

Dr. Nicole Gatto is currently an Associate Professor in the School of Community and Global Health at Claremont Graduate University where she also serves as Director of the PhD in Health Promotion Sciences program and Interim Chair of the Institutional Review Board (IRB).

Dr. Gatto earned her MPH from the Fielding School of Public Health at UCLA and her PhD in Epidemiology from the Department of Preventive Medicine at USC's Keck School of Medicine. She subsequently completed a three-year post-doctoral fellowship at UCLA in environmental neuroepidemiology as well as a one-year internship in communicable disease control and prevention at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Dr. Gatto holds certifications in Public Health (CPH), SAS, Geographical Information Science (GIS) and college teaching.

Dr. Gatto's research has focused on environmental, occupational, lifestyle and genetic risk and protective factors for cardiovascular and neurological diseases, specifically Parkinson's disease and dementias/cognitive impairment.

In 2009, Dr. Gatto co-founded the Milagro Allegro Community Garden, a vibrant and thriving community space that integrates urban farming, art and education in the Highland Park neighborhood of Northeast Los Angeles. In 2010, inspired by Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" campaign, with colleagues Dr. Gatto developed LA Sprouts, a nutrition/cooking and gardening intervention aimed at reducing the risk of childhood obesity in predominantly Latino elementary school aged children. During 2012-2017, Dr. Gatto led the evaluation of the Little Green Fingers project, which constructed eight community gardens across Los Angeles County.

Gatto was a recipient of the Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award in 2014, and in 2018, was awarded a Fulbright Specialist grant to teach epidemiology to public health professionals at the National Center of Public Health in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. In February 2020, Gatto was named a Fulbright Scholar and, in early 2021 will travel to Iceland to teach and do research at the University of Iceland (assuming pandemic restrictions are lifted).

Gatto is a member of professional societies including the American Public Health Association and the International Society of Environmental Epidemiology. Gatto serves as a reviewer for prominent public health journals including *Environmental Health Perspectives*, *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*, and *Public Health Nutrition*.

Dr. Gatto is a native Angeleno inspired by the work of Wangari Maathai who founded the Green Belt movement in Kenya, and Alice Waters who created the Edible Schoolyard in Berkeley, CA.