

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior NEWS AND KUDOS ~ Spring 2024 Edition



Message from the Chair

Congratulations to all of our graduates and to everyone students, faculty, instructors, and staff - for successfully completing this semester and the 2023-24 academic year. Virtual applause!

So, what's next? First, let's celebrate your incredible milestones and smile at the lovely photographs in this supersized newsletter which you should also share with everyone you know.

Second, let's reflect on what we have accomplished this year. I have a dear friend and colleague who often tells me that I need to take a deep breath. This message is often relayed to me when I am in the throes of five different deadlines at work and five more things to get done at home and somehow getting them all done relatively well. In that moment, the advice offered about taking a deep breath is irksome as I am not in a mood to rest and reflect! But later on, when I am in a calmer space and open to pausing and reflecting, I am reminded of the advice. This is when it is so very helpful for me ... and those deep breaths are magnificent. Recently, I read an article about the need to dramatically slow down more often in order to accelerate faster and even more successfully. I wonder if my colleague writes under a pseudonym because the messages seem similar.

In addition to taking the time out this summer for that deep breath, reflecting, and recharging, I hope you will take time to revisit hobbies and traditions. It's been a

difficult year for many people and for many different reasons. Gathering together around a common interest, activity, favorite restaurant, coffee shop, or Netflix series can be comforting. I have a tradition of an afternoon outing with dear friends following the ASPH hooding ceremony. We had not gotten together for a while, and it was nice to be back as a group. I did not plan this, but at one point during our outing, I put sanitizer on my hands and then reached out my hands to theirs. The next thing I knew, we were sitting at the table in a restaurant and all holding hands. Perhaps the people around us thought we were going to say a prayer, and while that was not my intention at the time and that is not what we ended up doing, we did take that deep breath. And then we shared how much we appreciated each other. Gosh, one person had a surprisingly strong grip. It may have looked very odd for the four of us to be doing this at our age and in that setting, but that tradition of being together on that day each year was exactly what we all needed to wrap up the busy semester.

Whether you are actually holding hands with others or supporting each other through your kind words and actions, I wish for us all to take those deep breaths whenever it works best for us, engage in those comforting traditions and hobbies, and let us continue to hold each other up because that is what makes this department and school a wonderful place to be.

Enjoy the beautiful summer months. - Daniela Friedman

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Dr. Ken Watkins and Dr. April Winningham on their upcoming retirements. Dr. W. and W., we wish you both the very best on your next adventures and we look forward to hearing all about them!

Emily Hackworth, HPEB PhD graduate, is recipient of the department's 2024 Christopher Peter Aluah Doctoral Student of the Year Award.

Riley O'Neal is recipient of the 2024 HPEB Undergraduate Student Researcher Award.

Erin Looney, HPEB MPH graduate, is recipient of the 2024 Outstanding HPEB Masters Student of the Year Award. Erin was awarded the Big Data Student Abstract Award sponsored by the USC Big Data Health Science Center and the SC Public Health Association, and she received a Best Poster Presentation from an Emerging Scholar for her presentation at the Big Data Health Science Conference. Erin also received the Dean's Award for Master's Achievement from The Graduate School, the Rosemary Broadway Award from the USC Leadership and Service Center, and the Amy Preble Scholarship from the Carolina Recycling Society. Erin has been elected to serve as Vice President of The Graduate School Association for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Halide Aydin, HPEB PhD student, was the Spring 2024 recipient of the HPEB Butterfoss Community-Based Research Endowed Fellowship.

Louis Yu, HPEB MPH student and Preventive Medicine resident, was the Spring 2024 recipient of the HPEB Ann Cassady Endowed Fellowship.

Deeksha Gupta, HPEB PhD student, received the Olga I. Ogoussan Doctoral Research Award, and travel grants from The Graduate School and the Arnold School of Public Health.

Kimanh Li, HPEB PhD student, received the Meritorious Abstract Award, Citation Award, and Outstanding Student Abstract Award from the Society of Behavioral Medicine's Pain, Violence, and Trauma Special interest Group for her submission entitled, *The Tiktok Experience and Content Moderation of Nonsuicidal Self-injury: A Qualitative and Content Analysis.*

Ran Zhang, HPEB PhD graduate, received a Meritorious Abstract Award from the Society of Behavioral Medicine for her abstract entitled, *Intervention Effects of a Theory-based Parental HIV Disclosure Intervention Among Parents Living with HIV in China*.

