



ACGH *Newsletter*

ASTMH Committee on Global Health

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PhD, ACGH President

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Find the American Society of
Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
(ASTMH) Committee on
Global Health (ACGH) on:



*Contribute and engage in
global health discussions!*



Muhammad Asaduzzaman, Regional Representative from Norway and James Colborn, ACGH Past-President, from the USA, mingle at the Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

ACGH sponsored numerous symposia, workshops, and events at the ASTMH Annual Meeting. The first symposium was Strengthening Health System Resilience for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, and the second one was Building a Diverse Workforce in Global Health Research. Between the two was the well-attended ACGH Business Meeting. There was an Establishing Careers Internationally networking session for students and early-career professionals from low- and middle-income countries, focusing on strategies for successfully returning home and establishing careers after training abroad. This year, Ponder to Probe was an informal networking discussion on how climate change impacts global health. Feel like you were a part of it all by reading [this](#) blog from Forecasting Healthy Futures about the second annual Climate Fresk workshop card game that we co-hosted in New Orleans: Understanding the Physics, Causes, and Consequences of Climate Change to Empower Action. Then catch up on anything you might've missed at the Annual Meeting with the pictures below.



Jennifer Downs (ACGH President), and Yazoumè Yè (ACGH Immediate Past President) networking at the ACGH Networking & Lightning Presentations event.



Jennifer Downs, new ACGH President, introducing the ACGH Networking & Lightning Presentations session.



The ACGH Networking & Lightning Presentations session on the last night of the annual meeting was a fun event where 9 junior scientists each presented their research in 3 minutes, followed by networking and discussions with senior scientists.



Talking viral infections and vaccines at the ACGH Networking & Lightning Presentations event.



At the Networking & Lightning Presentations session Past President Dr. James Colborn is still networking!



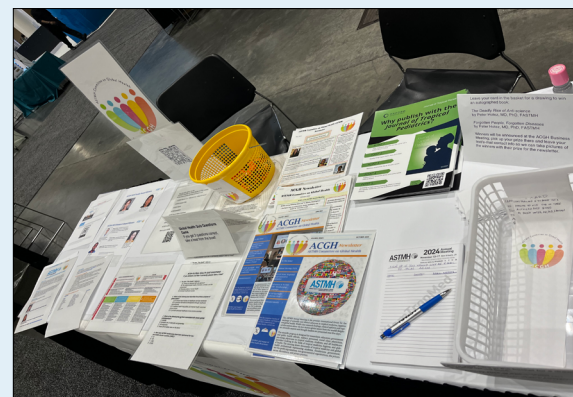
Elizabeth Collins (past ACGH Councilor), Maria Elena Bottazzi (past ACGH Secretary-Treasurer), and Jennifer Downs (ACGH President) at the ACGH Networking & Lightning Presentations event.



The mic was passed at the Networking & Lightning Presentations event.



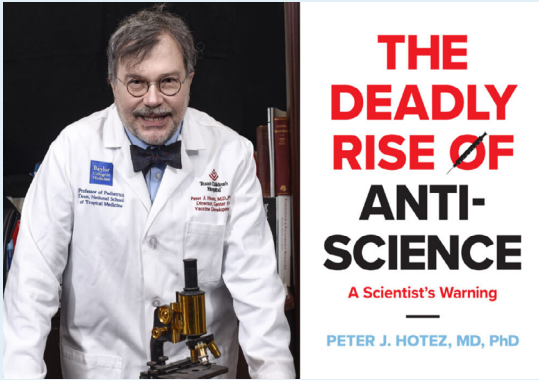
Dr. Elizabeth Collins welcomes visitors to the ACGH booth in the Convention Center.



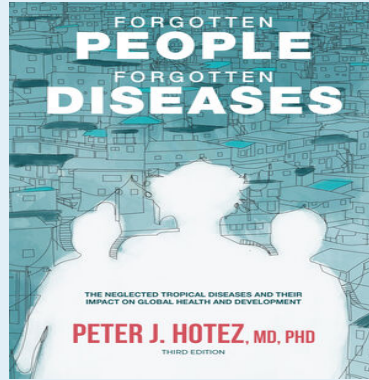
Handouts, recruitment fliers, announcements, educational material, freebies, candies, and raffle prizes await visitors at the ACGH booth.

