

2023

Public Health

GRADUATE SCHOOL PANEL

Meet the
Panelists

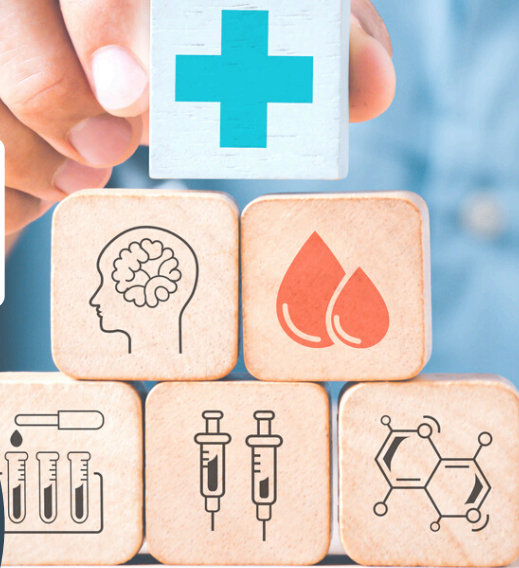


Giovanni Appolon

***Joint Doctoral Program in Public Health,
UC San Diego / San Diego State University
Masters in Public Health (Epidemiology),
New York University***

**Contact Giovanni on LinkedIn
or via e-mail at gappolon7560@sdsu.edu**

Giovanni was born and raised in New York and is currently a third-year Ph.D. student in epidemiology, enrolled in the Joint Doctoral Program between San Diego State University and the University of California San Diego. Giovanni's research interests encompass social epidemiology, tobacco policy evaluation, and the pursuit of health equity. With a resolute commitment to improving population health, he seeks to provide evidence-based solutions to pressing societal health challenges.



Kristina Brandveen

***Joint Doctoral Program in Public Health,
UC San Diego / San Diego State University
Masters in Public Health (Global Community &
Behavioral Health), Colorado School of Public
Health***

Contact Kristina on LinkedIn

A current second year doctoral student, she received her Master of Public Health from the Colorado School of Public Health in Global Community and Behavioral Health. Her research interests include health equity within a one health context to improve environmental and occupational health within communities of African and Indigenous people. She has worked with federal agencies and universities in México and Puerto Rico. In the future, she hopes to hold a tenure-track position to support the next generation of Black and Indigenous scholars who want to better the health outcomes of their communities while also giving back to overlooked communities throughout Latin America and the Caribbean and southern United States.



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Marah Hasan

Masters in Health Administration, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health

Contact Marah on LinkedIn or via e-mail at mh4320@cumc.columbia.edu

Marah graduated from UC San Diego in 2021 with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health and a minor in Business. She worked as a COVID-19 contact tracer with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health during her gap year while also applying to graduate schools. She is now in her second year at Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health pursuing her Master's in Health Administration degree. She is currently interested in hospital administration specifically operations.

Jose Gonzalez

Masters in Public Health (Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences), City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate School of Public Health & Health Policy

Contact Jose on LinkedIn or via e-mail at jlgonzal@ucsd.edu

Jose is a current MPH student in the department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences at CUNY SPH. He holds a bachelor's degree in public health from UC San Diego. As an undergrad, Jose had the privilege to participate in the "UCDC" program and interned for California Senator Kamala Harris. Jose will complete his MPH training in December of 2023. He currently works as a Safety Advisor and his primary focus is related to research laboratory safety. He plans to continue to work to make a difference in the lives of others and ultimately the world.

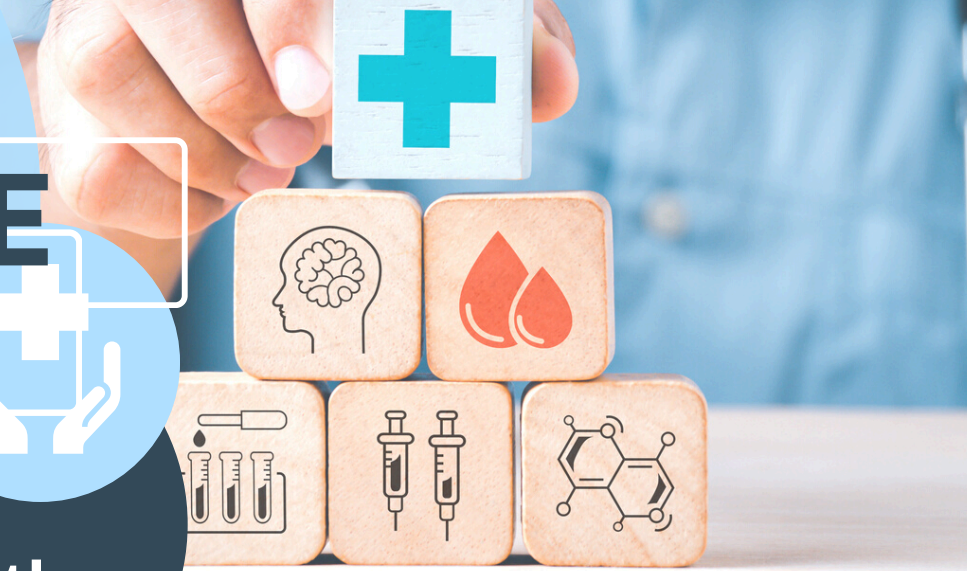


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Cassidy Samovar

**Masters in Public Health
(Epidemiology and Biostatistics),
Boston University School of Public Health
Masters of Science (Biology), UC San Diego**

Contact Cassidy on LinkedIn

Cassidy graduated from UC San Diego in 2022, earning a double major in Ecology, Behavior, and Evolution and Public Health with a Concentration in Epidemiology. She continued her education at UC San Diego through the BS/MS program, receiving her MS in Biology in 2023. When Cassidy is not studying, she likes to read and enjoy the sunshine.

David Michael Hernández

**Masters in Public Health (Communications),
George Washington University**

**Contact David on LinkedIn or via e-mail at
david.hernandez1@gwu.edu**

David Michael Hernández was born and raised in El Centro, CA. In 2022, he graduated from UC San Diego with a B.S. in Public Health and a concentration in Epidemiology. He immersed himself in all things creative, leading to an extensive background in Social Media Management. At UC San Diego he became involved with Project 2VIDA, which allowed David to picture how his passion for public health can benefit from a creative, innovative lens. He now is pursuing his MPH in Health Communications and Marketing while serving as the Chief Marketing Officer for Let's Talk Public Health and the Communication/Marketing Specialist for the R.W. Turner Lab which focuses on ADRD/Brain Injury/Athlete Concussions. As a HRSA Public Health Scholar, David hopes to commit time working with local and state health departments after he graduates from his Masters program.

