

Neuro News

The latest news from the Department of Neurology

November/December 2022

A message from the Chair

Community

Happy 2023!

As I start my third month with the Department of Neurology, I have the privilege of looking over feedback that many of you provided in our Department of Neurology survey.

It is very moving to read about the kindness, personal support, shared concern, honesty, and camaraderie the members of our Department experience and cherish. As I shared when we met at the holiday lunch, I think these words about the Department's family ties and institutional memory are a special strength here at UMass.



This kind of community identity allows us to accomplish so much more. A powerful community, such as ours, also presents challenges during the period of growth we are currently experiencing as a Department. I am very excited by the new faculty members joining us: 5 (including me) joined in the latter half of 2022, and 7 more scientists and providers are already scheduled to join in 2023. With our growth, and community strength the focus will rest on how we can keep everyone moving together, communicating, and synchronized through our many developed activities in research, clinical care, and education, in addition to developing new areas of distinction.

I am so proud of our advanced challenge of inclusion and belonging—it reveals how rich we are in Departmental human resources. Not only have our department members trained in biology, bioinformatics, neuroscience, biochemistry, psychology, neurology, optometry...and so many more areas, our enhanced Departmental leadership structure will help us to celebrate, and also bring together

our diverse identities.

As you know, Lawrence Hayward is now working with us as Neuromuscular Division Director, and Brian Silver, who set the bar high as interim Chair for compassionate, collegial interaction, is now our Vice Chair of Clinical Operations. I look forward to lively conversations about how we can stay abreast of our Departmental activities across the medical school and healthcare system, and to new ways of engaging each other.

Our Department relationship with the Veteran Administration continues to grow, and I am always happy to discuss this formally or informally with each of you. The 2023 VA research budget is over \$900M, and the VA is distinguished among federal funders by its proportion of funded researchers who are also practicing clinicians: over 60 percent. Many exciting new developments are in process in the UMass-VA relationship, as well.

Hoping that for everyone, the new year, 2023, brings hope and many peaceful moments, as we appreciate our UMass Neurology community.

A.M. Barrett

Neurology Community News

Congratulations Rakhee LALLA!!



On November 14 ~ Rakhee LALLA, DO, our Assistant Professor in Vascular Neurology welcomed baby girl, Zia Garg.

Best Wishes to your growing family!!!

Congratulations on newly appointed positions!

Congratulations to Brian Silver, MD, FAAN, FANA, FASNR

Dr. Silver has accepted the position as our new Vice Chair of Clinical Operations within the Neurology Department. He will work to continue enhancing the Departmental Divisional Structure while upholding the Clinical mission and standard of excellence.

Congratulations to Lawrence Hayward, MD, PhD

Dr. Hayward has been promoted to our new Neuromuscular Division Director overseeing their research, education, clinical strategy and operations. In addition, he will be partnering with Clinic Director Brenda Wong and the Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Clinic.

Congratulations to Kara Smith, MD

Dr. Smith is now an Associate Professor in Neurology with a secondary appointment in Neurological Surgery.

Congratulations to Nancy Bellantoni

Nancy Bellantoni is the new Ambulatory Operations Supervisor for Neurodiagnostics.

Welcome to Our Neurology Department

November 2022

Gisselle Ayala
Amb Service Rep, MS Center

Ina Hoxhallari
Neurodiagnostic Tech, EMU

Israa Hassan
Research Associate

Kate Brush
Executive Assistant to the Chair

Kelly Gaumond
Nurse Navigator

Pegah Afra
Physician

Sai Bethina
Post Doc Associate

December 2022

Fininfoluwa Olusola
Clinical Research Coordinator

Kevin Houston
Physician

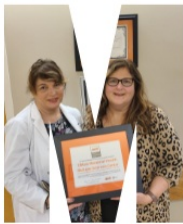
Kyle Rossi
Physician

Sharon Velazquez
Web Communications Specialist

Tracy Goodfield
Medical Office Assistant

Linda Gregoire
Amb Operations Supervisor

MS Center Recognized by National MS Society



UMass Chan
MEDICAL SCHOOL



UMass Memorial Health

Multiple Sclerosis Center & Dr. Carolina Ionete
receive recognition by the
National MS Society