ACGH Booth Raffle

The winner of the ACGH Booth raffle at the Annual Meeting was Dr. Maureen Laroche, who won autographed copies of two books by Peter Hotez, MD, PhD, FASTMH:



The Deadly Rise of Anti-science
- a Scientist's Warning



Forgotten People, Forgotten
Diseases- Neglected Tropical
Diseases and their Impact
on Global Health &
Development

Thank you, Dr. Hotez!



Dr. Maureen Laroche
with the books

ACGH 2024 Travels Award Winners

ACGH travel awards are aimed at facilitating attendance and presentation for students/post-docs in global health at the Annual Meeting, supporting members who would otherwise not be able to attend.



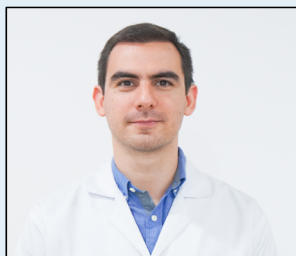
Grace Mzumara, MD, Msc, PhD Candidate
Health Economics, University of Bergen, Norway



Ogechukwu Aribodor, PhD, Associate Professor
Parasitology, Department of Zoology, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Nigeria

ACGH 2024 Research Award Winners

ACGH Award for Research Support is aimed at all levels of trainees who are working toward ACGH goals as mentioned in the Strategic Plan. The Award supports research expenses of projects approved by a university/ research institute that are active at time of application. The award helps recipients to purchase equipment, software, reagents or supplies, support travel to field sites, or reimburse other expenses that will enhance their research project. Every year three awards of up to \$2,000 US are awarded to chosen applicants. This year's winners are:



Alvaro José Martínez Valencia, MD, CIDEIM, Centro Internacional de Entrenamiento e Investigaciones Médicas, Cali, Colombia

Research Topic: *Assessing the Sensitivity and Specificity of Combined Urine and Saliva Dengue Virus (DENV) RT-PCR Testing for Dengue Diagnosis in a Colombian Cohort*

Research Topic: *Association Between Chronic Heavy Metals Exposure and Lung Function in Children, Tumbes, Peru*



Sofia Chapela Lara, MD, Msc, Oregon Health and Science University - Portland State University, School of Public Health, USA



Robert Shey, PhD, University of Buea, Buea, Cameroon

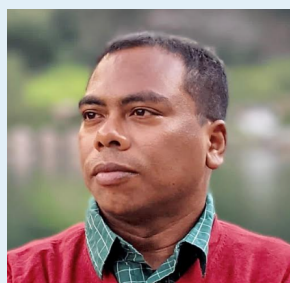
Research Topic: *Mpox seroprevalence using rationally designed chimeric antigens, South West, Cameroon*

ACGH News: Regional Representatives

ACGH is proud to announce that 4 regional representatives have been selected through an open call. The committee is still looking for representatives in the 2 remaining regions (Americas region and Eastern Mediterranean region), those interested should read the [terms of reference](#) and submit their applications by February 7th [here](#). The representatives are expected to promote ASTMH and specifically ACGH's mission, engage with regional members and stakeholders, and contribute to the global health agenda in line with the committee's Strategic Plan.



Hoseah Miima Akala, PhD
Principal Research Scientist/ Director, KEMRI, Kenya
African Region



Muhammad Asaduzzaman, MD, MPH, Mphil, PhD
Research Fellow
University of Oslo, Norway
European Region



Farzana Zaman, MBBS, MPH
Divisional TB Expert,
National Tuberculosis Control program,
Bangladesh
South-East Asia Region



Hidenori Takahashi, MD,
St. Marianna University
Hospital, Japan
West Pacific Region

ACGH Spotlight: New President

Dr. Jennifer Downs is an Associate Professor of Medicine, Microbiology and Immunology at Weill Cornell Medicine who conducts her research and teaching at the Weill Bugando School of Medicine in Mwanza, Tanzania. She received her M.D. from Weill Cornell Medicine and her Ph.D. in Parasitology from Leiden University, and is board-certified in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases. She has worked in Tanzania since 2007. Her research focuses on female genital schistosomiasis and mucosal immunity in girls and women. She also conducts community-based implementation science studies to improve the uptake of healthy behavior in rural Tanzanian communities.