Tiffany Byrd, HPEB PhD graduate, received two awards from the SC Public Health Association: The Service with the Medically Underserved Student Abstract Award, sponsored by the Edwards Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) Carolinas campus and she was selected as the winner of the Maternal Child Health Student Abstract Award, sponsored by the USC Maternal and Child Health Catalyst Program.

Rochelle Altman, HPEB PhD student, received two awards from the SC Public Health Association: a Public Health Scholarship and the Malcolm U. Dantzler Scholarship.

Megan Austin, HPEB PhD student, received a 2024-2025 Maternal and Child Health Catalyst Program Doctoral Scholar Award. She also received the 3rd place award for her Maternal and Child Health Abstract at the SC Public Health Association Annual Conference.

Fanghui Shi has received a full scholarship from the International AIDS Society to attend the 2024 AIDS Conference in Munich, Germany in July 2024. She will present 4 in-person posters during the conference. This is the second time she has been awarded this prestigious scholarship.

Keren Herrán, HPEB PhD student, was named a finalist in the American Society for Nutrition's (ASN) Young Investigators Underrepresented in Nutrition Award Competition, an educational activity that recognizes young investigators from underrepresented communities within the biomedical and life sciences presenting outstanding research.

Berthe Abi Zeid, HPEB PhD student, was awarded 2nd place in the University Libraries' inaugural Graduate Student Data Visualization Award competition. Her presentation was entitled, *How are food and water insecurity associated with health outcomes in older Syrian refugees in Lebanon?*

Sharraf Samin, Morgan Boncyk, and Gitanjali Lall, HPEB PhD students, won first, second, and third place in the USC Nutrition Symposium Poster Competition.

Freda (Ally) Hucek completed the Preparing Future Faculty Certificate through the USC Center for Teaching Excellence.

Dr. Mary Jones was appointed as the new Chairperson of the Board of Directors for <u>Wholespire</u> and appointed to serve on the Advisory Council for the <u>Center for Community Health Alignment</u>.

Dr. Jennifer Mandelbaum, HPEB PhD alum, was elected and assumed office in the New Hampshire House of Representatives, where she represents the Rockingham 21 communities of Portsmouth Ward 1 and Newington.

Dr. Shan Qiao was selected to participate in the Office of the Provost's Al Teaching Fellowship Program, developed and offered by the USC Center for Teaching Excellence.

Dr. Leila Larson was selected as an R25 Fellow with the USC Big Data Health Science Center.

Dr. Debbie Billings was accepted into the Scholars Strategy Network, a national membership organization made up of college- and university-based researchers interested in improving policy and strengthening democracy. <u>LINK</u>

HPEB in the News

Molly Talbot-Metz, HPEB MPH alum and President/CEO of The Mary Black Foundation, received the Order of the Palmetto award – South Carolina's highest civilian honor for extraordinary service. <u>LINK</u>

Dr. Aditi Bussells, HPEB PhD alum, received the 2024 Gerry Sue Arnold Alumni Award. LINK

SNAP-Ed team members were featured in this news story on Food is Medicine South Carolina. <u>LINK</u>

Dr. Marta Bornstein and her research on sexual and reproductive health was featured on the Arnold School website. <u>LINK</u>

Briana Davis, project manager from the BRIE Lab, was interviewed by WLTX and offered tips on health and wellness. LINK

Dr. Hala Ghattas' research on unhealthy urban food environments and rising childhood rates of obesity in low and middle-income countries was featured on the Arnold School website. <u>LINK</u>

Dr. Leila Larson's global health research on anemia in mothers and children was published on the Arnold School website. LINK

Dr. Brie Turner-McGrievy was featured on the EverydayHealth website as she weighed in on a study finding that plant-based diets reduce risk of COVID-19. <u>LINK</u> Dr. Turner-McGrievy was also featured on the TODAY Show website discussing the benefits of a plant-based diet. <u>LINK</u>

Dr. Xueying Yang's NIH grant focused on pediatric-to-adult HIV care transition was featured on the Arnold School website. <u>LINK</u>

Funding News

Maddie Miller, Emily Hunter, Riley O'Neal, and Marian Winters received Magellan Scholar Research Grants in the 2023-2024 academic year.

