Welcome to Our Newest Faculty Member!

**Sayeh Nikpay**, PhD, MPH joined the Department in January. Sayeh's research focuses on the impact of health reform on labor market decisions of individuals and hospital finance. She was a staff economist at the Council of Economic Advisers in 2010-2011. She received a B.A. in Biology from Macalester College and an M.P.H. and Ph.D. from the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan.
Upcoming Events

**Faculty Feature**

Justin Bachmann MD, MPH, FAAC was recently granted a secondary appointment in the Department. Welcome Dr. Bachmann!

**Hot off the press...**

*The Tennessean:* Why more than half of hospital bills don't get paid - Larry Van Horn featured

---

**Upcoming Events**

*March 17th, 12-1pm* - Health Policy Grand Rounds - Join us in the 6th floor Board Room at 2525 West End for “Reducing Adolescent Risky Behaviors in a High-Risk Context: The Effects of Unconditional Cash Transfers in South Africa” - Featuring Carolyn Heinrich, Ph.D.

*Please RSVP to hpevents@vanderbilt.edu*

**March 17-18** - *The Politics of Health in the US South* - This two day event examines topics in health policy and public health in light of political, social, economic, and biological characteristics unique to the South. Dept's John Graves speaks March 17th from 2:30 to 4pm, and Gilbert Gonzales speaks March 18th from 2:30 to 3:25. More information is available here.

**March 17th, 4-5pm** - *Special Lecture Series - Value in Oncology Care* - Join us in 512 Light Hall for the second event in our three part series titled, "Lessons from the Private Sector - Successes and Failures in ACOs, Bundled Payments and the Implications for the OCM" featuring Wes Chapman, President & CEO, Verdi Oncology, Operating Partner, Pharos Capital and Aaron Lyss, Director of Payer Programs, at Tennessee Oncology.

**March 24th, 4-5pm** - *Special Lecture Series - Value in Oncology Care* - Join us in 512 Light Hall for the final event in our three part series titled, "Drug Discovery: Clinical Promise and Pricing Problems" featuring Rena Conti, University of Chicago, Laurel Todd, Bio, and Ashlie Singletary, Merck & Co.

**Upcoming Research into Policy and Practice Lecture:**

*April 13th, 12-1pm* - "FDA Accelerated Approval: Does it work? For whom?" - Light Hall 202 featuring Norman
How the State of the Economy Can Cause Drug Abuse to Soar - Christopher Carpenter featured

Zika Spreads into Politics - William Schaffner featured

Health Affairs Blog: Hospice Payment Reforms Are A Modest Step Forward, But More Changes Are Needed - David Stevenson featured

Save the Date...

The Department's Michael Richards, MD, PhD, MPH will be featured in a webinar titled, Regulating Supply in an Era of Increased Demand: Nursing Scope of Practice and Patient Access to Care, on April 20th at 2pm EST held by the Center for

W. Baylor, PhD, President and Chief Executive Officer and David T. Lin, PhD, MBA, Senior Consultant, both of Biologics Consulting, and Michael Decker, MD, MPH, Vice President and Global Medical Expert, Sanofi Pasteur. This event will also feature Melinda Buntin, Department of Health Policy Chair as moderator. Lunch will be provided for those who RSVP to hpevents@vanderbilt.edu.

Upcoming HEP Seminars:

April 1st, 12-1pm - 6th floor Board Room, 2525 West End Ave - featuring Florence Watts

April 4th, 12-1pm - 6th floor Board Room, 2525 West End Ave - featuring Bob Kaestner

April 14th, 12-1pm - 6th floor Board Room, 2525 West End Ave - featuring Adam Sacarny

April 22nd, 12-1pm - 6th floor Board Room, 2525 West End Ave - featuring Marcus Dillender

Upcoming Health Policy Grand Rounds:

*April 21st, 12-1pm - 6th floor Board Room, 2525 WEA, featuring Marion Kainer

*April 28th, 12-1pm - 6th floor Board Room, 2525 WEA, featuring Andrew Wiese

*May 5th, 12-1pm - 6th floor Board Room, 2525 WEA, featuring Jea Young

*Please RSVP for Grand Rounds events with the date in the subject line to hpevents@vanderbilt.edu

See all events and pictures from past events on our website here.

Please direct any event related questions to HPevents@vanderbilt.edu
Department Selected to Join Community Health Peer (CHP) Learning Program

The Department of Health Policy is excited to announce that we have been selected to join the Community Health Peer (CHP) Learning Program, a national peer learning collaborative managed by AcademyHealth through a $2.2 million award from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC).

Along with 14 other Participant and Subject Matter Expert communities, we will work with AcademyHealth and its partners, NORC and the National Partnership for Women and Families, to develop concrete and strategic action plans to address specific population health challenges within our communities.

Additionally, we will gain access to peer and professional expertise and resources necessary to achieve our community health improvement objectives, and align with other delivery system reform efforts driving toward better care, smarter spending and healthier people.

To learn more about the CHP program, and other selected communities, please visit the AcademyHealth website.
I am so excited to provide this unique course to our students. It will have a tremendous impact on learning and real life policy engagement... 

The Department of Health Policy’s Gilbert Gonzales, PhD, and Tara McKay from Medicine, Health and Society in the College of Arts and Science will lead The Nation’s Health: From Policy to Practice course that will help prepare students to be more effective participants in health policy debates and promote critical scholarship through engagement with policy experts, media and elected officials. The course was one of five selected from a competitive pool of over 20 submitted course proposals and will run in the 2016-2017 academic year.

Read More

Featured Publications

Women's Health Issues: Federal Support for Family Planning Clinics Associated with Dramatic Gains in Cervical Cancer Screening (Sayeh Nikpay, et al)

Health Affairs: Affordable Care Act Medicaid Expansion Reduced Uninsured Hospital Stays In 2014 (Sayeh Nikpay, et al)

Medical Care: Role of Geography and Nurse Practitioner Scope-of-Practice in Efforts to Expand Primary Care System Capacity: Health Reform and the Primary Care Workforce (John Graves, Peter Buerhaus, et al)

What's ahead...

We will be offering another Value Based Health Care Value Seminar this fall, including a session aimed towards executive health leaders. Stay tuned for more details.

Save the Date - The Department of Health Policy and Owen Graduate School of Business is expected to host the 2016 Annual Health Economics Conference (AHEC) October 13-14th here in Nashville, TN.

Save the Date - MPH Program 20th Anniversary Weekend will be October 20-22nd, 2016. For more details about how you can get involved, please email Rebecca Mohr at rebecca.e.mohr@vanderbilt.edu.