHINOS



Kinjal Vasavada's Capstone project is a photography exhibit that shows the plight of rhinos and the people involved in their capture. With the special support of the [Bingham Fund for Student Innovation](#), she opened her exhibit with a reception this spring in the Wallenberg Hall, and her photo story is now on display in the Hum Bio lobby.



Local residents are employed in anti-poaching efforts
 Karabo (top left) works as an unarmed guard at the Rhino Revolution Orphanage.
 Lewyn Maefala (middle left) is a leader in the Black Mamba anti-poaching unit, whose goals are law enforcement, empowerment of women and environmental education.
 A sangoma (lower left) is a traditional healer approached by poachers for protective Muthi (magic potions, beads). Rangers organize community forums to ask their help in anti-poaching efforts.

Rhino horn is double the price of gold on the black market, due to its rumored curative properties. While skyrocketing demand has proven calamitous to the rhino population in South Africa, it has also come at a human cost. At least 500 poachers have been killed in poaching related conflicts over the past five years – a fact that is largely underreported. Kinjal's photo exhibit shares the stories of the humans who are impacted by rhino poaching, and hopes to help stop the war over the horn that is, like our fingernails, just a lump of keratin.

Photographs and captions are posted here with permission. To view the full exhibit, visit Kinjal's website: kinjalvasavada.wordpress.com

To catch a poacher
 Conservation K-9 (top right) is a private anti-poaching company that trains dogs to aggressively engage poachers.
 Converse shoe prints (middle right) in a nature reserve are a red flag for anti-poaching units, since poachers typically cannot afford boots.
 Telemetry devices (lower right) are used to locate rhinos daily. All rhinos in the Greater Makalali Private Reserve are chipped or collared with GPS devices.

STUDENT SHOWCASE



CONSERVATION PHOTOGRAPHY BRIDGES ART & SCIENCE

Tamara Mekler (HB '17) explores the relationship between humans and nature and aims to bridge the gap between the scientific community and the art scene using conservation

photography as her storytelling tool. Tamara was awarded the *Barbara & Sandy Dornbusch Award for Excellence in Research Related to Families and Children*, for her thesis “Effects of

Bilingual Exposure on Inhibitory Control and Pragmatic Inferences in Young Children.”

To view more of her photography work, visit her [website](#).



STUDENTS' TAKE ON STRESS

Vivian Lam's deeper look at student life

Vivian (HB '17) is a prolific blogger for Stanford's online, de-stress portal, *The Duck Stops Here*.



Photo: Odyssey

In her entry entitled, [Remember that you are a lobster](#), Vivian encouragingly puts student stress into perspective. “As we expand our knowledge base and take on more complex and intense coursework, we have been growing. With every challenge, mistake, and triumph, we have been pushing against the confines of our shell, just on the brink of shattering the

fine line running between what we once thought of as *maybe* possible and *utterly* impossible.”



Vivian probes for the deeper meaning in daily experience, and distills her thinking poetically, consoling her readers with an honesty that is at times *Seinfeld*-esque.

Relax and enjoy a visit to Vivian's gentler, fearless world by reading her articles in [The Duck Stops Here](#), and the [Stanford Daily](#).

Jazzmin Williams

SA - CA - DJ

Jazzmin (HB '17) is a Student Advisor (SA), an incoming Core Course Associate (CA), and DJ. Going the extra mile for students and friends, she compiled a [musical playlist](#) to accompany students throughout each week of the quarter. Jazzmin writes encouraging words to go with each song.

STUDENT NEWS: CONGRATULATIONS AWARD WINNERS

Join HumBio in heartily congratulating our students for their outstanding research, creative writing, and service work in local and global communities!

Firestone Medals for Excellence in Undergraduate Research

[Firestone Medals](#) are awarded to the top 10% of undergraduate honors theses completed in a given year.

Maria Castro's thesis is entitled, *Quantitative Analysis of White Matter Differences in Children Born Preterm and Full Term*, and was advised by Heidi Feldman (Pediatrics– Neonatology) and Jeffrey Wine (Psychology).

Melissa Eidman's thesis is entitled, *Still Reservations: Identifying Contributors to Health on the Yurok Reservation*, and was advised by Donald Barr (General Pediatrics), Gabriel Garcia (Gastroenterology & Hepatology), and Sawar Young-Tripp (California Rural Indian Health Board).