Dr. Courtney Monroe and team received an R01 grant from the NIH/National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney, to study how existing social ties promote physical activity using a digitally delivered team social support training program.

Dr. George Tam received a K01 grant from the NIH/National Institute on Drug Abuse for upcoming work that will examine a theory-based social media intervention for non-medical use of prescription opioids in young adults.

Dr. Xiaoming Li and team received funding for the Big Data Health Science Community Scholar (c-Scholar) Program (R25 administrative supplement) from the NIH/National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases.

Morgan Boncyk, Freda (Ally) Hucek, and Fahmida Akter, HPEB PhD students, are recipients of 2024 SPARC Graduate Research grants from the USC Office of the Vice President for Research.

Dr. Debbie Billings received a grant as Co-PI to examine *Impacts and Outcomes of a Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program in Columbia, SC.* Funding is from Department of Justice. This USC-Prisma Health collaboration includes Dr. Banerjee (Psychology); Dr. Regoeczi (Chair, Criminology and Criminal Justice); Dr. Boyle (Criminology and Criminal Justice); Dr. Dunkelberger (USC School of Medicine, Prisma Health), and Ms. Peck (Injury Prevention Coordinator, Prisma Health).

Dissertation and Practice Experience Presentations

Congratulations to the following students who defended their dissertations:

Atefeh Aghaei, Impacts of COVID-19 and Taliban Takeover on U.S. Afghan Refugee Women's Mental Health: A Socio-Ecological Approach to Resilience Resources

Tiffany Byrd, The Effect of COVID-19 Restrictions on the Perceived Social Support of African American Women Giving Birth in South Carolina Hospitals During the First Year of the COVID-19 Pandemic (2020) as Compared to a Previous Birth

Emily Hackworth, *Internalizing Mental Health Symptoms and Nicotine Use Among Adolescents in Canada, England, and the US from 2020-2022.*

Ran Zhang, Multilevel Factors Affecting COVID-19 Vaccination among African American Communities in South Carolina

Congratulations to the following students who defended their dissertation proposals:

Victoria Adebiyi, Breastfeeding Decision-Making and Practices among Working Mothers and Role of External Influences in Urban Nigeria

Fahmida Akter, Perinatal Maternal Attachment in Bangladesh: Understanding Determinants and Impacts of Enhanced Nutrition and Cash Transfers

Halide Aydin, PCOS in the Age of Social Media: Exploring How Women with PCOS Interact with PCOS Content on Social Media and How PCOS Influencers Communicate with their Followers (PCOS=Polycystic Ovary Syndrome)

Morgan Boncyk, Heat Waves and Consumer Food Ways: Temperature Impact on Outdoor Food Markets in Eastern Africa and South Asia via Heat Exposure and Thermal Remote Sensing

Sharraf Samin, Understanding Lived Experiences of Food Environments and Healthfulness of Diets among Adolescents in Bangladesh

Fanghui Shi, Association of HIV Status and Other Minority Identities with Psychiatric Diagnoses among Transgender and Gender Individuals in the ALL of Us research program

Congratulations to the following students who presented their practice experiences:

Meghan Armistead, Comprehensive Newborn and Child Health Education Program: Continuity of Care Across the Pediatric Lifespan

Jaiden Branch, Exploring Diaper Need Across South Carolina

Katia Folkart, Driving Innovation through Collaboration to Reduce Opioid Use in South Carolina

Sommer Gaughan, Evaluating the Impact of Peer Genetic Navigators on Children and Families Requiring Access to Genetic Services in Colorado/Mountain States Region

Erin Looney, Beyond the Plate: Understanding and Reducing Consumer-Generated Food Waste at USC Dining Facilities

Mayra Lubov, CHWs Building Reproductive Health Equity with Latino Communities

Taryn Shelley, Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health Education-Advocating for Adolescents

Mikayla Turner, Intimate Partner Violence Education and Awareness

Sara Woods, Promotion of Healthy Eating Behaviors for Richmond City Firefighters through Nutrition Education