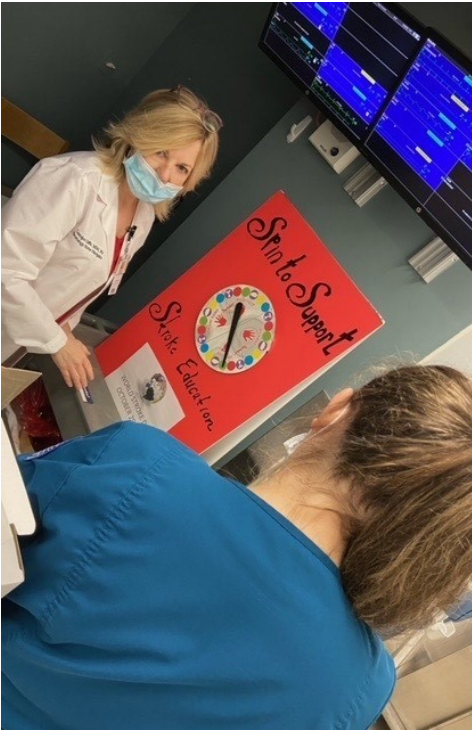
The UMass Multiple Sclerosis Center team received recognition by the National MS Society as a

The MS Center team, led by Carolina Ionete, MD, PhD., received recognition on behalf of the work and treatment they provide to their patients.

The certificate was presented on January 14.

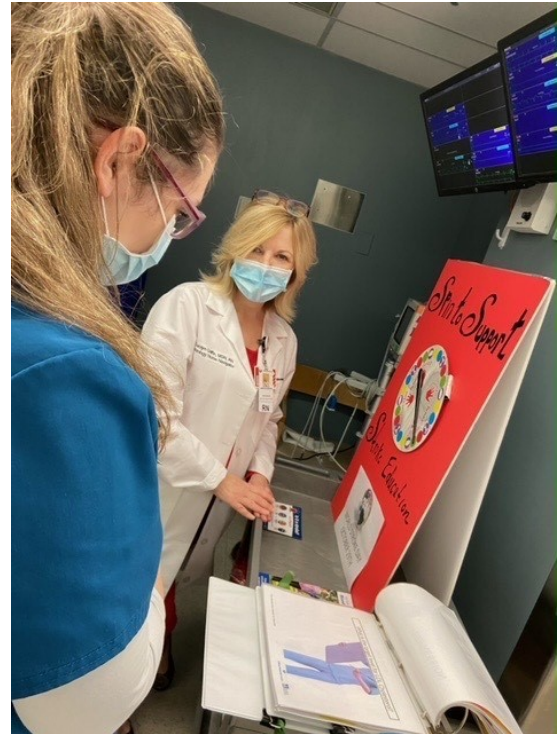
Leading in Education ~ with some fun!

World Stroke Day - Friday, October 28



The clinical nursing team chose to honor the special day with support by the Neurology Stroke Team.

Carolyn Griffin, one of the Medicare Nurse Navigators is seen relating to students on the 4th floor, by providing education in a fun way.



The game, which included individually wrapped homemade chocolate cookies, encouraged the nurses and MD Residents (not pictured) to take turns spinning the Support Wheel and answering questions.

Research Updates & Learning Seminars

December 9, 2022 - UMass Multiple Sclerosis Center Clinical & Research Update Symposium

The annual Neuroimmunology / Multiple Sclerosis Clinical & Research Update Symposium provided scientists and clinicians with the latest updates in clinical and translational research findings via eleven presenters through the qualifying CME event.

Thank you to our research community for your contributions to this event.

Presenters include Dr. Carolina Ionete, Dr. Roberto Bomprezzi, Dr. Christopher Hemond, Dr. Biljana Beretich, Dr. Raffaella Umenton, Dr. Rachel Gerstein, Dr. Jillian Richmond, Dr. Maria Antonietta Mazzola, Dr. Caterina Mainero, Dr. Andrada Treaba,

Dr. Fiachra Humphries

Administrative Support was provided by Michelle Landry, Jean Baril
To learn more about the topics covered, please review the [meeting agenda](#).

November 18, 2022 - 4th Annual UMass Chan Department of Neurology Clinical & Research Update Program

The annual Neurology Clinical & Research Update program provided twenty-six participants with updates on our scientific inquiry initiatives to better serve our patients and communities.

Thank you to our research community for your contributions into this event.

