

THE LEARNING CURVE: PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS ON COVID-19 LESSONS FROM ASIA AND THE US

July 28, 2020 at 4:00PM Hawaii

Speaker Biographies



Dr. Michael T. OSTERHOLM, PhD, MPH

*Director, Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP),
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, USA, [@mtosterholm](#)*

Dr. Osterholm is Regents Professor, McKnight Presidential Endowed Chair in Public Health, the director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP), Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, a professor in the Technological Leadership Institute, College of Science and Engineering, and an adjunct professor in the Medical School, all at the University of Minnesota.

From June 2018 through May 2019, he served as a Science Envoy for Health Security on behalf of the US Department of State. He is also on the Board of Regents at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.

He is the author of the 2017 book, *[Deadliest Enemy: Our War Against Killer Germs](#)*, in which he not only details the most pressing infectious disease threats of our day but lays out a nine-point strategy on how to address them, with preventing a global flu pandemic at the top of the list.

In addition, Dr. Osterholm is a member of the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) and the Council of Foreign Relations. In June 2005 Dr. Osterholm was appointed by Michael Leavitt, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), to the newly established National Science Advisory Board on Biosecurity. In July 2008, he was named to the University of Minnesota Academic Health Center's Academy of Excellence in Health Research. In October 2008, he was appointed to the World Economic Forum Working Group on Pandemics.



Dr. Keiji FUKUDA, MD, MPH

Director and Clinical Professor, University of Hong Kong School of Public Health, Hong Kong, [@HKU_SPH](#)

Keiji Fukuda is Director and Clinical Professor at The University of Hong Kong School of Public Health. He previously was the Assistant Director-General for health security, a Special Adviser to the Director General for pandemic influenza and for antimicrobial resistance and was Director of the Influenza Programme at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva. Before that, he worked at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as the Epidemiology Section Chief, Influenza Branch. Professor Fukuda has been a global public health leader in many areas including health security and personally has led numerous field investigations, global responses and diplomatic negotiations related to emerging infectious diseases including seasonal, avian and pandemic influenza, SARS, MERS, Ebola and antimicrobial resistance. At WHO, he oversaw implementation of the International Health Regulations and the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework. He is an adviser to the Hong Kong Government for COVID-19.



Maryn McKENNA (Moderator)

Independent Journalist

Senior Fellow, Center for the Study of Human Health, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA, [@marynmck](#)

Maryn McKenna is an independent journalist who specializes in public health, global health and food policy, and a Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of Human Health at Emory University, where she teaches health and science writing and storytelling. She is the author of the 2017 bestseller *BIG CHICKEN: The Incredible Story of How Antibiotics Created Modern Agriculture and Changed the Way the World Eats*, which received the 2018 Science in Society Award and was named a best book of 2017 by Amazon, Smithsonian, Science News, Wired, Civil Eats, and other publications (and is published in the UK and other territories under the title *Plucked*) and the award-winning books *Superbug* and *Beating Back the Devil*. She appears in the 2019 documentary *Resistance Fighters*, which won top prizes at the Vancouver and Paris film festivals, and the 2014 U.S. documentary *Resistance*, and her 2015 TED Talk, "What do we do when antibiotics don't work anymore?" has been viewed 1.8 million times and translated into 34 languages. She writes for *The New York Times Magazine*, *WIRED*, *The New Republic*, *National Geographic*, *Mother Jones*, *Newsweek*, *NPR*, *Smithsonian*, *Scientific American*, *Slate*, *The Atlantic*, *Nature*, and *The Guardian*, among other publications. She has received the 2019 AAAS-Kavli Gold Award for magazine writing, the 2019 John P. McGovern Award for Excellence in Biomedical Communication, the 2014 Leadership Award of the Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics, and the 2013 Byron H. Waksman Award for Excellence in the Public Communication of Life Sciences, among many other honors. In 2018, she was a Poynter Fellow in Journalism at Yale University. She lives in Atlanta. Maryn is an alumna of the East-West Center's post-SARS Health Reporting Tours.