

UAB Sparkman Center for Global Health

Annual Report 2017

The vision of the Sparkman Center for Global Health is alleviation of health problems in less developed countries by increasing public health capacity. This vision reflects the global nature of population-level health issues, the impact of health on human development, and the need for collaboration in resolving major health issues of our time.

The mission of the Sparkman Center is to contribute to solutions of health problems in developing countries through undergraduate and graduate-level public health education, research, and training programs.

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OVERVIEW

The evolving reality for global health and global health programs at US academic institutions in the 21st century is that many/most potential partner countries, even those countries with very limited resources, have established public health training programs in various forms using multiple models including taking advantage of online offerings. Health care delivery systems have similarly evolved and advanced and few if any have developed unsustainable systems as we have in the US. With this, the more productive and respectful model of interactions and collaborations with both international academic institutions and ministries of health has become one of establishing priorities for training, research and service through dialogue and clearer understanding of local needs and systems. Once these priorities and needs are identified, a goal for a center such as the Sparkman Center for Global Health (SCGH) is identifying synergies or facilitating collaborations outside of an individual's expertise and identifying key collaborators both internationally as well as within UAB or other partners with similar interests. The benefit of multidisciplinary approaches has also become paramount in effective public health and health care delivery work both domestically and internationally. With this background, the activities of the SCGH have evolved to optimize impact with targeted countries and programs.

This Annual Report for 2017 describes our ongoing activities and the report is organized to be thematically similar to our prior reports.

We appreciate your feedback and questions. Do not hesitate to contact us at sparkmancenter@uab.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'C. Wilson'.

Craig Wilson, MD
Professor & Director Sparkman Center for Global Health

SCGH ANNUAL REPORT 2017

SCGH UAB INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

- **HEALTH CARE WORKER TRAINING CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES**

These efforts are usually initially supported with SCGH funds and once established have been supported with NIH, CDC or USAID funding but now also include support from local Ministries, particularly for the African initiatives. Overall SCGH development strategies have been directed toward a small number of countries with initial connections or ongoing SCGH or other UAB programs. Evolution of programs has been driven by leadership and faculty interest on both sides and expansion has been driven predominantly by opportunistic availability of funding. Longer-term strategy is for evolution into joint programs or research collaborations and working with UAB leadership to identify a small number of long-term strategic partners for further work. Investment going forward would follow these same funding models.

The Sparkman Center for Global Health developed relationships and several contracts with collaborators in the following countries:

- **ZAMBIA ([HTTP://WWW.SPARKMANCENTER.ORG/ZAMBIA](http://www.sparkmancenter.org/zambia))**
 - University of Zambia
 - School of Medicine: Supported Moses Sinkala Memorial Research awards including candidate selection
 - Worked with leadership to submit a Health Professionals Education Partnership Initiative (HEPI) application to be reviewed in 2018
 - Chainama College of Health Sciences
 - Have been supporting staff development in public health, basic sciences and leadership for transition of school to full university affiliate
 - Continued commitments which ran through the end of 2017
 - CIDRZ
 - Continued connections and discussed synergies and collaborations with leadership and new UAB Faculty (Sikazwe, Reid, Vinikoor, Bolton)
 - Established the UAB Sparkman-CIDRZ *Zambian Health Corps* Fellowship for the 2017-2018 year. The 2017-2018 fellows were Ms. Mbaita Shawa and Dr. Chileshe Mabula-Bwalya.

Mbaita Shawa, MPH

Ms. Mbaita Shawa holds an MPH degree with a concentration in Global Health from Simon Fraser University, Canada. She previously worked at the Zambia Center for Applied Health Research and Development (ZCAHRD), on an Early-Childhood Development

project. For the CIDRZ Fellowship, Ms. Shawa was selected to work with the Social Science Research Department under the supervision of Dr. Roma Chilengi and Jenala Chipungu. During the fellowship Ms. Shawa was trained in developing standard operating procedures, development of focus group discussion (FGD), in-depth interview (IDIs) guides, and data collection using FGDs and IDIs. She had an opportunity to pilot qualitative data collection tools, and in some instances, led the implementation, monitoring and evaluation and training on some of these components of data collection. Ms. Shawa also monitored project activities, conducted qualitative data analysis and wrote scientific papers. With the guidance of her CIDRZ mentors, she drafted a manuscript on the barriers of modern contraceptive uptake amongst women of reproductive age in rural Zambia. Upon completing the 2017-2018 CIDRZ Fellowship, Ms. Shawa intends to work as a social science researcher at a research institution.

