The Committee on Global Health’s mission is to expand the understanding of global health issues, while at the same time promoting the active participation of members in a variety of global health-related projects. The committee also serves as an information and service resource for those interested in global health. Committee members have shared a brief bio, so you have a better understanding of their background and interests. Many have included their email address and are open to being contacted to share more about their work or discuss possible collaboration. We hope that you find this to be a valuable resource as you expand your understanding of global health.

Sila Bal, MD, MPH
Senior Ophthalmology Resident, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Harvard Medical School

During her undergraduate years, Dr. Bal worked for several global organizations and spent her field time working in Peru, India, and Costa Rica. During medical school, she worked with a local organization in Uganda and completed her master’s degree in global public health. As part of her fieldwork, she worked with Partners for Andean Community Health (PACH), an organization that delivers eyecare to rural communities in Ecuador. She is interested in programs that bring eyecare closer to where individuals live. She works closely with PACH and can help facilitate fieldwork opportunities for undergraduate and medical students.

Keywords: global ophthalmology, global eyecare, vision health

Julia Benedetti, MD
Director of Education in Dermatology, Lahey Hospital and Medical Center Medical; Director, New England Hansen’s Disease Clinic Clinical Instructor, part-time, Harvard Medical School Adjunct Clinical Instructor, Tufts University School of Medicine Julia.Benedetti@lahey.org Contact me to discuss potential areas for collaboration.

Dr. Benedetti attended University of Massachusetts Medical School in the Pathway for Serving Multicultural and Underserved Populations. In medical school she participated in a medical mission trip to the Dominican Republic, worked in a homeless shelter in Worcester, as well as a free-care clinic in Uruguay and participated on projects involving TB/AIDS in South Africa and Telemedicine in Sweden. In residency at University of Connecticut in Dermatology she worked in a resident-run Dermatology clinic and consult
service in Botswana. Currently she works at Lahey Medical Center with a focus on Infectious/Tropical Dermatology. She also serves as medical director for the Hansen's Disease Clinic, serving patients with Leprosy throughout the New England area. She has done work as well in China, Costa Rica, France, Puerto Rico, and India. She is a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society's Committee on Global Health since 2014 and has served as chair from 2016 to 2020, the American Association of Dermatology's Workforce Task Force and their Committee for Education and Volunteers Abroad.

**Keywords:** Hansens, leprosy, dermatology

---

**Jacob Cabrejas**  
MD Candidate 2023, Boston University School of Medicine  
**Email:** cabrejas@bu.edu

Mr. Cabrejas is considering a career in Pediatric Emergency Medicine and has interests in infectious diseases and public health. He is currently working on multiple studies based at BMC on COVID-19 including work on autoimmunity in post-COVID states, the demographics of anosmia and ageusia as identifying characteristics of viral infection, and a public health primer on COVID-19 and its associated statistics and modeling. He has previously engaged in various microbiologic research at Kyoto University, the Czech Institute of Parasitology, and at Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai. His current global health projects are based in Johannesburg, South Africa in collaboration with the NGO Right to Care and focus on using targeted analysis to increase efficacy of HIV testing and outreach.

**Keywords:** emergency medicine, infectious disease, public health, South Africa

---

**Anindita Deb, MD**  
Director, Global Health Pathway, UMass Chan School of Medicine  
Co-Director, Global Health Track, Neurology Residency, UMass  
**Email:** Anindita.deb@umassmemorial.org  
**Contact me to discuss potential areas for collaboration.**

Dr. Deb is a Neurologist and Movement Disorders specialist at the University of Massachusetts. In these roles, she organizes and delivers global health didactics, leads discussion sessions, and places trainees in community-based and international electives. UMass has extensive international collaborations including but not limited to India, Kenya, Bolivia, Liberia, Dominican Republic, and China.

In her global health research, Dr. Deb has developed a collaboration with the Neurology Department at Charutar Arogya Mandal and its affiliated hospital in Gujarat, India. She has facilitated bidirectional exchange of residents and faculty.
**Keywords:** neurology, global neurology, (global) medical education, neuroepidemiology, Parkinson’s disease prevalence

---

**Josh Drake**  
MD/MPH Candidate 2024, Tufts University School of Medicine  
Intern, Harvard Humanitarian Initiative’s Emergency Health Systems Program  
Co-Leader for Global Health Interest Club, Tufts University School of Medicine  
joshua.drake@tufts.edu  
Contact me to discuss potential areas for collaboration.