Humanities & Sciences Louis Sadler Prize in the Performing & Creative Arts: in the field of creative writing

Anthony Milki is a talented nonfiction writer, and a strong advocate for campus-wide involvement in writing and the arts. He brought his experience as a pre-med student into powerful and innovative creative nonfiction on palliative care and ethical choices, joining science and the arts in his presentations.

Empowering people with disabilities in Thailand

Oranicha “Natty” Jumreornvong moved across the world to learn how to improve the lives of people with disabilities at home in Thailand, where religious stigma hangs heavily over these health issues. “If a person has a disability, it means they have committed sins in their past life,” Natty said. Read more in the [Stanford Report](#).



Haas Center for Public Service Fellows

Priscilla Acuna Mena will be matched with a senior mentor and work for 11 months at a host foundation to gain experience in philanthropy, as a [Tom Ford Fellow in Philanthropy](#).

Katherine Bick and **Dru Brenner** will both work with the Ravenswood Family Health Center, and **Julia Vazquez** will work with Redwood City 2020/John Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities, all as [Stanford Public Interest Network Fellows](#).

Two Fulbright Grants awarded

[Fulbright grant](#) recipients are chosen “to represent the U.S. and help to promote mutual understanding among nations.”

Vivian Ho will work in Ugandan villages to scale up a comprehensive approach via entrepreneurial models and community-based interventions to improve maternal and child health.



Emily Kelly will conduct research in India to identify and systematically evaluate traditional Tibetan medicines for their antibiotic potential.

Two John Gardner Public Service Fellows

HumBio seniors, **Melissa Eidman**, and **Ali Murat Gali** have been awarded Gardner fellowships and will work full-time for 10 months with a government or nonprofit agency in the U.S.. Melissa and Ali will benefit from opportunities that are not normally available to recent graduates.

“[John W. Gardner](#) was a builder of ideas and unifier of people and causes, and an active and distinguished participant in America’s educational, philanthropic, and political life.”

James W. Lyons Award for Service

Johnny Xu was recognized for his volunteer service at the Chinatown Community Development Center in San Francisco to empower low-income youth to go to college. Read more in the [Stanford Report](#).



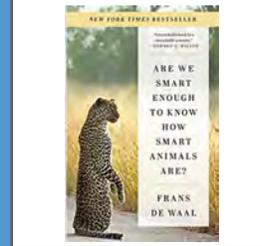
Sustainable Stanford Award honors

Emma Fisher is a track and field athlete and led the Stanford Carbon Offsets to Reduce Emissions (SCORE) program, establishing one of the first collegiate programs to offset the carbon emissions from varsity sports travel. SCORE purchased enough carbon offsets to negate 100 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with varsity travel. Emma also worked on sustainability projects for Residential & Dining Enterprises. Emma was awarded the Firestone Medal for her research in Earth Systems. Article excerpts from the [Stanford News](#).



HUMBIO BOOK CLUB

SUMMER BOOK



Devon Zander, with support from the Bingham Fund for Student Innovation in Human Biology, organized a book club for HumBio students. Faculty with topic area expertise will facilitate discussions.

BUSINESS INSIDER

asked Stanford students what APPS are on their Home Screens
HumBio Students answer
More student APPS in [Business Insider](#).

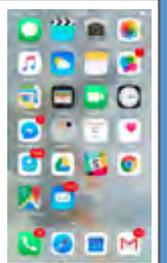
Olivia Bernadel-Huey (HB '18)

Highlight app: SubItUp, an employee scheduling software for checking, adding or dropping shifts.



Kerry Wang (HB '17)

Highlight app: Google Calendar, to prevent overscheduling. And FaceTime for chats with twin sister.



Erin Hawley (HB '18)

Highlight app: Textra, for its “stunning, highly personalized interface.” Only compatible with Androids.



HumBio congratulates our outstanding student athletes for their achievements in sailing, soccer, rowing, volleyball, and water polo



Photo: Stanford News

Inky Ajanaku wins Honda Sport Award for Volleyball

Inky was selected from among 1000 NCAA member schools as the top woman athlete in volleyball, and has become a finalist for the Collegiate Woman Athlete of the Year, and the prestigious Honda Cup. Read more in the [Stanford Report](#).