An additional area of major focus is training and mentoring students interested in global health careers including undergraduate students, graduate students, medical students, and junior faculty from both the US and Tanzania. Dr. Downs is particularly interested in fostering the careers of women scientists in global health.

Dr. Downs is thrilled to serve as President of the ASTMH Committee on Global Health this year! A major focus of ACGH in the coming year will be building capacity in global health leadership in partnership with these new regional representatives, as well as working to align ACGH activities with regional priorities. Please stay tuned for how you can get involved in your region!



Send us your research

Please post a short paragraph summary, picture, and link to a new research article that you would like us to feature in the next newsletter [here](#). Thank you for sharing your work!

Get involved!

Sign up [here](#) to join any ACGH subcommittee. Subcommittee members will be expected to meet approximately once a month for an hour and sometimes more frequently on special occasions. We especially welcome you to sign-up for the Communications, Advocacy & Policy Subcommittee responsible for the ACGH newsletter, Annual Meeting booth, and advocacy and policy.



Do you love Quiz Game Shows?

Sign up to be the ACGH representative on a working group that will write questions for a game show at this year's ASTMH annual meeting! The game show will be similar to Jeopardy! or Family Feud and teams of trainees will compete. If you are interested in joining an energetic team working on this project, contact [Jennifer Downs](#).

ACGH Plan For 2025



1 Trailblazing: Lead ASTMH with thought leadership to address old, new, and emerging global health and development issues

- Webinars (2/year) on emerging topics
- Deeper regional engagement
- Journal supplement

2 Information Sharing: Facilitate the sharing of relevant global health information with ACGH members, ASTMH and the world

- Vibrant, relevant global health content at annual meeting
- Engaging newsletters profiling leaders and members

3 Advocacy & Policy: Serve as the voice of ASTMH on global health issues.

- Build capacity in global health leadership with new regional representatives
- Align ACGH activities with regional priorities

4 Member Support: Provide services, broker connections, catalyze opportunities for ACGH members, and promote expansion of ACGH membership

- Increase travel awards to annual meeting
- Recruit more members from regions
- Provide ACGH regional events at international sites

ADVOCACY ACTION ACGH needs your gift in 2025



Consider [donating](#) generously to ACGH now! ACGH will use your gift of any amount to support these great causes:

- ACGH Travel Awards to the Annual Meeting
- ACGH Research Awards
- Annual Meeting programs and speakers
- Regional Representative events
- Webinars

To make a gift, click the [link](#), and then scroll down until you can select Subgroup Donations - ACGH; then check the box that says “Yes! I would like to donate”, complete the form and submit.

Thank you!

New 2025 ACGH Executive Committee Leadership

Position	Member	Term Expires
President	Jennifer Downs	2025
President-elect	Daniel Salihu	2025
Past-President	Yazoumé Yé	2025
Secretary/Treasurer	Muhammad Noon	2025
Councilor	Andrea Buchwald	2025
Councilor	Alexander Kwarteng	2025
Councilor	Shabina Ariff	2026
Councilor	Margarita Silio	2026

American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) Committee on Global Health (ACGH)

Communications, Advocacy & Policy (CAP) Subcommittee

Adamu Addissie, MD, PhD, MPH - Chair

David Adetula, BSc, BDS - Member

Elizabeth Collins, MD, MPH, DTM - Newsletter Senior Editor

Michael Lintner Rivera, MD - Member

Paul Niyonkuru, MBBS Candidate - Newsletter Editor