



Photo by Tara Ballenger

A Unique Global Perspective: MU's first MPH graduate

The public health challenges are enormous in Munashe Chigerwe's home country of Zimbabwe. Placed near the bottom of the World Health Organization's rankings, Zimbabwe has a Healthy Life Expectancy of only 32.9 years. Before coming to Missouri, Munashe completed his veterinary degree at the University of Zimbabwe. He is acutely aware of the connections between veterinary medicine, food production and public health.

"Zoonotic diseases such as avian influenza are among the most important emerging issues in public health. I'm looking forward to incorporating the public health emphasis on prevention into my work in veterinary medicine."

MPH graduate, Munashe Chigerwe



Top to bottom:

Veterinary Public Health student Munashe Chigerwe ran seven miles to school as a child in his native Zimbabwe, without socks or shoes. Here he trains on Columbia's Katy Trail for the occasional marathon.

Pictured with the Concentration Area Director for Veterinary Public Health, Dr. Jeffrey Tyler, right, and Interim Public Health Program Director Kristofer Hagglund, Munashe graduated in May 2008 with a PhD in Veterinary Pathobiology and a Master of Public Health. In the fall of 2008, he will join the faculty of the University of California, Davis as an assistant professor in Food Animal Medicine and Surgery.



Munashe grew up on a 100-acre family farm in Chivhu, a small town in the center of Zimbabwe.