

## Director's Message to the MPH graduate students

Congratulations on your graduation of the Master of Public Health in Global Health (MPH) Course at TMDU!

All of us here: Each and every single member of our faculty and staff is very pleased to acknowledge that all the daily efforts you have accumulated so far have been extremely fruitful, and that you could finally reach the day of your program's completion.

For each one of you, when you look back at your research life up to this day, I certainly believe that numerous memories immediately come both to your heart and mind. During the process involving extremely challenging tasks such as conducting vast research activities and writing your thesis work, you may have encountered countless difficulties. Particularly, I suppose that those who continue studying while working on a full-time basis in the medical field, required much willpower and commitment.

So please be proud that you have survived difficult times- in the era of COVID-19. The academic diploma you are granted today is the tangible proof that you have either studied or conducted research at our university, and that it has undoubtedly enriched your body and soul. The knowledge and research results you have acquired so far will certainly be a great help for each and every single one of you in the continuous process of making your own way in life, and they will definitely support you as well toward making your own dreams come true.

Please become our global public health leaders!

We wish you all the best in the future and we look forward to seeing you again.



MPH Course Director  
MD, PhD, MPH Professor

**Takeo Fujiwara**

## The Degree Commencement Ceremony for AY2020 has been held.



On Wednesday, March 17, 2021, the TMDU Graduate School's Degree Commencement Ceremony took place under a warm spring sun and blue sky. A total of 293 graduates (128 for a master's and 165 for a PhD degree) received a degree in their respective fields of study, and a commencement message from President Tanaka.

This was the third Degree Commencement Ceremony for the MPH Course, which began in April 2018.

Three graduates from the course attended. (The graduates' messages can be found on the next page.)

In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, this year's ceremony was held in two parts: one for master's degree programs and another for PhD programs. It was also streamed live for the first time.

# Message from the graduate student in March 2021

- Q1** Why did you choose to study the MPH program at TMDU?
- Q2** What did you study (or what did you learn) during the program? What kind of research did you do?
- Q3** What do you want to do in the future? Or, what is your future goal after the graduation?
- Q4** What were the good things about the program?
- Q5** Please give a message to those who are considering applying for the MPH program at TMDU.

## VOICE 01

### MUTSUMI GOTANDA



#### Q1

Since I was in the biomedical laboratory science department at TMDU, I have long had a strong interest in the relationship between medicine and society. Primarily, I wanted to learn more about "health" from a broader perspective, such as social determinants of health. When I heard that TMDU had established the MPH course, I thought it was a perfect opportunity and decided to enroll in this course.

#### Q2

Many of the MPH classes are very exciting, but I learned a lot, especially in the epidemiology class, where we had exercises to write papers. In the research practicum, I conducted qualitative research about the political and administrative decision-making process regarding the HPV vaccine in Japan. I had interviews with 11 stakeholders and analyzed those data by using thematic coding.

#### Q3

For my short-term goal, I desire to be a public official and work as a child welfare officer in the frontline. After gaining experience in the area, I would like to engage in research and education in the long term.

#### Q4-5

This MPH course has many international students from all over the world. I feel that this environment is indispensable for studying global health, where you can directly gain live knowledge from your classmates and discuss things that you cannot learn from books, news, or media alone. I hope that those who are thinking of entering the MPH program will deepen their studies and immerse themselves in research for two years in TMDU.

## VOICE 02

### TERUCHIKA KOYAMA



#### Q1

Two years ago, I became a physician and started working at TMDU hospital, as a junior resident doctor. For me, clinical medicine is one hand, where I give treatment to individual patients. I believe public health is the other important hand, where I study and think how health is brought to everyone in the world. That's why I chose to study the MPH program here.

#### Q2

Personally, my research question was about shared decision making, which is a collaborative process between patient and physician to make medical decision. I researched facilitators and barriers of shared decision making in Japan.

