

ACADEMIC  
E C O P H  
NEWSLETTER VOL. 2



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



## A HEARTY APPRECIATION OF DR SHARON TALBOYS



Alumni, students, staff and faculty are appreciative of the incredible work done by Dr. Sharon Talboys during her term of Office as Academic Head at the Ensign College of Public Health. Her two-year stay at the Ensign Campus together with her family ( Tom, Emma and Jack ) was full of fun and loving memories which have been archived in the hearts of the community.

## APPOINTMENT OF DR. MANORTEY AS ACADEMIC HEAD



Starting this new year, Dr. Stephen Manortey took on the role of Academic Head. Here is a sneak peek at his amazing profile:

Dr. Stephen Manortey is a full-time lecturer at the Ensign College of Public Health where he serves as the Head of the Biostatistics Unit. He had his educational training both in Ghana and the United States of America.

He holds an MSc (Statistics) from Brigham Young University and a PhD in Public Health from the University of Utah.

He also holds a Graduate Certificate in Global Health from the University of Utah. Dr. Manortey's research and scholarly works focus on community engagement and evaluating the health needs of residents in rural settings.

His works include using spatial analysis to assess factors that influence complete household enrollment into the National Health Insurance Scheme and also using standard verbal autopsy procedures to generate infant mortality data in selected rural communities in Ghana.

He currently serves as a Principal Investigator on a project dubbed "Health2Go" with the aim of establishing a fully operational model to understand the project's impact on the health of residents in selected "hard-to-reach" communities in the Lower Manya Krobo Municipality in the Eastern Region of Ghana.

## LEADERSHIP CORP PROGRAM

Ensign College of Public Health has developed a specialization in leadership as an integral element of each student's educational experience. Beginning this year, students will be offered a chance to develop leadership capabilities by participating in a new extracurricular program known as the Ensign College of Public Health Leadership Corps. This program is designed to jointly provide students with quality experiences serving in leadership roles to advance Ensign College of Public Health through a series of institutional initiatives. Students accepted into the Leadership Corps will be required to participate in leadership training through programs such as Developing the Leader in You and Application of Good to Great. This extracurricular training will prepare students to contribute their time and talents to one of the institutional initiatives.

Students who participate in the Leadership Corp for 30 hours a semester will be offered a tuition break of Gh¢1,500 for that semester – with a total tuition reduction each year of up to Gh¢3,000.

Students who participate in this program for both the 1st and 2nd semesters will receive a certificate of achievement for service in leadership.

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

### Kenneth R. Young Scholarship

In its second year of disbursement at the Ensign College of Public Health, students still continue to benefit from the Young Family Scholarships – an award of GHs 2,250 per student made available to three students per year.

These generous annual donations from the Young Family are in memory of a father and grandfather who never had the opportunity to attend a university. Three students received awards this academic year 2019/2020. A total of six ECOPH students have received these awards.

### A WORD OF APPRECIATION FROM AN ECOPH ALUMNUS

I was a benefactor of scholarships at the Ensign College of Public Health. Like all other students and alumni, I was supported by admission entry scholarship and was privileged to also gain a thesis project grant made available through the Gay Family. Some students have also had the privilege to access the Young Family scholarships.

I am most grateful for this opportunity which helped to further subsidize my Public Health education.

On behalf of all alumni and student beneficiaries,

I extend a warm appreciation to the founders of these award schemes.

It is my hope to also continue with this chain of philanthropic efforts extended to me through the Young Family and also the Gay Family as well.

God bless you !

“ Medaase – Thank you ”

*Jerry Selase Sifa,  
Class of 2018*







## ORIENTATION FOR NEW STUDENTS - 2018/2019

Matriculation for new students at ECOPH was held on the 29th of September, 2018. The President, Prof. Stephen C. Alder congratulated the students on joining one of the best Public Health colleges in the country. He exhorted the matriculants and encouraged them to be enthusiastic about what they had set out to do. He advised them to plan their activities, be focused and have a positive attitude towards studies.



## “COHORT 5” DONATES TO SRC

Eighteen students of the fifth Cohort made a mark in history by making a generous contribution to support the Office of the Students Representative Council (SRC) on Friday the 7th of June, 2019.