Chileshe Mabula-Bwalya, MD

Dr. Mabula-Bwalya holds a BA in Human Development from the University of California, San Diego, and a Medical Degree from The University of Zambia. Dr. Mabula-Bwalya gained research experience when she worked in labs and on studies in San Diego and Lusaka; implemented a successful intervention for adolescents living with HIV in Eastern Province. During the CIDRZ fellowship, Dr. Mabula-Bwalya worked with the Enteric Disease and Vaccines Research Unit, working primarily on enteric disease vaccine effectiveness clinical trials in cholera and rotavirus. Dr. Mabula-Bwalya was able to participate in every aspect of conducting a clinical trial; from developing research concepts, and taking study proposals through the ethics and regulatory approval process, to disseminating findings. She also wrote grant applications, study protocols, standard operating procedure manuals, and manuscripts for publication. Upon completing the 2017-2018 CIDRZ Fellowship, Dr. Mabula-Bwalya intends to transition to a one-year, NIH-funded mentored research training fellowship in HIV and women's reproductive health, before continuing on to graduate school, and a career as a Principal Investigator in reproductive health research.

- **Ethiopia (<http://www.sparkmancenter.org/ethiopia>)**
 - Addis Ababa University
 - School of Medicine: Worked with leadership to submit a Health Professionals Education Partnership Initiative (HEPI) application to be reviewed in 2018

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (LAC)

- **Jamaica (<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/jamaica>)**

- Continued partnerships in 2017 with the following agencies: Jamaica AIDS Support for Life (JASL), Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC), Eve for Life, and the University of the West Indies
 - Dormant partnerships: ASHE and the Jamaican Ministry of Health
 - Developed a manuscript on the implementation of Motivational Interviewing that occurred in Jamaica from 2015 to 2016.
- **Dominican Republic (<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/dominican-republic>)**
 - Continued partnerships in 2017 with the following agencies: Centro de Orientación e Investigación Integral (COIN), Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC), and Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE)
 - Enhanced partnership with UNIBE, namely its School of Medicine through the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding
 - Dormant partnerships: None
 - Published four manuscripts on transgender health, supported by funding from the UAB Sparkman Center for Global Health. See: <http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/sparkman-center-support-five-studies-accepted-for-publication-highlight-societal-level-and-individual-level-challenges-faced-by-women-in-the-dominican-republic-and-haiti>
 - Supported the travel by Robert Garafalo and Lisa Kuhns to conduct a capacity building training with Ministry of Health and COIN healthcare worker trainings on care (e.g. proper collection of anal swab samples) and support (e.g. psychosocial) of MSM and transgender populations.
 - Continued funding for Elaine McGlaughlin, MPH at CVC (in the Dominican Republic) to support the CVC/UAB collaboration.
 - Placed Mugdha Mokashi (will start at Harvard Medical School in fall 2018) in a summer internship based in the Dominican Republic supporting the population size estimates project being conducted in the Eastern Caribbean. Please see section below.
- **Eastern Caribbean (OECS)**
 - The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) includes ten member groupings of islands including Leeward Islands: Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, Montserrat, Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands; and the Windward Islands: Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada and Martinique. UAB Sparkman Center for Global Health supported activities occurred in six of these ten nations: Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Grenada.
 - Continued partnerships in 2017 with the following agencies: Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC)
 - Dormant partnerships: None
 - Continued assisting with prevalence population size estimates in vulnerable populations in OECS countries supported by Global Fund funding.
 - Funded German Henostroza (UAB) to conduct a prevalence study of tuberculosis in Antigua
- **Belize**
 - Continued partnerships in 2017 with the following agencies: Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition (CVC)
 - Dormant partnerships: United Belize Advocacy Movement (UNIBAM)