Publications & Presentations

Aluah CP, Robillard A, Billings D, Smallwood S. Courtesy stigma and HIV professionals: A brief review of implications for psychosocial and professional well-being. Social Work in Public Health 39(4) 2024. https://doi.org/10.1080/19371918.2024.2325566

Austin ME, Ingram LA, McCollum Q, Levkoff SE, Friedman DB (2024 April 19). A dual approach to addressing gaps in scholar diversity in aging research. Gerontology & Geriatrics Education 2024. https://doi.org/10.1080/02701960.2024.2343876

Bastyr M, Bean MK, Figueroa R, Draper C, Reesor-Oyer L, Stephenson K, Anderson Steeves E, Wilson B, Adams EA (2024, March). Barriers and Facilitators to using a SNAP Fruit and Vegetable Incentive Program for Families with Food Insecurity. Poster presentation at the 45th annual meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine. Philadelphia, PA.

Billings D. (2024. March). Abortion Bans vs Abortion Access: Lessons Learned Globally to Inform Local Action. Invited speaker: Spring 2024 Schott Speaker Series, College of Charleston. Charleson, SC.

Bornstein M, Church AC, Masterson K, Norris AH. Perceptions and experiences with healthcare providers among people navigating reproductive and fertility decisions. Journal of Primary Care & Community Health. 2024 In press.

Bruno P, Draper C, Keller K, Kim H, Rose C (2024, February). Keeping the promise: A call to revision the SNAP-Ed evaluation framework. Oral presentation at the annual meeting of the Association of SNAP Nutrition Education Administrators. Washington. DC.

Da W, Zhang R, Zhou Y, Shen Z, Qiao S, Li X. Impact of children's age on parental HIV disclosure: A parental HIV disclosure intervention among parents living with HIV in China. AIDS Care 2024. https://doi.org/10.1080/09540121.2024.2308744.

Draper C (2024, February). Advancing Food is Medicine Strategies at Local and State Levels. Oral presentation at the annual meeting of the Association of SNAP Nutrition Education Administrators. Washington, DC.

Draper C (2024, January). Advancing food policy councils through SNAP-Ed: From readiness to capacity for future sustainability. Invited presenter at the Nutrition and Obesity Prevention Research and Evaluation Network (NOPREN) Food Policy Council Working Group meeting. Virtual format.

Draper C (2023, December). South Carolina Food is Medicine Landscape Assessment Findings and Proposed Actions. Invited presenter at the annual meeting of the South Carolina Food is Medicine Committee, Greenville, SC.

Friedman DB, Donelle L, Levkoff SE, Neils-Strunjas J, Porter DE, Tanner A, Hebert JR. Mentoring in developing, engaging with, and sustaining research teams that aligns with health and risk communication principles: Apples and oranges or apples and apples? Mentoring & Tutoring: Partnership in Learning 2024. https://doi.org/10.1080/13611267.2023.2299383

Frongillo EA, Bethancourt HJ, Norcini Pala A, Maya S, Wu KC, Kizer JR, Tien PC, Kempf MC, Hanna DB, Appleton AA, Merenstein D, D'Souza G, Ofotokun I, Konkle-Parker D, Michos ED, Krier S, Stosor V, Turan B, Weiser SD. Complementing the U.S. Household Food Security Survey Module with items reflecting social unacceptability. Journal of Nutrition, 2024. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tjnut.2024.02.023

Frongillo EA, Suresh S, Thapa DK, Cunningham K, Pandey Rana P, Adhikari RP, Kole S, Pun B, Kshetri I, Adhikari DP, Klemm R. Impact of Suaahara, an integrated nutrition program, on maternal and child nutrition at scale in Nepal. Maternal & Child Nutrition e13630, 2024. https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.13630

Garrett C, Qiao S, Li X. The role of social media in COVID-19 Prevention guidelines knowledge, perceptions, and self-reported adherence. JMIR Infodemiology 2024. https://doi.org/10.2196/44395

Gupta D, Rudisill C. Timing of preventive behavior in the case of a new and evolving health risk: the case of COVID-19 vaccination. Health Economics Review, 14(16); 2024. https://doi.org/10.1186/s13561-024-00484-9

