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Global Health is Local

The *Journal of Global Health* aims to be an international voice for all students engaged in global health, featuring an eclectic geo-cultural blend of opinions. As the planet has become flatter, hotter and more crowded, health issues in remote regions of the world now receive greater attention than ever before. We have become more vigilant regarding the potency of diseases and infectious agents to drastically impact the health of populations, often faster than we can react to treating them. To combat this heightened threat, advances in medicine now allow physicians to diagnose and treat diseases more effectively and developments in information technology now enable public health scientists to accurately model and predict epidemiological trends. Despite these advancements, significant international disparities in the distribution of disease burden continue to persist.

Fortunately, the field of global health has seen a concomitant surge in interest from academics, politicians, medical professionals and activists. University students represent one of the fastest growing segments actively involved in global health issues, whether through academic discourse, research, fieldwork or the development of new global health technologies. In keeping with our stated mission, I am happy to announce the launch of JGH Online, our new online component featuring the debate-styled GlobalThink Forum and regular thematic pieces from columnists. This exciting new feature of ghjournal.org will go live in December 2011.

In this second issue of JGH, we chose to focus on broader global health efforts through the lens of community-based approaches. Our aim was to allow our contributors to offer new perspectives on health interventions applied at the local level. The articles in this issue address diverse topics ranging from faith healing to supervised injections and include a broad spectrum of geographies from Mongolia to post-war Sierra Leone. As you are reading these pieces, I urge you to be mindful of the deeper implications of their arguments in the context that “all health is local.”



Ryan M. Gallagher
Editor-in-Chief

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