I am nothing but humbled to win this award because I know that many of the people who played against me and beside me are all deserving. I am proud of how our team played at the end of the season, and even more so for the smaller moments of strength shown when we weren't as successful. Being a part of a team with that type of resilience is the greatest honor.

Women's Water Polo National Champions

HumBio teammates: Julia Hermann, Kat Klass, Sophia Monaghan, Cassidy Papa, Jordan Raney and Cassidy Wiley.



Stanford won its sixth NCAA team title for Women's Water Polo against UCLA. As of May 2017, this is Stanford's 113th NCAA overall team title – tying UCLA for overall team titles. Enjoy an action packed video of the game at [Go Stanford](#).

Women's Volleyball National Champions

HumBio teammates: Inky Ajanaku, Alexis Froistad, and Tami Alade.



"This Cardinal team was the youngest team ever to play in an NCAA Final Four in women's volleyball, but played like experienced veterans and claimed Stanford's seventh national title in program history." [GoStanford](#)

Ruth Narode named Pac-12 Women's Rowing Athlete of the Year



Photo: Casey Valentine, ISlphotos.com

Sailing, Soccer, Volleyball, and Water Polo photos courtesy of Stanford Athletics



Photo: David Bernal, ISlphotos.com

Women's Lightweight Rowing National Champions

HumBio teammates: Serena Harber, Ally Hinson, Micah Trautwein.

Men's Soccer National Champions

As of December 2016, this was Stanford's 133rd national team title, and 110th NCAA team title. Read more in [Go Stanford](#).

We looked at last year's squad and said, 'Wow, we had some incredible individual players and incredible talent all over the field.' After the first few games this year, something felt like it was missing. We had to encourage and develop every single one of our players into something special like those guys were last year. Over time, we did that.

Drew Skundrich



Maeve White is Women's Sailing All American



Bringing online medical education to South Africa



[Maya Adam, M.D.](#), (HB '04) is leading an effort to bring healthcare training to health workers in South Africa. Stanford's School of Medicine educators and South African leaders met at a health-care summit to collaborate on this new initiative, whose goal is to have an online library of medical-education videos, like the Khan Academy. Read more on [Stanford's SCOPE](#).

Anti-bacteria eating enzymes at work in train stations



[Rachel Becker](#), (HB '11) is a staff science reporter for [The Verge](#), which features the latest in science news. She wrote a [recent article on neutralizing pee stink](#) with bacteria-eating enzymes – a useful tool for train stations. Rachel has also written for *NOVA Next*, *Smithsonian*, *Nature*, *National Geographic*, and YouTube series *Gross Science*.

This is your brain on drums...



[Jack Bowen](#), M.A., (HB '95), writer and philosopher, accompanied an awesome litany of biological, neurological, and universal facts with an awe inspiring drum solo during his talk at [Stanford's TEDx](#).

Syria “deconflict” zone and Paris climate agreement



[Tess Bridgeman](#), D.Phil., (HB '03) recently served as Special Assistant to the President, Associate Counsel to the President, and Deputy Legal Advisor to the National Security Counsel. Tess analyzes Syria's “Deconfliction Zone,” asking if the U.S. is on firm legal footing, and on why it matters that the Paris agreement is legally binding. Read her [articles in Just Security](#).

Children’s febrile seizures

[Paul Fisher](#), M.D., (HB '84, HumBio's director) served on the American Academy of Pediatrics' subcommittee that wrote the febrile seizure guidelines. In the [U.S. News and World Report](#), Paul advised parents that even if a child experiences more than one febrile seizure, that “it's typically benign-with no long-term health implications.” While seizures are scary and a child should receive immediate medical attention, he advises, “Easier said than done, but rule number 1 is remain calm.”

Breast cancer studies: non-cancer drug interactions, and physicians’ misunderstanding of genetic test results



[Allison Kurian, M.D., M.Sc.](#), (HB '95) co-authored two recent breast cancer studies. One study searched Stanford's [Oncoshare](#) database for [noncancer drugs](#) with which patients had statistically better outcomes. The other study examined physicians' misunderstanding of [genetic test results in hampering mastectomy](#) decisions.

Online Palliative Care Course

[Kavitha Ramchandran](#), M.D., (HB '99) created, *Palliative Care Always*, an online course for health practitioners, volunteers, patients, and families who work and live with cancer. This course features presentations by Stanford palliative medicine clinicians, video scenes with a fictional patient experiencing colon cancer, and interactive discussions. Visit the [course webpage](#).