Presenters include Dr. A.M. Barrett, Dr. Andrew Galica, Dr. Robert Brown Jr., Dr. D. Phil, Dr. Mehdi Ghasemi, MPH; Dr. Oliver King, PhD; Dr. Idanis Berrios-Morales, dr. Fen-Biao Gao, Dr. Kara Smith, Dr. Wissam Deeb, Dr. Rita Batista, Dr. Susanne Muehlschlegel, Dr. Jean Pierre Peron, Dr. Nils Henninger, Dr. Yingleong (Rigel) Chan

Administrative Support was provided by Dr. Brian Silver, Dr. Carolina Ionete, Dr. Daryl Bosco, Morna Larson, Lynn Hancock
To learn more about the topics covered, please review the [meeting agenda](#).

October 29, 2022 - Massachusetts Neurologic Association

Rafaella Umeton, MD, MSc of UMass Chan Medical School, and Andrew Galica, MD of UMass Memorial Health, collaborated with MNA during the fall seminar. **Thank you for your contributions!!** To learn more, please review the [meeting agenda](#).

DOM Calendar

Grand Rounds
Archives

Research Updates and Publications



We are excited to share your research news!

Check out what our department has been up to through the Neurology Articles published during November and December 2022

Multi-omics analysis of magnetically levitated plasma biomolecules.

Ashkarran AA, Gharibi H, Zeki DA, Radu I, Khalighinejad F, Keyhanian K, Abrahamsson CK, Ionete C, Saei AA, Mahmoudi M. *Biosens Bioelectron.* 2023 Jan 15;220:114862. doi: 10.1016/j.bios.2022.114862. Epub 2022 Nov 3. PMID: 36403493

Neuroprognostication.

Fleming V, Muehlschlegel S. *Crit Care Clin.* 2023 Jan;39(1):139-152. doi: 10.1016/j.ccc.2022.06.005. Epub 2022 Oct 13. PMID: 36333028 Review.

Predicting mortality in moderate-severe TBI patients without early withdrawal of life-sustaining treatments including ICU complications: The MYSTIC-score.

Chang HYM, Flahive J, Bose A, Goostrey K, Osgood M, Carandang R, Hall W, Muehlschlegel S. *J Crit Care.* 2022 Dec;72:154147. doi: 10.1016/j.jcrc.2022.154147. Epub 2022 Sep 24. PMID: 36166912

Characteristics and outcomes of postpartum cerebral venous sinus thrombosis: A subgroup analysis of the ACTION-CVT study.

Fang T, Shu L, Elnazeir M, Zubair AS, Kasab SA, Antonenko K, Heldner MR, Yaghi S, Henninger N;

Anti-SOD1 Nanobodies That Stabilize Misfolded SOD1 Proteins Also Promote Neurite Outgrowth in Mutant SOD1 Human Neurons.

Kumar MS, Fowler-Magaw ME, Kulick D, Boopathy S, Gadd DH, Rotunno M, Douthwright C, Golebiowski D, Yusuf I, Xu Z, **Brown RH Jr, Sena-Esteves M, O'Neil AL, Bosco DA.** *Int J Mol Sci.* 2022 Dec 16;23(24):16013. doi: 10.3390/ijms232416013. PMID: 36555655 Free PMC article.

Mutation in protein disulfide isomerase A3 causes neurodevelopmental defects by disturbing endoplasmic reticulum proteostasis.

Bilches Medinas D, Malik S, Yıldız-Bölükbaşı E, Borgonovo J, Saaranen MJ, Urra H, Pulgar E, Afzal M, Contreras D, Wright MT, Bodaleo F, Quiroz G, Rozas P, Mumtaz S, Díaz R, Rozas C, Cabral-Miranda F, Piña R, Valenzuela V, Uyan O, Reardon C, Woehlbier U, **Brown RH, Sena-Esteves M,** Gonzalez-Billault C, Morales B, Plate L, Ruddock LW, Concha ML, Hetz C, Tolun A. *EMBO J.* 2022 Dec 17;41(2):e105531. doi: 10.15252/embj.2020105531. Epub 2021 Dec 14. PMID: 34904718

A reference human induced pluripotent stem cell line for large-scale collaborative studies.