- Continued assisting with prevalence population size estimates in vulnerable populations in Belize supported by United Nations (UNDP) funding.
- **Trinidad and Tobago**
 - Continued partnerships in 2017 with the following agencies: University of West Indies
 - Dormant partnerships: None
 - Continued interest in developing D43 training grant applications for capacity building or traditional research grants being led by UAB
- **India**
 - Avni Health Foundation
 - The SCGH continues to support Avni's efforts to reduce maternal mortality through the implementation and assessment of emergency obstetric care (EmOC).
 - Dr. Henna Budhwani, a UAB doctoral epidemiology student, and colleagues published on limitations of EmOC in India through the analysis of secondary Avni data. See: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28867883>
 - A current student project is underway which examines geographic differences in a set of maternal outcomes.
- **Cameroon**
 - Continued discussions with Dr. Alan Tita (SOM Ob/Gyn) and Dr. Jodie Dionne-Odom for possible programs. Challenges because of political unrest in Eastern regions in 2017
 - FIC training grant application resubmitted in 2017, but was not favorably reviewed.
 - Sparkman funded Renata Hocking to intern in the Cameroon with Dr. Jodie Dionne-Odom as the primary instructor.
 - Drs. Tita, Dionne-Odom, Budhwani and Anna Helova's research in the Cameroon was presented at the International AIDS Society annual meeting in Paris, France
- **Other Potential Collaborative Engagements**
 - Haiti: Dr. Henna Budhwani and colleagues published using secondary data on PMTCT in Haiti. Additionally, Dr. Budhwani and colleagues (UAB and CVC) initiated a series of secondary analyses projects (to be completed in 2018) examining health and behavior of sex workers on the border of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. These preliminary data could produce sufficient evidence to support the development of an R34 application.

Other International Collaboration - <http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/international-partners>

- The SCGH continued support Dr. Nalini Sathiakumar and her efforts in **Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan** in follow through of her ITREOH work predominantly in the environmental health area through September of 2017.
- **E-Learning Tool Development and Dissemination -** <http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/elearning-tool-development>

Interest in this area was/is driven by lack of textbook and library resources in most resource-limited areas. Lack of internet access especially in rural areas directed our interest in development of the eGranary resource as a primary tool. In addition, most health care worker training programs have nationally approved curriculum and thus could be organized and common resources identified.

- **eGranary Tool Development (SeP: Sparkman eGranary Project)-**
<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/elearning-tool-development/egranary>
 - Continuing to add content in areas of interest
 - Established an agreement with eG developer to reorganize content onto a different platform
 - Zambian and Ethiopian programmers with technical support from programmers at UAB developed a software program for organizing educational programs which was released as an open-source resource in October 2017 (<http://www.uab.edu/news/research/item/8777-new-software-makes-educational-materials-more-accessible-in-developing-nations>)

- **SeP Zambia**
 - Developed a model for delivery of Secondary School content that was used to demonstrate the utility of model to the Ministry of Education in 2017
 - Trained one associate on Moodle and now fully certified for local trainings
 - Made connections with Family Legacy and facilitated sale of 192 World Computer Exchange refurbished computers to them for their educational programs.

- **SeP Ethiopia**
 - Supporting a team for Ministry of Health and Education projects (<http://suped.org>); they have been trained by Zambian SeP team for local development of resources
 - Completed pilot setups at two rural locations (Burayu in Oromia state and Chacha in Amhara state), with evaluation visits in December 2017 (<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/elearning-tool-development/elearning>).
 - Agreements signed in 2017 to turn project over to Ethiopian MoE with support from donors
 - Established connections for setting up tablet assembly in Ethiopia

- **SeP Zambia collaboration with Vanderbilt University**
 - Dr. Bantayehu Sileshi at VU has GE Foundation funding for establishment and dissemination of a Nurse Anesthetists training program in 5 East African countries. SeP Zambia personnel completed resource development which was used in 2016/2017 academic period and is being further evaluated.

SCGH UAB EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

These programs and activities have predominantly been developed to be collectively self-sustaining with the activities enhancing the educational programs. Most faculty and staff who did not have appointments in the SOPH now have appointments in the Department of Health Care Organization and Policy (HCOP) and there are formal agreements for tuition reimbursement to the SCGH.