Emergency room doctor’s perspective on the Affordable Care Act (ACA)

[Apa Sohoni](#), M.D., (HB '00), an ER doctor, shared her [perspective on KOED](#) that the ACA met a key objective to reduce ER visits by uninsured patients for non-urgent conditions. These patients are better off seeing a primary care doctor for non-urgent conditions. After the ACA, the ER was again a place where patients actually came for emergency care.



HumBio’s LinkedIn group wants you!

Are you finding jobs? Do you want to hire great HumBio alumni?

View and share jobs, grad-school funding opportunities, inspirations, and training ideas. Alumni want to hear how you are living and working with your degree.

Nearly 1000 HumBio alumni are now members of this group. The 1000th member will win HumBio swag!

[Stanford Program in Human Biology \(Hum Bio\) Major Alumni](#)

CAREER TIP

[Lenika De Simone](#) (HB '12), enthusiastically recommends a career trajectory in genetic counseling for HumBio alumni. A-side and B-side are perfect preparation to go into a master's program in this growing field.

Missing Blue Footed Boobies? Enjoy this recent New York Times article.



Photo credit: Vince Smith, from London, UK, uploaded by mrjohncummings

Book your flight for Stanford time travel in *Letters home from students 1906-2016* by visiting [Their Words Live webpage](#), [www.lettershomefromstanford.com](#)

Seung Kim, M.D., research may hold clues to developing treatments for diabetes

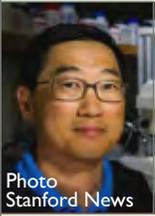


Photo Stanford News

Kim and his team converted alpha cells from the pancreas into insulin-producing beta cells in mice. Kim says, "It is important to carefully evaluate any and all potential sources of new beta cells for people with diabetes. Now we've discovered what keeps an alpha cell as an alpha cell, and found a way to efficiently convert them in living animals into cells that are nearly indistinguishable from beta cells. It's very exciting." Read more in the [Stanford Report](#).

[Kim](#) is the Professor of Developmental Biology & by courtesy, of Medicine (Oncology). He lectures on regulation of blood glucose in HumBio 3A: Cell and Developmental Biology.

Christopher Gardner, Ph.D., cofounded the Menu of Change University Research Collaborative



Photo Stanford Medicine

Gardner and the Culinary Institute of America have teamed up to tackle unhealthy and unsustainable foods in university dining halls. Over 40 colleges and universities have already pledged their support, and are using dining halls to experiment with mouth-watering, sustainable, healthy recipes. Read more in the [Business Insider](#).

HumBio congratulates [Christopher](#) on his appointment as the Rehnborg Farquhar Professor (Research) of Medicine (Stanford Prevention Research Center). Gardner teaches HumBio 130: Human Nutrition and HumBio 166: Food and Society: Exploring Eating Behaviors in Social, Environmental, and Policy Context.

Roeland Nusse awarded \$3 million



Photo Stanford Medicine News

[Breakthrough Prize](#) for helping to decode how Wnt signaling proteins affect embryonic development, cancer and the activity of tissue-specific adult stem cells that repair damage after injury or disease. The Breakthrough Prizes honor paradigm-shifting research and discovery in the fields of life sciences, fundamental physics, and mathematics. Nusse said, "This is a complete surprise. My gratitude goes out to many people... this award is a great honor for the entire community."

[Nusse](#) is the Virginia and Daniel K. Ludwig Professor in Cancer Research, and Professor and Chair of Developmental Biology. He teaches HumBio 3A: Cell and Developmental Biology.

Paul Wise, M.D., on Changing Rules of War



Watch the American Academy of Arts & Sciences video

Most civilian casualties in war are not the result of bombs and bullets; they are due to the destruction of the essentials of daily living, including food, water, shelter, and health care.

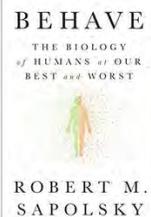
[Wise](#) is the Richard E. Behrman Professor in Child Health, and Professor, by Courtesy, of Health Research and Policy. He teaches HumBio 129S: Global Public Health, and HumBio 126A: Advanced Seminar in Health & Security.

