Don Operario - Brown University, Associate Professor

Don Operario is Associate Professor of Public Health in the Department of Behavior and Social Sciences, and currently serves as Associate Dean of the Graduate School. He was trained as a Social and Health Psychologist (BA, UCLA; MS, PhD, UMass Amherst; Postdoctoral Fellow, UC San Francisco). He was previously on the faculty of the University of Oxford (Department of Social Policy and Social Work) and before that was at the University of California San Francisco (Center for AIDS Prevention Studies - Department of Medicine).

His research addresses two inter-related areas. The first general area is the social context of HIV transmission and the social sequelae of HIV/AIDS in affected communities, with an emphasis on developing and evaluating theory-based social and behavioral interventions in high-risk groups. A second research area is the lived experiences associated with social inequality, with an emphasis on understanding the perspectives of disadvantaged group members and addressing associated health and psychosocial disparities. He conducts research addressing both U.S. domestic and international public health issues.

Lauren Alexanderson 2006 – John Snow Inc., KM/Communications Manager

Lauren is a knowledge management and health communication advisor at John Snow, Inc., a public health consulting firm. In this role, she manages a large team and portfolio of knowledge management activities for international health projects focusing on HIV, malaria, family planning, and other issues. Lauren is finalizing graduate work in business and behavioral economics at Johns Hopkins University. She is a graduate of the Brown University Class of 2006, where she concentrated in community health.

Dr. Kimberly Bertrand 1999 - Brigham and Women’s Hospital/ Harvard Med School, Instructor/Epidemiologist

Kimberly holds a Master of Public Health degree from the Boston University School of Public Health and earned her Doctor of Science degree in Epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) in 2010. She is currently Instructor in Medicine at the Channing Division of Network Medicine and Associate Epidemiologist at Brigham & Women’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Kim’s current research focuses on the epidemiology of breast cancer and non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL), with an emphasis on understanding environmental, nutritional, and lifestyle factors that may influence risk. In particular, she is interested in the influence of early life exposures on risk for both cancers. Currently, she participates in the Brown Women's Launch Pad mentoring program.

Alison Buckser 1989 - Self employed, Consultant

With a background in public health, politics, and publishing, Alison has been serving a broad spectrum of large and small community-based organizations and government agencies for almost 20 years. A seasoned consultant, she is particularly adept at helping clients build the infrastructure they need to attain the results they require. In addition to her other accomplishments, Alison has co-authored papers for national publication and presented original work at local, state, and national meetings. Her extensive board service has helped her understand how nonprofits operate and what they need to succeed. Alison has also acted in leadership positions in several successful political campaigns. She received a Bachelors Degree from Brown University and a Masters in Public Health from the Yale School of Medicine. Alison completed her Masters internship at the CDC. She is a graduate of Leadership Rhode Island, Omega Class, and a University of Rhode Island Master Gardener.

Evangeline McDonald 2013, 2014M - Analysis Group, Analyst

Lea was a Community Health undergraduate concentrator and graduated from Brown’s School of Public Health through the 5-year AB/MPH program. While at Brown, she was a tour guide, participated in health-related student groups like the Community Health DUG, and worked in the CareerLab. Currently, Lea works as an Analyst within the Health Economics and Outcomes Research sector, where she analyzes and synthesizes data for companies within the healthcare field.

Campus Affiliation: Brown Center for Students of Color
Mia Stange 2014 - Children's Health Fund, Global Health Corps Fellow

Mia graduated from Brown this past May with a degree in Community Health. While at Brown, she was a patient advocate with Health Leads, and worked at the Sarah Doyle Women's Center as a coordinator for CASARA, the Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Relationship Abuse. She completed an honor's thesis on the mental health needs of women veterans seeking care at the VA Hospital System. She is currently a fellow with Global Health Corps, an organization that places young public health professionals in high-impact health organizations. In her role as a Program Implementation Fellow with the Children’s Health Fund, in New York, NY, she works primarily at a health center in the South Bronx, and is involved at various levels of data collection, patient and community outreach efforts, and project management.