Welcome to the University at Albany School of Public Health!
I am delighted you have decided to enroll in the Department of Biomedical Sciences.

The School of Public Health will provide you with the education and resources necessary to succeed in the field of Public Health, including its relationship with the New York State Department of Health. The NYS DOH provides students with mentors, internships and invaluable hands-on work experience in the field.

This document provides information to assist you in preparing for the Fall 2017 semester. Please review it carefully and feel free to contact the School of Public Health with any questions or concerns.

I look forward to meeting you at Orientation in August.

Laura Schweitzer, PhD
Interim Dean

Welcome to the Department!

We are extremely happy to welcome you to the University at Albany School of Public Health Biomedical Sciences program.

As you know from researching the SPH, we have strong ties to the New York State Department of Health and its many clinical and research laboratories. You therefore have a terrific opportunity to gain experience by interacting with staff from the DOH and also to take part in internships that are offered in both the labs and the various DOH programs.

We encourage you to work closely with your advisers who will guide you in making decisions regarding your course selection and internships that will help you achieve the goals you would like to accomplish during your period at the School of Public Health.

We wish you the best in your endeavors and hope that you enjoy your time in Albany.

Janice Pata, PhD
Department Chair

Fall 2017 Orientation

Classes for the Fall 2017 Semester begin on Monday, August 28th and the School of Public Health Orientation will be held the week of August 21st to August 25th. Orientation week includes math workshops, social orientations, as well as the school and individual department orientations. International students are required to attend the University at Albany International Student Orientation and will receive information about this from the Office of International Student and Scholar Services. Students are also required to attend their departmental orientation. More detailed information regarding orientation will be emailed to students in July. Please be sure to notify us at sphadmissions@albany.edu of any changes to your preferred email address.
**Directions**

The School of Public Health is located at 1 University Place, Rensselaer, NY 12144. When entering the address in your GPS, the "city" field should be Rensselaer NOT Albany. If you search for the University at Albany in your GPS, it will bring you to the Main Campus in Albany. We are not located on that campus. We are located on the Health Sciences Campus in Rensselaer.

**Transportation**

Students with a valid University ID may use the Health Sciences Campus shuttle that runs between the Uptown Campus and the Health Sciences Campus. This bus operates only Monday-Friday. More information on shuttle routes can be found at [http://www.albany.edu/pmts/bus_schedules.php](http://www.albany.edu/pmts/bus_schedules.php). Registered students with a valid University ID can also ride all public CDTA bus lines at no charge.

**Parking**

Free parking is available for all students on the Health Sciences Campus. Students can obtain a parking permit at orientation in August. Students are required to register their vehicle and purchase a parking decal to park on the Uptown Campus. More information on parking is available at [www.albany.edu/pmts](http://www.albany.edu/pmts).
Advisement
All students at the School of Public Health are assigned an advisor at the beginning of their first semester of study. First-year students entering in the fall semester are expected to be registered for classes no later than June 30, and are encouraged to register as early as possible. Students in the Biomedical Sciences concentration should contact Anthony Torres at axt12@wadsworth.org for assistance with registration.

To register for classes each semester, students must first meet with their advisor. Students will then obtain an Advisement Verification Number (AVN) from their department, along with Section Key Numbers (SKNs) for the individual classes they wish to take. These numbers are required in order to register for classes on MyUAlbany.

MyUAlbany is a University-wide online source used for scheduling classes, managing financial aid and tuition payments, coordinating housing and parking issues, as well as organizing many other components of University life. MyUAlbany can be accessed directly at www.albany.edu/myualbany or by clicking on the “MyUAlbany” link at the top of University at Albany homepage www.albany.edu.

Bookstores
Course textbooks may be purchased online or in person at either the University at Albany Bookstore (http://albany.bncollege.com) or Mary Jane Books (www.maryjanebooks.com) located at 215 Western Avenue, Albany, NY.

Financial Aid & Student Accounts
The University at Albany issues invoices for tuition and fees on the 20th of each month and payment is always due by the 15th of the following month. Charges from the first fall invoice will not be due until August 15th. Visit the Student Financial Center web page: http://www.albany.edu/studentservices to read more about fees and payment options. All issues regarding financial aid, tuition and payment must be directed to the Student Financial Center.

University Health Center
The University Health Center provides medical services to students who have filled out the required documentation and who have a University ID.

Important immunization requirements for students attending UAlbany are found at http://www.albany.edu/health_center/healthforms.shtml. Other important information regarding services provided, policies and directions to the Health Center can be found at www.albany.edu/health_center/.

Internships & Career Services
MPH students are required to complete 9 credits of internships, for a total of 720 hours. Students must complete one year of coursework before beginning the internship. More detailed information about internships can be found at www.albany.edu/sph/internships.php.

The Career Resource Center, located in the Student Affairs suite of the George Education Center, is available to all students to research internships and career opportunities, as well as seek assistance on resume writing and interviewing.
University at Albany Email

All students must activate their albany.edu email and should check it regularly, as this is the University at Albany's official means of communication with students, including issuing invoices for tuition and fees. Personal email addresses will not be used for official university correspondence.

New Student Information Website

To learn more about the School of Public Health, the Capital Region, and graduate school resources, please visit our New Student Information website at http://ualbanysphnewstudentorientation.wordpress.com. You will find information on topics such as class registration, financial aid, internships, career services, housing, and transportation.

SPH Graduate Student Organization

The SPH-RGSO is affiliated with the UAlbany main campus GSO. The goal of this organization is to improve student life by coordinating social and school activities, as well as contributing to the local community. Each year SPH students are eligible to run for office in the SPH-RGSO committee. Positions are elected by students enrolled at the School of Public Health.

UAlbany School of Public Health Facebook Group

SPH students are encouraged to join the “University at Albany School of Public Health” Facebook group operated by the Graduate Student Organization at the SPH for student use. The Facebook group is a good source for students looking for roommates, available housing, books for sale, and other resources related to the School of Public Health. Messages regarding social events for students are posted here as well.

Housing Information

The School of Public Health is located on the Health Sciences Campus, which does not offer on-campus housing. There are several housing options available in the Albany area, including on-campus housing on the uptown campus. If you have a car, your housing options increase. Those without a vehicle should be sure to live along the bus line for the Health Sciences Campus shuttle. More information on shuttle routes can be found at http://www.albany.edu/pmts/bus_schedules.php.

The following websites may also be helpful in searching for housing:

- University at Albany Residential Life: www.albany.edu/housing
- Dawn Homes Management: http://www.dawnhomes.com/
  Locations near the East Campus include Mill Creek, Forrest Pointe, & Horizon Ridge
- Tri City Rentals: http://www.tricityrentals.com/Home.aspx
  Locations near the East Campus include Capital View Apartments
- Renter’s Guide: www.rentersguidealbany.com
- Apartment Finder – East Greenbush:
  www.apartmentfinder.com/New-York/East-Greenbush-Apartments
- Craigslist: http://albany.craigslist.org

Finding a Roommate

To connect with other students looking for roommates or seeking to share housing accommodations, students can use the Roommate Finder discussion forum at http://uasphnewstudentforum.proboards.com/board/2.