Robert Sapolsky's book, Behave: The Biology of Humans at Our Best and Worst



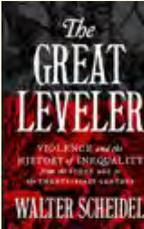
Photo Stanford News

looks at the factors that bear on a person's reaction in the precise moment a behavior occurs, and then hops back in time from there, in stages, ultimately ending up at the deep history of our species and its evolutionary legacy, and wrestles with some of our deepest questions. Enjoy his [TED](#) talk.



[Sapolsky](#) is the John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn Professor and Professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery. He teaches HumBio 160: Human Behavioral Biology.

Walter Scheidel's book, The Great Leveler



asks if mass violence and catastrophes are the only forces that can seriously decrease economic inequality. Tracing global history from the Stone Age to today, he shows that inequality never dies peacefully. *Nature* calls this a "Magisterial sociopolitical history..." Enjoy the [Washington Post](#) interview.



Photo Stanford Classics

[Scheidel](#) is the Dickason Professor in the Humanities, Professor of Classics & History, and a Kennedy-Grossman Fellow in Human Biology. He teaches HumBio 2B: Culture, Evolution, and Society.



GEOFFREY HELLER in Memoriam

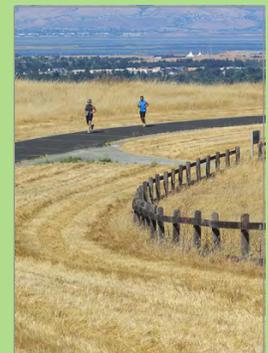
April 24, 1924 - March 16, 2017

Heller had a vivid imagination, a keen intellect, and a sly sense of humor. He was kind and generous, and highly principled in his professional and personal relationships. Perhaps the greatest joy in his professional life came in the ten years after "retirement," when he taught Comparative Health Policy at Stanford University. He loved every class. Many students remained close friends, and kept Heller hopeful for the future.

[See more at SF Gate](#)

THE DISH

Enjoy a virtual walk through the camera lens of Robert Siegel by visiting "[doctor Bob's](#)" website.



THE BILL DURHAM TEACHING FUND IS BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!
 TO LEARN HOW TO DONATE, VISIT THE HUMBIO ALUMNI WEBPAGE
HUMANBIOLOGY.STANFORD.EDU/ALUMNI

THANK YOU!

Human Biology appreciates
 our kind supporters.

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Photo: February 27, 2017
 by Robyn Duby

WATER IN LAKE LAGUNITA!

It has been a long time since Lake
 Lagunita had this much water in it!

In case you missed reading alumni
 reminiscences about antics and
 pleasures at Lake Lag, enjoy Stanford
 Magazine's, [Tales of the Lake](#).

SAVE THE DATE

HumBio's Annual Reunion

Friday, October 13
 from 4:30 - 6:00 pm
 at HumBio's Building 20



HumBio Staff

- Director: Paul Fisher
- Assoc. Director: Katherine Preston
- Manager: Linda Barghi
- Student Service Officer: Lia Cacciari
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- Alumni Officer/News: Robyn Duby
- Course Support: Samantha Cooper
- Core Coordinator: Annette Salmeen
- Academic Technology: Carlos Seligo
- Program in Human Biology
 Stanford University
 450 Serra Mall, Building 20
 Stanford, CA 94305-2160
 650-725-0336

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GOT STORIES?

read others' - share yours

[https://humanbiology.stanford.edu/
 alumni-stories](https://humanbiology.stanford.edu/alumni-stories)

SEND YOUR...

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to Robyn Duby
rdubuy@stanford.edu

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with nearly 1000 HumBio alumni on
 our LinkedIn group. The 1000th
 member will win HumBio swag!
[Stanford Program in Human Biology
 \(HumBio\) Major Alumni group](http://Stanford Program in Human Biology (HumBio) Major Alumni group)
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/904027>



TRAVEL WITH HUMBIO PROFS

BILL DURHAM

September 7 - 22, 2017
[Tanzania Field Seminar](#)



BILL DURHAM

June 12 - July 2, 2018
[Peru Family Seminar](#)



HERANT KATCHADOURIAN

May 20 - Jun 1, 2018
[Burgundy and the Loire Valley](#)



BOB SIEGEL

June 27 - July 6, 2018
[Galapagos Family Adventure](#)