There was a brief handing over ceremony during which the Class Representative, Ike Obi Onyema handed over a computer, a printer and a mobile phone to the SRC President, George Oppong Manuh and his executives. The ceremony was well graced by the President, faculty and staff of the Ensign College of Public Health. The President, Prof. Steve Alder commended the students for their thoughtful and communal efforts towards the growth of their organized body,” For the Ensign College of Public Health to grow, it takes everyone’s dedicated efforts – everyone has to put their Skin in the Game - Well done”



## SCHISTOSOMIASIS FIELD TRIP

**So what happened last semester?** An outside the classroom learning experience! Students had the opportunity to visit the VRA Public Health Unit on 17th May, 2019. The purpose was to gain a practical field learning experience on the epidemiology of Schistosomiasis which is quite prevalent along the Volta Lake. After a lecture from the VRA team, they proceeded to a rural village called Sedorm located along the banks of the lake. They enjoyed a practical field work experience with the VRA team led by Dr. Mike Dade interacting with community members and also screening school children. About 56 out of 126 school children were screened and 41 tested positive for Schistosomiasis. Clearly, there is a lot of work to be done in this area of public health in Ghana and all hands need to be on deck.

## IN-COMING STAFF

Dr. Reuben Kwasi Esena, PhD (Tropical Science - University of Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK). Before joining ECOPH on September 01, 2018 was at the University of Ghana School of Public Health as a Senior Lecturer in Health Systems and Health Leadership. He was the Head of Department of Health Policy, Planning and Management where he served on



the University Academic Board and was in the Working Group to plan the School of Public Health under the Collegiate System.  
Visit : [www.ensign.edu.gh](http://www.ensign.edu.gh) for more details

Cyril Mensah is a fully committed, results orientated and confident Business Manager who possesses vision, ability, drive and enthusiasm needed for success. He has a proven track record of successfully managing

resources and staff to improve efficiency. He was the Supervisor of Operations at



the Ghana Missionary Training Center (Tema/Accra) with practical MBA and BBA Degrees. Starting February 2019, he took up the challenging role of Events Manager at ECOPH.

## FIELD PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE AT TREND - NGO

It was a privilege to have been given the opportunity to do my field service practicum at Training, Research and Networking for Development (TREND).

Whilst there, I was involved in the Greater Accra Metropolitan Accra- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (GAMA-WASH) Project which exposed me to areas of sanitary concern in Public Health; mainly access to toilet facilities and water. I engaged with the community and some selected schools on WASH and gained an in-depth understanding on the impact of these community projects.

Everyday was a learning experience on the field and at the TREND office.

Thank you-ECOPH, Thank you-TREND !

*By: Ike Onyema Obi*

## OCTOBER BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

October 2018 Breast Cancer Awareness month saw the active participation of Ensign students in the nationwide mass awareness campaigns. This activity was part of a joint collaboration between the Volta River Authority, the Center for Global Surgery and ECOPH.



## ADMISSIONS

– ECOPH is poised to take in the next batch of future innovators, entrepreneurs, researchers and professionals for training. Admissions for this year 2018/2019 is still ongoing.

## 2019 GRADUATION

The Graduation Ceremony for the next twenty graduands of the college is marked for Saturday the 20th of July, 2019. The fourth graduation in succession, it is going to be an exciting day which will see the welcoming of new alumni into the family. To heighten the excitement, there will be a ground breaking ceremony on 19th July 2019 for the construction of a building to house the Institute for Community Health and Development, a 2 million dollar project jointly sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Unitus labs.

The Launching of Ensign College of Public Health Alumni Association (ECOPHAA) will also take place within this time period. To all friends of ECOPH and alumni – mark your calendars, make reservations!! Come and support your Alma Mater



## ENSIGN BEACON OF CHANGE -RADIO PROGRAM-

Ensign is now on the radiowaves educating the general public on public health related issues. This program reaches over 1 million people in some parts of the Eastern region, the Volta Region, the Oti region, the Ashanti Region, the Central Region and the Greater Accra Region of Ghana. It is a student-driven project which began in June 2019 and airs every Saturday afternoon from 2:00 pm to 2:30 pm.