#### Q3

Now I am interested in global surgery. Global surgery is the idea to reduce the global burden of surgical disease and to find a way to provide safe and high-quality surgery all over the world.

#### Q4

We learned varieties of ways of thinking about public health. Particularly, it was important to understand how to conduct public health research. For example, we learned statistics, epidemiology, as well as some qualitative method including interviews and group discussion. In addition, learning previous health theories such as the theory of reasoned action and theory of planned behavior gave me an insight to assess people's health behavior.

#### Q5

The MPH at TMDU must give you a valuable experience. I am waiting for you to join us, and looking forward to studying together.

## VOICE 03

### KALMADKA SHEETHAL



#### Q1-2

The course was very comprehensive and easy to understand. The instructors made sure that they are giving the information in a way that won't make me confused. I have done my under graduation in dentistry from India. I am living in Japan since 2016. I chose TMDU because of program curriculum and lecture series from John Hopkins and Harvard T.H Chan public health school.

#### Q3

The courses are so informative and delivered in a way that is engaging, memorable, clear and concise. The group work was a great way to see how other people in the class thought about the philosophies and material we were going over. The content of the course inspired and motivated me in the area of my career.

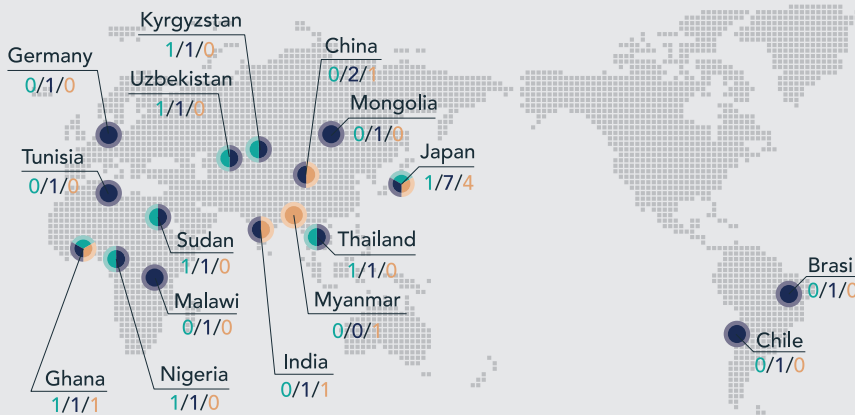
#### Q4-5

Attending the course will make you a proficient information seeker. You will learn how to carry out comprehensive literature searches based on your own research assignment. You will be guided through the various information seeking steps from selecting relevant search strategies and techniques to evaluating your search results, documenting your search process and citing your sources. Attending this course enabled me to:

- Identify your information need
- Evaluate databases and other information resources
- Set up search strategies and use various search techniques
- Formulate search strings based on your own research assignment
- Identify relevant material types
- Undertake critical evaluation of your sources
- Search more efficiently on the internet
- Avoid plagiarism
- Cite correctly
- Work with reference management.

## Birthplace (Enrollees / Students / Graduates)

● Enrollees ● Students ● Graduates



## Number of people (Enrollees / Students / Graduates)

| Date         | Enrollees | Students                 | Graduates |
|--------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 2021.4       | 7         | 23<br>(As of April 2021) | 8         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>7</b>  | <b>23</b>                | <b>8</b>  |

## TMDU TOPICS

### 5th in the world 1st in japan

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2021 for Dentistry



QS World University Rankings are published annually by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), a British company specialized in education and study abroad. These rankings highlight the world's top universities in 48 individual subjects, based on a major global survey on academic reputation, employer reputation, research impact etc. The last dental ranking list was announced on March 3, 2021. Tokyo Medical and Dental University ranks fifth in the world and is first in Japan.



## MPH Official facebook

This is the official Facebook page for the MPH Course. It has news about the course, scenes from classes, event information, and more.



## TMDU MPH Alumni Report

TMDU Master of Public Health in Global Health (MPH) Course  
Alumni Report April 2021 vol.01

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