Pantazis CB, Yang A, Lara E, McDonough JA, Blauwendraat C, Peng L, Oguro H, Kanaujiya J, Zou J, Sebesta D, Pratt G, Cross E, Blockwick J, Buxton P, Kinner-Bibeau L, Medura C, Tompkins C, Hughes S, Santiana M, Faghri F, Nalls MA, Vitale D, Ballard S, Qi YA, Ramos DM, Anderson KM, Stadler J, Narayan P, Papademetriou J, Reilly L, Nelson MP, Aggarwal S, Rosen LU, Kirwan P, Pisupati V, Coon SL, Scholz SW, Priebe T, Öttl M, Dong J, Meijer M, Janssen LJM, Lourenco VS, van der Kant R, Crusius D, Paquet D, Raulin AC, Bu G, Held A, Wainger BJ, Gabriele RMC, Casey JM, Wray S, Abu-Bonsrah D, Parish CL, Beccari MS, Cleveland DW, Li E, Rose IVL, Kampmann M, Calatayud Aristoy C, Verstreken P, Heinrich L, Chen MY, Schüle B, Dou D, Holzbaur ELF, Zanellati MC, Basundra R, Deshmukh M, Cohen S, Khanna R, Raman M, Nevin ZS, Matia M, Van Lent J, Timmerman V, Conklin BR, Johnson Chase K, Zhang K, **Funes S, Bosco DA,** Erlebach L, Welzer M, Kronenberg-Versteeg D, Lyu G, Arenas E, Coccia E, Sarrafha L, Ahfeldt T, Marioni JC, Skarnes WC, Cookson MR, Ward ME, Merkle FT. *Cell Stem Cell.* 2022 Dec 1;29(12):1685-1702.e22. doi: 10.1016/j.stem.2022.11.004. PMID: 36459969

Paramagnetic rim lesions are associated with pathogenic CSF profiles and worse clinical status in multiple sclerosis: A retrospective cross-sectional study.

Hemond CC, Baek J, **Ionete C,** Reich DS. *Mult Scler.* 2022 Nov;28(13):2046-2056. doi: 10.1177/13524585221102921. Epub 2022 Jun 24. PMID: 35748669 Free PMC article.

Predictors of Recurrent Venous Thrombosis After Cerebral Venous Thrombosis: Analysis of the ACTION-CVT Study.

Shu L, Bakradze E, Omran SS, Giles J, Amar J, **Henninger N,** Elnazeir M, Liberman A, Moncrieffe K, Rotblat J, Sharma R, Cheng Y, Zubair AS, Simpkins A, Li G, Kung J, Perez D, Heldner MR, Scutelnic A, von Martial R, Siepen B, Rothstein A, Khazaal O, Do D, Al Kasab S, Rahman LA, Mistry EA, Kerrigan D, Lafever H, Nguyen TN, Klein P, Aparicio HJ, Frontera JA, Kuohn L, Agarwal S, Stretz C, Kala N, ElJamal S, Chang A, Cutting S, Indraswari F, de Havenon A, Muddasani V, Wu T, Wilson D, Nouh A, Asad D, Qureshi A, Moore J, Khatri P, Aziz Y, Casteigne B, Khan M, Cheng Y, Grory BM, Weiss M, Ryan D, Vedovati MC, Paciaroni M, Siegler J, Kamen S, Yu S, Guerrero CL, Atallah E, De Marchis GM, Brehm A, Dittrich T, Psychogios M, Alvarado-Dyer R, Kass-Hout T, Prabhakaran S, Honda T, Liebeskind D, Furie K, Yaghi S. *Neurology.* 2022 Nov 22;99(21):e2368-e2377. doi: 10.1212/WNL.0000000000201122. Epub 2022 Sep 19. PMID: 36123126 Free PMC article.

The SOD1-mediated ALS phenotype shows a decoupling between age of symptom onset and disease duration.

Opie-Martin S, Iacoangeli A, Topp SD, Abel O, Mayl K, Mehta PR, Shatunov A, Fogh I, Bowles H, Limbachiya N, Spargo TP, Al-Khleifat A, Williams KL, Jockel-Balsarotti J, Bali T, Self W, Henden L, Nicholson GA, Ticozzi N, **McKenna-Yasek D,** Tang L, Shaw PJ, Chio A, Ludolph A, Weishaupt JH, **Landers JE,** Glass JD, Mora JS, Robberecht W, Damme PV, McLaughlin R, Hardiman O, van den Berg L, Veldink JH, Corcia P, Stevic Z, Siddique N, Silani V, Blair IP, Fan DS, Esselin F, de la Cruz E, Camu W, Basak NA, Siddique T, Miller T, **Brown RH,** Al-Chalabi A, Shaw CE. *Nat Commun.* 2022 Nov 12;13(1):6901. doi: 10.1038/s41467-022-34620-y. PMID: 36371497 Free PMC article.

Impaired mitochondrial oxidative metabolism in skeletal progenitor cells leads to musculoskeletal disintegration.

