

February Mentor Connection

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Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

February 2020 Mentor Connection

Happy February, Mentors and Mentees! We hope you got to know your mentor/mentee a bit better through the goal sharing exercise. Over the next month please find time to complete February's activity, the GPS•R exercise, and discuss with your mentor/mentee(s). These activities in the next couple of months will help to further develop your relationship and meaningfully contribute to your professional development.

CSTE Announcements

- The next [CSTE Annual Conference](#) will be held in Seattle, Washington on **June 28-July 2, 2020**.
 - The theme is “**Think outside the box—cross train your brain**”. Registration opened **February 5th**!
- The [2020 Jeffrey P. Davis Student Scholarship](#) application is now open.
 - [Click here](#) to apply by the deadline of **March 12, 2020**. Applicants can anticipate being notified by mid-April.

Basecamp

- If you have not yet joined the Basecamp group, you can do so [here](#). Please reach out to slyons@cste.org if you are unable to join the group.
- Feel free to utilize the message board to add your own announcements or discussion topics.
- Explore and add to the “Articles to Share” folder.

Upcoming Tasks

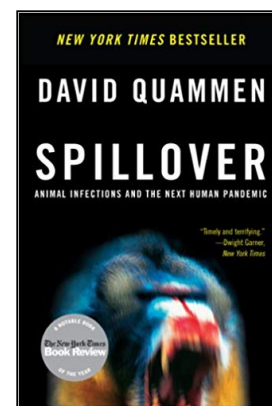
Please complete each task individually and set up a time to discuss together.

Subscribe	Past Issues • Please complete the GPS•R individually and set up a time to discuss together	Translate ▼
	• Complete doodle poll for mentor and mentee check-in calls (Complete by February 14th) • Complete halfway check-in (Due by February 28th) • GPS•R exercise (Due at the end of February) CSTE Webinar Library <i>Did you know CSTE records and archives webinars on the CSTE Webinar Library? Follow the link to the webinar library and then use the search bar to find webinars that might be of interest to you. Here are a few webinar titles you might want to search for:</i> • Epidemiology in Different Sectors: A Roundtable for Early-Career Professionals; • Is This Really What I Want to Be When I Grow Up? Mentoring, job changes and the joys of a serpentine career; • Learning to Love Your Logic Model; • Applying for Epidemiology Jobs; • “Is a PhD Right for You?” Series. Suggested Discussion Topics <i>Mentors and mentees should be communicating regularly, at least once a month throughout the program. These meetings can happen via video or phone call, email, or instant messenger- whatever works for you!</i> We will be providing some general discussion topics in each monthly Mentor Connection that can help guide your conversations. See the list below for some ideas for this month. • Discuss GPS•R exercise; • Networking; • Balancing hard skills (technical skills, database management, writing, facilitating/presenting) vs. soft skills (problem-solving, working in teams); • Resume/CV development; • Transitioning between positions within your agency.	

What are you reading? We'd like to know, so tell us how you're expanding your mind these days, either personally or professionally (i.e., fiction or non-fiction, fantasy, graphic novels, etc.) and we'll share them in each Mentor Connection. Submit authors and titles with a brief summary to slyons@cste.org, and we'll take it from there.

This month's recommendation is [Spillover](#) by **David Quammen**.

The next big human pandemic—the next disease cataclysm, perhaps on the scale of AIDS or the 1918 influenza—is likely to be caused by a new virus coming to humans from wildlife. Experts call such an event “spillover” and they warn us to brace ourselves. David Quammen has tracked this subject from the jungles of Central Africa, the rooftops of Bangladesh, and the caves of southern China to the laboratories where researchers work in space suits to study lethal viruses.



He illuminates the dynamics of Ebola, SARS, bird flu, Lyme disease, and other emerging threats and tells the story of AIDS and its origins as it has never before been told. *Spillover* reads like a mystery tale, full of mayhem and clues and questions. When the Next Big One arrives, what will it look like? From which innocent host animal will it emerge? Will we be ready?

Note: While CSTE recommends these books for casual reading, the themes and ideas contained are those of the author, and CSTE does not necessarily endorse or promote them as part of the organizational mission/vision.

Get Inspired!

What inspires you? We will use this section to share motivational and thought-provoking content relevant to public health, professional growth, or other topics that you find meaningful to your work. Submit your favorite online articles, videos, podcast episodes or series, etc. to slyons@cste.org to be featured in the next Mentor Connection.

The Journal of Public Health Management and Practice recently published an article entitled, “Social Media in Public Health Departments: A Vital Component of Community Engagement.” This article provides great insight into why social media use by health departments and public health officials is so important. It also

As a reminder, a CSTE membership includes full access to the Journal of Public Health Management and Practice. [Click here](#) to become a member or renew your membership.

Training Opportunities

CSTE will be highlighting training opportunities each month. Email Shelby Lyons at slyons@cste.org if there is a training opportunity you would like us to highlight. You can also post any trainings to the Basecamp message board.

The Drexel Urban Health Collaborative hosted the inaugural Summer Institute in June 2016. The Institute offers short courses in urban health research for students, researchers, public health and allied professionals. Courses provide participants with opportunities and tools to improve and understand health in cities.

The 2020 Summer Institute will be held in Philadelphia, PA from **June 22-28, 2020**.

Some of the offered courses include: Introduction to Multilevel Analysis for Urban Health Research, Big Data Uses in Public Health: Structuring, Analyzing, and Visualizing Across Data Sources, Introduction to Bayesian Analysis for Public Health, and more.

You can find out more about the Institute on their [website](#).



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CSTE Conference