Miss Rebecca Ametekpe and Dr. Edward Kofi Sutherland are the Chaperons. Listed are previous program topics:

**1st Program** Dr. Edward K. Sutherland (faculty) & Korley Collins Markwei – Healthy Childhood

**2nd Program** Ike Onyema Obi & Saviour Kwaku Dotse – Impact of Indiscriminate Refuse Disposal on Health

**3rd Program** Doreen Adwoa Afriyie Berchie

– Depression

**4th Program** Philip Yamoah (Alumni)

– Food Hygiene (Animal food products)

**5th Program** Dr. Mercy Obrempong (Alumni)

– Hypertension in Pregnancy



### A RECAP OF MAIN ACADEMIC EVENTS 2018/2019 FIRST SEMESTER

Orientation for new students  
August 31, 2018

Registration began for all students  
September 3-14, 2018

Research proposal submission (Year II)  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2018

Matriculation for new students  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2018

Mid semester examinations  
OCTOBER 11 - 13, 2018

Academic Board Meeting  
December 05, 2018

Final Exams  
December 15, 2018

Field Attachment began (Year I)  
JANUARY 7, 2019





**EDITOR:**  
*Dr. Edward Kofi Sutherland - Lecturer, Medical Director, Ensign College of Public Health; Site Director - West Africa, Center for Global Surgery of the University of Utah.*

I am very much honored to bring to fruition this second academic news letter. The first of which was started by Dr. Sharon Talboys.

This edition sought to provide a kaleidoscopic peek at main events happening within ECOPH over the past year 2018/2019. I would like to thank all who contributed to making this newsletter especially Michael Blay (ECOPH Webmaster) for his technical support.

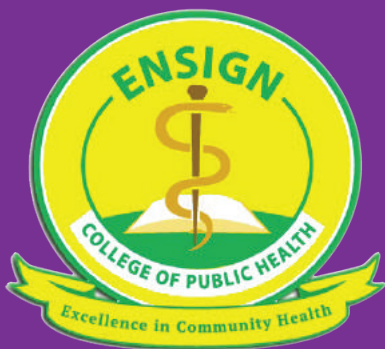


I take this opportunity to introduce the next editors for the next edition of the Academic Newsletter (Volume 3) to continue with ECOPH's literary journey.

- Maxmilliana Dartey
- George Oppong Manuh
- Henry Ugorji Okorie
- Doreen Adwoa Afriyie Berchie
- Nathaniel Affum (Dr.)
- Ike Onyema Obi

I invite all students, alumni and faculty to share literary works and contributions in the form of pictures, stories and articles as well as poetry.

Send to [newsletter@ensign.edu.gh](mailto:newsletter@ensign.edu.gh)



**A RECAP OF MAIN ACADEMIC EVENTS 2019/V2019 SECOND SEMESTER**

- Registration Began (YEAR I)**  
February 4-15, 2019
- THESIS (YEAR II) selection of external reviewers by College**  
February 23, 2019
- Academic Board Meeting**  
March 7, 2019
- THESIS (YEAR II) – Notice of Intent to submit thesis**  
March 20, 2019
- Mid Term Assessment (Year I)**  
April 4-6, 2019
- THESIS (YEAR II) Submission of Thesis to College**  
April 26, 2019
- THESIS FINAL DEFENSE (YEAR II)**  
June 6, 2019
- Academic Board Meeting**  
June 7, 2019
- Final Exams (YEAR I) / End of Year Break (YEAR I)**  
June 6-8, 2019

**ENSIGN'S LITERARY JOURNEY**

*The first Editorial Board of Ensign,  
 Student-driven, volunteer-chosen.  
 The first ever Editorial Members,  
 Worthy of note; chosen without votes.  
 Cohort five members; six in number;  
 Commence the college's literary journey to remember - June 2019.  
 Poet: Dr. Edward K. Sutherland*



**ENSIGN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH**  
 P.O. BOX AK 136 AKOSOMBO- E/R GHANA,  
 (+233) 245 762 229 || (+233) 209 367 829  
[WWW.ENSIGN.EDU.GH](http://WWW.ENSIGN.EDU.GH)  
[INFO@ENSIGN.EDU.GH](mailto:INFO@ENSIGN.EDU.GH)