Mr. Drake’s main areas of interest are in global emergency medicine and developing international prehospital care, particularly in East Africa. Prior to medical school he lived in Tanzania where he first volunteered as an EMT at the Muhibbili Emergency Medicine Department in Dar es Salaam and later was hired by Tindwa Medical and Health Services, a prehospital care company where he served as an EMS advisor and trainer. This year, in collaboration with faculty from the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative and Tanzanian emergency physicians, he designed and developed the “Okoa Maisha Save a Life Initiative,” which is currently being implemented in Dar es Salaam. At present there is extremely limited access to EMS in Dar; this program trains Tanzanian public transportation drivers in basic bleeding control as a means of providing some rudimentary prehospital care to people injured in road traffic accidents, which are the leading cause of death for young adults in Tanzania.

**Keywords:** EMS, prehospital trauma care, East Africa

---

**Rebecca Hamilton, MD MSc**  
Pediatric Cardiac Anesthesiology Fellow, Boston Children’s Hospital/Harvard Medical School  
Chair, MMS Committee on Global Health, 2020 – present  
rebecca.hamilton@childrens.harvard.edu  
Contact me to discuss potential areas for collaboration.

Although Swedish by birth, Dr. Hamilton grew up abroad and spent much of her childhood in Eastern and Southern Africa (Zambia, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Tanzania). She returned to Sweden for undergraduate studies in development theory and anthropology at Lund University and medical school at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, where she studied global health and conducted research on HIV prevention in South Africa. After graduating medical school, she pursued a Masters in Global Health Policy at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine before transitioning to the US for specialty training in pediatric anesthesiology. During her training she has worked as a clinician at refugee encampments in Greece and in Nigeria and served as a consultant on Oxygen
delivery during the pandemic for UNICEF. Rebecca continues to work academically on global health and development projects focusing on surgical systems strengthening in low- and middle-income countries. She lives in Boston with her husband Matt and Labrador Demian and enjoys tennis and amateur rooftop gardening.

**Keywords:** anesthesiology, critical care, global surgery, surgical systems, health policy

---

**David B. Hathaway, MD**  
Associate Psychiatrist, Brigham and Women’s Hospital  
Clinical Faculty, BWH Addiction Medicine Fellowship  
Course Co-Director, HMS Addiction Psychiatry / Medicine & MI elective  
Instructor in Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School  
dbhathaway@bwh.harvard.edu  
Contact me to discuss potential areas for collaboration.

Dr. Hathaway participated in a medical mission trip to the Colombian and the Brazilian amazon rainforest in his fourth year of medical school at UConn. He has friends and family around the world, many of whom have received their medical training overseas.

His current interests include the impact of addiction and substance use disorders on the developing world.

**Keywords:** mental Health, psychiatry, addiction, substance use disorders, postgraduate medical education, religion, and spirituality

---

**Brian Lisse, MD**  
Associate Clinical Professor, Emergency Medicine  
Associate Clinical Professor, Community Medicine and Public Health  
Tufts University School of Medicine  
brianlisse2@gmail.com  
Contact me to discuss potential areas for collaboration.

Dr. Lisse is trained and has worked as a primary care internist in community health centers, including La Clinica De La Raza in Oakland CA (patient population Mexican and Chinese immigrants). Most of his 40-year career has been spent working as an ED doctor, caring for many recent immigrants. He, along with about a dozen first year Tufts Med students founded the Sharewood Project, a free clinic that, since its inception, has catered almost exclusively to the immigrant population of Eastern Massachusetts. He served as the medical director of Sharewood from 1996 to 2005. Dr. Lisse also founded and ran a Tufts 4th Year Medical school elective in Nicaragua, partnering with a US based NGO called Bridges to Community, from 2003-2010. He also founded and now runs a
small 9 person US based nonprofit called Bridges to Malawi (2011-present), which began as an annual medical mission trip and then expanded into a full blown 24/7 development agency working in partnership with Malawi based NGO K2TASO. For more information visit bridgesomalawi.org.

Dr. Lisse primary global health engagement currently is through the Bridges to Malawi program. He is dedicated to a holistic approach aimed at improving the lives of the Kasungu East District in Malawi, population approximately 750,000. Efforts include malaria prevention, reforestation, irrigation, conservation agriculture, bamboo planting, animal pass-on programs, a Holstein/Friesian dairy project, hydroponics/aquaponics, microcredit loan, school solar power electrification, laptop donation and curriculum support, in country medication purchase, women’s empowerment, water chlorination and poor farmer financial support programs all to erase malnutrition, eradicate poverty, and enhance education opportunities. All this work is done in addition to the organization’s annual two-week medical mission trip which includes local US high school students recruited via an annual contest. As part of this commitment, the organization takes as many students of healthcare fields as possible, including MD, RN, NP, and PA students. Bringing medical, nursing, and PA students to Malawi is a particular passion of Dr. Lisse and he is always looking for opportunities to do so. The organization does not have a specific affiliation with a medical school or a formal elective.