Graduate Certificate in Global Health

(<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/graduate-certificate>)

This program is self-sustaining at this point and we will continue to market it to any student enrolled in a graduate program at UAB, graduate level students outside of UAB enrolling either as non-degree seeking students or as professionals. Course offerings and instructors will be driven predominantly by the interest of students and availability of qualified instructors. Funds are used for instructor and staff support and extra funds are then available for SCGH programs.

- **GHS 604 - Infectious Diseases of Global Health Significance:** This course is designed to introduce participants to the basic biology, epidemiology, control and prevention of infectious diseases of global health significance, i.e., infectious diseases responsible for significant morbidity, mortality, and disability globally. The course focuses on case studies of successes and challenges in the control and prevention of these diseases.
- **GHS 605 - Disabilities and Global Health:** This course explores current paradigms and models for defining and categorizing disability based on various international agreements and documents. The causes of disability, global prevalence and relationship between poverty and disability are analyzed. The course examines issues and conditions that impact people with disabilities in resource-limited settings. This course also examines how local concepts and beliefs frame a society's perspective on disabilities and how this perspective affects the status of persons with disabilities globally.
- **GHS 606 - Critical Issues in Global Maternal and Child Health:** This course introduces students to thematic issues in advancing the health status of women, children and adolescents globally. Beginning with an overview of the global burden of disease among this population group, the course analyzes the causes and consequences of global inequity in MCH morbidity and mortality. The role of politics and power as well as the contribution of specific disease conditions and health systems factors, programs and policies will be examined. Progress and challenges toward achievement of MCH-related millennium development goals are analyzed.
- **GHS 610 - Refugee Health:** Throughout the history of global health, the movement of persons across regional and national boundaries has been linked to the evolution, transmission, and acquisition of diseases (communicable and non-communicable). The purpose of this course is to equip students with skills in analyzing the interrelationships between migration, refugee, and displaced status and health. The course analyzes the

global health implications of population movements, forced migration, health concerns in emergency situations, health care in the post-emergency refugee camps, mental health of refugees and migrants, public health concerns in countries of resettlement, rebuilding communities after trauma and extreme stress, as well as equity and human rights as they apply to refugees and displaced persons.

- **GHS 611 - International NGO Management:** The course addresses issues for managers of NGOs primarily at the field level of operation with special emphasis on project management. It begins with the history of international organizations and their roles in aid, development, and human rights. It follows with the analysis of NGO organizational structure and function, roles and the responsibilities of various stakeholders at the macro and micro level. Project development, planning, implementation, and evaluation are addressed. Management principles and skills include budget preparation and staff/human resource management.

Undergraduate Concentration in Global Health Studies

(<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/undergraduate-concentration>)

The SCGH remained involved with the development and delivery of courses in this tract and SCGH was part of the Undergraduate Program Oversight Committee through the Fall Semester 2017 when the program was turned over to HCOP.

Other education activities

- Undergraduate Global Health Service Learning Course - This course was dropped after the Spring 2017 semester mainly because of the multitude of service learning opportunities that have been developed.
- Graduate/Undergraduate Field Courses – (<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/field-courses>)
The SIFAT experience(s) remained very popular and a two-week May program and a one-week August program were offered in 2017. This is a break-even prospect for the SCGH.

Other Programs and Opportunities at UAB with SCGH Involvement or Leadership

The ongoing campus wide programs initiated through SCGH faculty and staff and are supported with supplemental funding from the School of Public Health (\$15,000/yr.) through 2017. Except for the Global Citizenship initiative, these programs will be supported with educational funds going forward.