Herrán K, Mandujano N, Suarez J, Frongillo EA. (2024, April). Lived Experiences of Farmworkers from Five U.S. States during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Poster presentation at the 32nd Annual Midwest Stream Forum for Agricultural Worker Health, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Iruhiriye E, Frongillo EA, Olney DK, Niyongira E, Nanama S, Blake CE, Rwibasira E, Mbonyi P. Understanding differential reductions in undernutrition among districts in Rwanda through the perspectives of mid-level and community actors on policy commitment and policy coherence. Maternal & Child Nutrition e13640, 2024. https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.13640

Julceus EF, Frongillo EA, Mendoza JA, Sauder KA, Malik FS, Jensen ET, Dolan LM, Bellatorre A, Dabelea D, Reboussin BA, Reynolds K, Pihoker C, Liese AD. Self-reported food security in adolescents with type 1 diabetes: Association with hemoglobin A1c and mental health symptoms independent of household food security. Journal of Nutrition 2023. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tjnut.2023.12.006

Keller K, Bruno P, Foerster S, Draper C. Thirty years of SNAP-Ed: The transition of the nation's largest nutrition education program into a pillar of the public health infrastructure. Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior. 2024 In press.

Kenney E, Rampalli KK, Samin S, Frongillo EA, Reyes Li, Bhandari S, Boncyk M, Nordhagen S, Walls H, Wertheim-Heck S, Ickowitz A, Cunningham SA, Ambikapathi R, Ekesa B, Matita M, Blake CE. How livelihood change affects food choice behaviors in low- and middle-income countries: A scoping review. Advances in Nutrition 15(5):100203, 2024. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.advnut.2024.100203

King, Z, Weaver, A, Brittain, B (2024, March). Food is Medicine South Carolina: Building relationships between healthcare organizations and food access partners to address nutrition insecurity. Oral presentation at the 2024 South Carolina Public Health Association Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC.

Liese AD, Brown AD, Frongillo EA, Julceus EF, Sauder KA, Reboussin BA, Bellatorre A, Dolan LM, Reynolds K, Pihoker C, Mendoza JA. Properties of the Household Food Security Survey Module scale in young adults with diabetes. Journal of Nutrition 2024. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tjnut.2024.01.028

Looney E (2024, February). Cite Right: Tools for Citation Management. MPH Student-Led Professional Development Series. Columbia, SC.

Looney E, Chupak A, Pellizzari J, Hesam Shariati F, Kaczynski A (2024, April). Does the combined effect of walkability and PM2.5 exposure impact health behaviors and outcomes in South Carolina? Presented at Discover USC. Columbia, SC.

Looney E, Chupak A, Pellizzari J, Hesam Shariati F, Kaczynski A. (2024, April). Does the combined effect of walkability and PM2.5 exposure impact health behaviors and outcomes in South Carolina? Presented at the 2024 American Academy of Health Behavior Conference, Savannah, GA.

Looney E, Hallum S, Chupak A, Thomas K, Porter D, Kaczynski A. (2024, March). Exploring disparities in exposure to fine particulate matter (PM2.5) according to social vulnerability in South Carolina from 2000-2018. South Carolina Public Health Association Conference Myrtle Beach, SC. *Big Data Student Abstract Award

Looney E, Hallum S, Chupak A, Thomas K, Porter D, Kaczynski A. (2024, February). Exploring disparities in exposure to fine particulate matter (PM2.5) according to social vulnerability in South Carolina from 2000-2018. Presented at the 5th National Big Data Health Science Conference, Columbia, SC. *Best poster presentation from an emerging scholar

Monroe CM, Zosel K, Stansbury M, Younginer N, Davis RE, Dutton G, Newton Jr RL, Cai B, West DS. A focus group study among insufficiently physically active African American adults regarding technology-delivered team-based gamification for physical activity promotion. mHealth 10(3) 2024. https://doi.org/10.21037/mhealth-23-44. *Dr. Monroe was selected as Outstanding Author in the journal mHealth and recognized on the mHealth website.