Keywords: medical missions, malaria prevention, international development, public health

---

Arul Mahadevan, MD FRCS
Staff Physician, Lahey Medical Center, Department of Radiation Oncology
arul.mahadevan@roa-ne.com
Contact me to discuss potential areas for collaboration.

Dr. Mahadevan received his Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery from the University of Madras (Chennai), India in 1987 and received his Master of Surgery in Orthopedics from the University of Mumbai, India in 1991. After being awarded Fellowships of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of Edinburgh and Glasgow, United Kingdom, Dr. Mahadevan moved to the United States to practice medicine.

He has been involved in Cancer Care education and training in resource contained settings in Tanzania, Bangladesh, and India. Ongoing collaborations include establishing quality control and best practice guidelines in resource contained settings in collaboration with health care professionals in oncology departments in these countries.

Keywords: cancer prevention and treatment, health promotion.
Georgina Aoun Nouaime, MD, MBA, CPE
Hospitalist, Southcoast Hospital Group
Global Health Leader with Harvard Medical School
gorginaamd@gmail.com
Contact me to discuss potential areas for collaboration.

ILMA-USA [international Lebanese medical association] board member, ILMA-USA New England Chapter Leader, and ILMA exchange/outreach leader

Current global health engagement/interests/collaborations: Fighting misinformation about COVID vaccine, supporting with medical information, and training multiple COVID units in Lebanon so they can help their communities. Medication drive, in collaboration with Boston Medical Center to tackle the medication shortage in Lebanon.

Keywords: crisis, conflict, education and medical missions, networking, health equity

Manon Pigeolet, MD, MSc, MPH
Research Fellow, Program in Global Surgery and Social Change, Harvard Medical School
Orthopedic Surgery Resident, University of Antwerp, Belgium
PhD in Medical Sciences, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium.

Dr. Pigeolet has prior experience working in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Togo, and Uganda where she was involved in research, clinical work, and student-run public health initiatives.

Her main interests lay in the management and outcome of pediatric orthopedic care provision in low- and middle-income countries. She is currently involved in studies in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Egypt. In collaboration with several Zambian and South African partners, she has been working on the development of a department-level pandemic preparedness evaluation tool for surgical departments in Southern Africa. She would be happy to discuss potential areas for collaboration with medical students and trainees who might share her interests.

Keywords: pediatric surgery, orthopedics, quality of care, geo-patial analysis, cost-effectiveness analysis
Richard J. Rohrer, MD  
Professor of Surgery, Tufts University School of Medicine  
Richard.Rohrer@tufts.edu  
Contact me to discuss potential areas for collaboration.

Dr. Rohrer is a surgeon in Greater Boston, and he is the Faculty Lead for the Tufts Fourth-Year Global Health Elective in Panama, and Director of Clinical Preceptorships for the NGO Amazon Promise, based in Iquitos, Peru. His early introduction to Global Health took place in Africa and Southeast Asia. Current roles are in medical education in Central and South America, both for local and visiting health care providers. More specific efforts have been made to introduce ATLS & ALSO training programs in Central America, and to initiate a dialysis access program in Iquitos; he plans to continue with these as opportunities arise. He enjoys collaborating with medical students in Panama and Peru, as well as those from the UK, USA, and Australia.

**Key Words:** medical education, global surgery, trauma care, dialysis access surgery, Central America, South America.

Suzy Sarfaty, MD  
Assistant Dean of Medical Education, Director of Global Health Programs, Assistant Professor of Medicine; Boston University School of Medicine  
ssarfaty@bu.edu  
Contact me to discuss potential areas for collaboration.

Dr. Sarfaty’s passion for global health began while in medical school with a clinical immersion experience in a rural hospital in Chile. She returned for two months during internal medicine residency to work on a case control study of human papilloma virus in rural clinics on the outskirts of Santiago. She also participated in several short-term mission trips in Honduras and Ecuador. As Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Sarfaty helped to build the global health program at Boston University School of Medicine over the past 20 years, leading curriculum development, mentoring workshops and helping to spearhead a pre-departure open access course now used widely across the country “The Practitioners Guide to Global Health.” * She is committed to helping students of the health professions achieve success in whatever path they choose. She has served on national committees for Global Health (IHMEC, GHEC, CUGH) and loves to collaborate on global themes across disciplines. She has spent her clinical career working in the East Boston Community Health Center, primarily with the immigrant Hispanic community. While not currently engaged in research, she is happy to serve as a mentor for medical students with similar interests.

**Key words:** predeparture preparation, Community Health (Latinx), Refugee/Immigrant health, Medical Spanish, Student Mentorship