SCGH UAB STUDENT ACTIVITIES

UAB Global Health Case Competition

(<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/2017-uab-case-competition>)

The SCGH hosted the 8th annual UAB Global Health Case Competition at the UAB Hill Student Center. The competition consisted of 67 participants, competing for 1st place (\$1,500 cash prize), 2nd place (\$1,000 cash prize) and 3rd place (\$500 cash prize). The 2017 UAB Global Health Case topic was: Feminine Hygiene in the Rukungiri District of Uganda -

http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/images/2017_UAB_Case_Competition_Case_FINAL.pdf

Statewide Global Health Case Competition

(<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/2017-statewide-case-competition>)

The SCGH hosted its first Statewide Global Health Case Competition. The SCGH invited universities from the surrounding Birmingham areas to send a team of undergraduate students to represent their institution. The participating universities included: Auburn University, Birmingham-Southern College (BSC), Samford University, the University of Alabama (UA), and the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). A total of 62 students, representing 12 teams, competed for 1st (\$1,500), 2nd (\$1,000) and 3rd (\$500) place prizes. The 2017 Statewide Global Health Case topic was:

Impacts of Malnutrition in the First 1,000 Days on a Child's Health in Rural Ethiopia

http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/images/2017_Statewide_Case_FINAL.pdf. The winners included:

University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) – Team 6 (1st place), the University of Alabama (UA) – Roll Tide Team 10 (2nd place) and UAB – Team 4 (3rd place).

Emory Global Health Case Competition

(http://globalhealth.emory.edu/what/student_programs/case_competitions/2017_international_cc.html)

Each year the SCGH sends a team of students to represent UAB in the Emory Global Health Case Competition (EGHCC). Emory University invites students from U.S. institutions in addition to international universities to participate in its annual international case competition. The case competition focuses on a global health case and students are required to provide innovative recommendations/solutions. In 2017 the SCGH sponsored a team of students to attend the 13th annual EGHCC in Atlanta, GA. The UAB team consisted of graduate and undergraduate students who were selected by the SCGH based on their performance in the UAB Global Health Case Competition. Each participating team, representing 24 universities, was tasked with developing a mental health program for children in Monrovia, Liberia.

2017 Emory Global Health Case Competition Team

Niranjan Biligowda	Graduate - Epidemiology
Khushbu Khatri	Graduate - MBA
Samuel Moss	Undergraduate – Public Health
Adegbola Oluwole	Graduate – Health Care Organization & Policy

Priyanka Parajuli	Undergraduate – Biomedical Engineering
Marissa Swanson	Graduate – Medical Psychology/Public Health

Peace Corps Master’s International and Coverdell Fellowship Programs

SCGH supported the Master’s International (MI) and Coverdell Fellowship programs in the SPH and facilitates these same programs in Nursing, Education and Public Administration. The SPH placements in 2017 for the MI program were Edward Trout (Tonga 2017), and SCGH also regularly sponsors Peace Corps recruitment activities at UAB and the greater Birmingham area. 2017 was the last year for intake in the now discontinued MI Program.

Sparkman Fellows

<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/sparkman-fellows>

The Sparkman Fellows Program is intended for highly motivated and engaged students seeking to enhance their understanding of global issues in a stimulating learning environment. Fellows will have the opportunity to engage with UAB faculty in a collaborative environment outside of the classroom, as well as be mentored by faculty in the Sparkman Scholars program. In 2017, fifteen fellows were selected, ranging from undergraduates to doctoral and medical students.

2017 Sparkman Scholars/Fellows Mentor Match

Sparkman Fellows	Sparkman Scholars
Josh Arrage	Dr. Ria Hearld
Niranjana Biligowda	Dr. Nalini Sathiakumar
Jay Dasigi	Dr. Michael Vinikoor
Tolulope Dosunmo	Dr. Tolu Aduroja
Trinh Huynh	Dr. Lynn Nichols
Sarah Jackson	Dr. Pauline Jolly
Sherna Joseph	Dr. Carrie Ann Gakumo
Khushbu Khatri	Dr. Robert Hernandez
Sandhya Krishna	Dr. Janet Turan
Chang Liu	Dr. Leandra Celaya
Matthew Moore	Dr. Magdalena Szaflarski
Samuel Moss	Dr. Martha Dawson
Stevie Nappoe	Dr. Leandra Celaya
Judson Russell	Dr. Ross Vander Noot
Nicholas Sherwood	Dr. Bulent Turan

Student Groups

<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/student-groups>

The UAB Sparkman Center for Global Health supports the following student organizations:

- The UAB Global Health Interest Group (GHIG) is a student organization that aims to raise awareness about global health issues and inspire students to take action. Membership is open to graduate and undergraduate students at UAB. Dr. Budhwani is the current acting faculty advisor. In 2017, the GHIG hosted multiple small awareness events and monthly organization meetings.
- Universities Fighting World Hunger aims to end hunger, poverty, and social injustices locally and globally through outreach events, fundraisers and informational sessions.