Lin C, Yang Q, Guo D, Xie J, Yang YS, Chaugule S, DeSouza N, Oh WT, Li R, Chen Z, John AA, Qiu Q,

Neuroprotective effects of Lasmiditan and Sumatriptan in an experimental model of post-stroke seizure in mice: Higher effects with concurrent opioid receptors or K_{ATP} channels inhibitors.

Shayan M, Eslami F, Amanlou A, Solaimanian S, Rahimi N, Rashidian A, Ejtemaei-Mehr S, **Ghasemi M**, Dehpour AR. Toxicol Appl Pharmacol. 2022 Nov 1;454:116254. doi: 10.1016/j.taap.2022.116254. Epub 2022 Sep 23. PMID: 36155770

DUX4 expression activates JNK and p38 MAP kinases in myoblasts.

Brennan CM, Hill AS, St Andre M, Li X, Madeti V, Breikopf S, Garren S, Xue L, Gilbert T, Hadjipanayis A, Monetti M, **Emerson CP**, Moccia R, Owens J, Christoforou N. Dis Model Mech. 2022 Nov 1;15(11):dmm049516. doi: 10.1242/dmm.049516. Epub 2022 Oct 31. PMID: 36196640

We are Growing - see our Open Positions

The Neurology Department is hiring. To learn more about our various positions and to apply [click here](#).

- **Bioinformatician 11 (2022-39754)**
- **Biostatistician 11 (2022-40355)**
- **Clinical Research Coordinator 1 (2022-42334)**
- **Research Associate (2022-40178)**
- **Research Associate (2022-42133)**
- **Research Associate 1 (2022-40749)**
- **Research Associate 1 (2021-39245)**

Bosco Lab is hiring for the following positions:

- **Post Doctoral Associate (2022-40126)**
- **Research Associate (2022-39916)**

Brown Lab is hiring for the following positions:

- **Post Doctoral Associate (2022-41684)**
- **Research Associate (2022-41532)**

Gao's Lab is hiring for the following position:

- **Research Associate 1 (2022-38811)**

Rigel Lab is hiring for the following position:

- **Research Associate 1 (2021-36596)**

Sena-Esteves Lab is hiring for the following position:

- **Research Associate (2022-42131)**

UMASS UPDATES



The 2022 UMass President's Report, provided by University of Massachusetts President Marty Meehan, is available. To learn more, click the link below.

[Review Report](#)

UMASS MEMORIAL HEALTH UPDATES

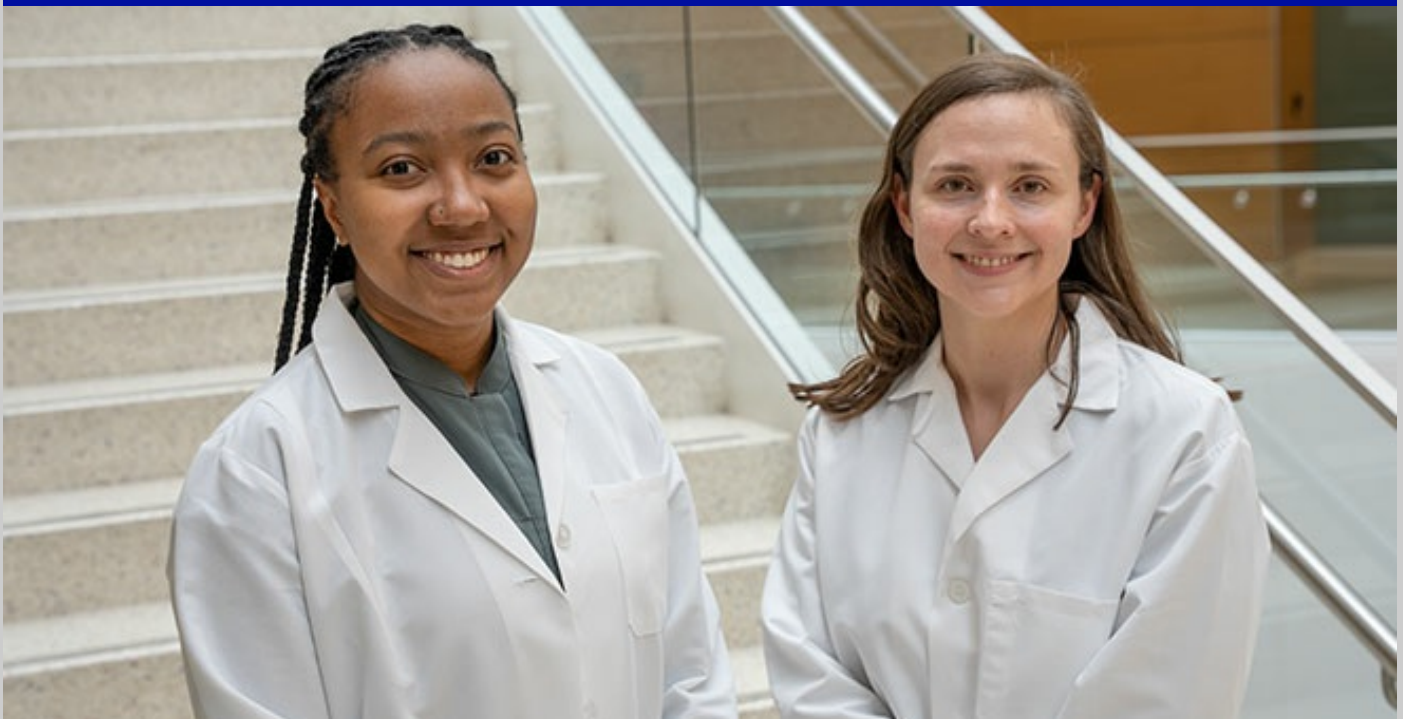
Please Submit Your COVID-19 Booster Status