Shafiq TKI, Shaikh K, Rahman F. et al. A service provider's experience providing telehealth services during the COVID-19 pandemic in a community-based opioid substitution clinic in Bangladesh. BMC Digital Health 2 2024. https://doi.org/10.1186/s44247-023-00055-8

Sheppard A, Mann ES, Pfeffer CA "Your brain isn't all backwards": Asexual young women's narratives of sexual healthism. The Qualitative Report 29(1) 2024. https://doi.org/10.46743/2160-3715/2024.5116

Tituaña A, Herrán K, Galárraga O, Palacios I. How to decrease teenage pregnancy: rural perspectives in Ecuador. Frontiers in Public Health 2024 https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2024.1370507

Wagijo MA, Crone M, Bruinsma-van Zwicht B, van Lith J, Billings D, Rijnders M. The Effect of CenteringPregnancy Group Antenatal Care on Maternal, Birth, and Neonatal Outcomes Among Low-Risk Women in the Netherlands: A Stepped-Wedge Cluster Randomized Trial. J Midwifery Womens Health. 69(2):191-201;2024. https://doi.org/10.1111/jmwh.13582

Wineman A, Zanello G, Degefaw DM, Samuel F, Yates J, Shankar B & Nutritious Food Systems Consortium. A call to action for transformation towards nutritious food systems. Nature Food 5:2-3; 2024. [Frongillo EA: Member of Consortium] https://doi.org/10.1038/s43016-024-00930-1

Zhang R, Byrd T, Qiao S, Torres M, Li X, Liu J. Is it safe for me to get it? Factors influencing COVID-19 vaccination decision-making among African American and Hispanic pregnant and postpartum women in Deep South. Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities 2024. https://doi.org/10.1007/s40615-024-01931-3

Zhang R, Da W, Zhou Y, Shen Z, Qiao S, Li X. Psychological factors predicting HIV disclosure stage transitions: An evaluation of a theory-based parental HIV disclosure intervention among parents living with HIV in China. AIDS & Behavior 28(1); 2024. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10461-023-04199-6.

Zhang R, Qiao S, Aggarwal A, Yuan G, Muttau N, Sharma A, Lwatula C, Ngosa L, Kabwe M, Manasyan A, Menon A, Ostermann J, Weissman S, Li X, Harper G. Impact of enacted stigma on mental health, substance abuse, and HIV-related behaviors among sexual minority men in Zambia. Archives of Psychiatric Nursing 2024. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apnu.2024.01.004.

If you missed Dr. Deborah Billings's Global Health Seminar, "Connection is Care: Global Implementation Research for Transforming Health Care Delivery and Experience of Prenatal and Postpartum Care," you can view the recording here.

Photo Gallery

December 2023 & May 2024 Graduations











Lunch out with Dean Chandler and Scholars visiting from Nanjing Medical University, China



Doctoral Students Visiting the Library ... In Person!



HPEB Colloquium featuring the SNAP-Ed Team



HPEB Valentine's Day Event Selfies







HPEB Family Time!







Dr. Monroe's HPEB 824 field trip "in the wild" to discuss built environment interventions with Dr. K.



Conference (and Conference Fun) Photos

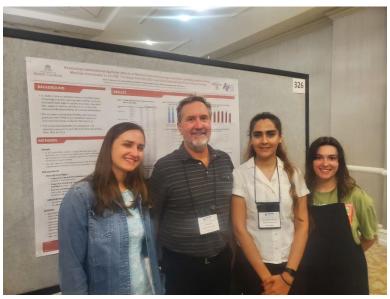






HPEB Team won first place at trivia night at the Mellow Mushroom ... just down the street from the American Academy of Health Behavior (AAHB) conference. Congratulations!



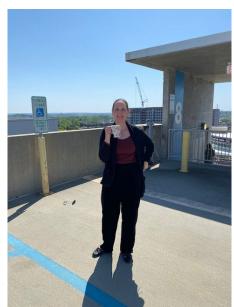






Eclipse Fun

(Not to fret, nobody looked up directly without the glasses!)







End-of-Year Department Party











All Smiles In HPEB



Please send submissions for News and Kudos to Pam Metz so that

we can share and celebrate your work!

HPEB Discovery I 915 Greene Street 5th Floor Columbia SC, 29208 PMETZ@mailbox.sc.edu

Soon-to-be HPEB graduates and alumni, please continue to keep in touch with us! Please also ensure your contact information is current with the Arnold School by updating your information here: <u>Link</u>