Scholarships

- The SCGH continued to support the *Moses Sinkala Zambia Scholarship* (<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/moses-sinkala-endowed-scholarship>) which provides financial assistance to students UNZA who demonstrate an interest in serving the public health needs of Zambia as was a priority of Dr. Moses Sinkala. The 2017 recipients were Emmanuel Liche, Luungo Ziko and Mwangi Mutale. Each received a \$2,000 award.
- The SCGH also selects recipients of the *Moses Sinkala Travel Scholarship* <http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/travel-scholarship>, which is designed to assist UAB students complete an international internship or research opportunity. During the 2017-2018 academic year, the Moses Sinkala Travel Scholarship recipient was Ms. Pamela Musoke. Ms. Musoke is a doctoral student in the Department of Health Care Organization and Policy in the School of Public Health and a 2015-2016 Sparkman Fellow. Her research study aims to assess the acceptability and feasibility of a home-based couples intervention and preliminarily determine effects on acceptance of Couples HIV Counseling and Testing, repeat HIV testing during pregnancy and use of maternal child health, PMTCT and HIV services by pregnant women and male partners.

SCGH UAB CAMPUSWIDE ACTIVITIES

UAB Global Citizenship

(<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/global-citizenship-on-campus>)

The UAB Campus Wide “Global Citizenship” Initiatives were established and Co-Chaired by Dr. Suzanne Austin, Senior Vice-Provost and Senior International Officer and Dr. Craig M. Wilson, Director of the Sparkman Center for Global Health. This group meets each semester to pull together representation from all schools on campus and functional units supporting international endeavors.

Sparkman Scholars

(<http://www.uab.edu/sparkmancenter/sparkman-scholars>)

Sparkman Scholars are part of a recognized network of UAB faculty working in the areas of global health and development. This network aims to facilitate developing new collaborations with colleagues across campus, as well as making linkages with students interested in global health and development. Sparkman Scholars have the opportunity to serve as mentors to Sparkman Fellows.

Sparkman Center Seminars

The Sparkman Seminar Series was initiated in 2001 to provide a forum for UAB faculty, staff, and students to present/discuss their global health research, training, educational, and/or service efforts. The seminar series highlights the existing global health expertise and interest at UAB, but also includes invited speakers from outside the UAB community. During the 2017-2018 academic year, eight seminars were held. The seminar topics included:

- “Opportunities and Challenges to Implement Population Based Cervical Cancer Screening Within the Public Health Landscape in Nepal,” Dr. Sadeep Shrestha
- “The Global Refugee Crisis: Explanations and Implications,” Dr. Tina Reuter, Director of the UAB Institute for Human Rights
- “Zika Update & the NIH Vaccine Development Program: What’s Been Learned & What to Expect for 2017,” Drs. Aaron Neal and Craig Wilson, Professor, Department of Epidemiology, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- “Understanding and Addressing Stigma for Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) and Promotion of Family Health in Kenya,” Dr. Janet Turan, Professor, Department of Health Care Organization and Policy, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- “Religion and HIV: Global and U.S. Perspectives,” Dr. Magdalena Szaflarski, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- “Empowering through education: tackling female genital mutilation, infrastructure for clean water and other challenges in the Maasai Community, Kenya,” Margaret Koshal and Nelson Reiyia, Founders of the Mara Learning & Development Center in Maasai Mara
- “With effective high- and low- tech cervical screening methods, why do high numbers of deaths from cervical cancer continue in low- and middle-income countries? Perplexing...,” Dr. Pauline Jolly, Professor, Department of Epidemiology, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- “Tuberculosis in Peru and operational research to enhance case detection,” Dr. Larissa Otero, Professor, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia (Lima, Peru)