To better understand the need for more booster clinics and to comply with a federal regulation that requires us to document and report on the booster status of all health care workers, we are asking all caregivers who received a booster shot outside of UMass Memorial Health to submit appropriate documentation. Please submit a picture of your vaccination card to the following inbox, depending on the entity where you work:

Entity	Email
Medical Center, Medical Group, Division 40	employee_health_covid-19_mailbox@umassmemorial.org
Community Healthlink	chemployeehealth@communityhealthlink.org
HealthAlliance-Clinton Hospital	HA-C_EmployeeHealthServices@umassmemorial.org
Marlborough Hospital	medworks@umassmemorial.org

In the next few days, this message will be translated into Albanian, Portuguese, Spanish and Twi. You will be able to find those translations on the Hub soon.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION NEWS



Jillian Richmond mentoring Morehouse med student Sachi Desse in research aimed to reduce disparities in dermatology

A Morehouse School of Medicine student is studying a rare group of blood cancers that disproportionately affect Black people, with the support of mentor Jillian Richmond, PhD, assistant professor of dermatology, and a grant from the [dermatology foundation](#).

[Read
More](#)

UMass Chan resident-led 'Day in the Life of a Surgeon' event promotes diversity in surgery



More than 60 college students from across Massachusetts attended "A Day in the Life of a Surgeon" event last month, organized by two UMass Chan Medical School surgery residents to give students underrepresented in medicine the opportunity to learn about the surgical field.

[Read
More](#)



Nominations sought for Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion and MLK Semester of Service Awards

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. tribute to be held Jan. 25 on campus at UMass Chan

In recognition of the persistent efforts to make UMass Chan Medical School a more diverse, inclusive and equitable institution, the Diversity and Inclusion Office is pleased to announce nominations are now being accepted for the 2023 Chancellor's Award for Advancing Institutional Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion.

Nominations forms can be found on the Diversity and Inclusion Office [website](#) and will be accepted until Jan. 6.

[Read More](#)

CAMPUS LEARNING

Professional Staff Development Website & Calendar

[Professional Staff Development website Calendar](#)

[Professional Staff Development website Registration](#)

[Professional Staff Development website homepage](#)

[Email the UMass Chan Helpdesk for LMS SSO Support](#)

[Register for any of our 2022 diversity workshops](#)

[Read More about the VA Outpatient Clinic](#)

[Click here to sign up for weekly emails from UMass Chan](#)

LET'S GET SOCIAL

The UMass Chan Neurology Department is getting social. Take a moment and like our page on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Instagram. Stay on top of the latest neurology news and click the links below.



STAY CONNECTED



Sign up for the
Newsletter here



Visit the
Neurology website



Send us your story
ideas

UMass Medical School - Department of Neurology

55 Lake Avenue North
Worcester, MA 01655

UMass Chan Medical School | Department of Neurology, 55 Lake Avenue North, Worcester, MA
01655

[Unsubscribe jennifer.shimer@umassmed.edu](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by sharon.velazquez1@umassmed.edu in collaboration
with



Try email marketing for free today!