



Weekly Newsletter August 5-9, 2024

PQHS NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS



Monday, August 5, 2024, 12:30PM via Zoom

Morningside Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Master of Science in Clinical Investigation Program: Announces the MSCI Dissertation Defense – “Racial Disparities and Trends in Anticoagulant Use among Ambulatory Care Patients with Atrial Fibrillation and Atrial Flutter in the United States from 2007-2019”

Presented By: Vincent Kan, MD

Click [here](#) to join. Password: 186751



Thursday, August 8, 2024, 10:00-10:30AM in AS9-2072

PHS Comprehensive Project Presentation: “Assessing the relationship between ethnic minority language barrier and depression among Spanish speaking Latinos living in US nursing homes.”

Presented by: Natalia Nielsen, MPH

Click [here](#) to join.

WELCOME TO PQHS



Welcome Chandra Harsha Rachabathuni to join the PQHS team! Starting Monday August 5, 2024, he will serve as a Data Scientist at the innovative AI for Health (iAI4Health) lab (<http://www.umassmed.edu/ai4health>) in the Health Informatics and Implementation Science (HIIS) Division. Chandra obtained his Master’s degree in Computer Science from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 2024. He will work with Dr. Feifan Liu in developing innovative AI techniques for various biomedical applications, including risk predictive modeling, and large language model applications in medicine.

CONGRATULATIONS

Judi Saber – promoted to Program Administrator - After 11 years as an Executive Assistant to the Chair, Judi has been promoted to Program Administrator in PQHS. In her new role, Judi will continue to assist Catarina in administering the MD/PhD program, be responsible for coordinating specific programs and projects within the Department and will continue to assist Senior Leadership. Judi starts today and will be located in the office opposite the Executive Suite. Congratulations Judi!

PQHS HAPPENINGS



Sign up to have lunch with the Chair & Vice Chair! There are still slots available to pick from. Lunch with the Chair and Vice Chair sign ups are first come first serve for 3 Faculty Members and 3 Staff Members each month to have to have a nice catered meal and to talk about anything, but **NO WORK TALK**. Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up for the date that works for you. Thank you!

Click [here](#) to sign up!



UMass ARC PBRN Pilot Project Awards 2024 Call for Applications: Letters of intent are due September 16, 2024

The UMass Ambulatory Research Consortium (ARC) practice-based research network (PBRN) welcomes submissions for pilot project awards. Study teams should include a practicing clinician and a health services investigator. Awardees will have access to support from PBRN core staff, the DOM Research Core, and CCTS cores, as appropriate for the project. Projects that address one or more of the following areas are encouraged:

- Development or piloting of interventions focused on improving health outcomes, patient engagement, or patient/caregiver experience in primary care
- Development or piloting of interventions that address clinician satisfaction or engagement in primary care
- Research topics that are relevant to primary care
- New approaches to linking practices to community-based organizations to improve health outcomes or health equity
- Digital health solutions to improve patient experience, outcomes, equity, or practice efficiency

Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Tuesday, August 13, 2024, 8:30-9:00AM in AS9-2072

PHS Comprehensive Project Presentation: *“Association of everyday discrimination and sleep quality: data from the All of Us Research Program.”*

Presented by: Hyelin Lee, BS

Click [here](#) to join.

Thursday, August 29, 2024, 1:00-2:30PM – AS9.2072 & Zoom

Worcester Neighborhood Scan Presentations by Incoming Population Health Sciences (PHS) PhD students: Our incoming PHS students will be conducting a neighborhood walk-through and assessment of health-promoting opportunities they observe in 3 Worcester neighborhoods, supplemented with on-line research. After working on this project over the course of 2 weeks, they will present their findings on, 9th floor large conference room and Zoom. We would greatly appreciate your attendance and insights during the Q&A after each 20 minute presentation.

Click [here](#) to join. Password: 815908

DIVERSITY DIGEST



The United Nations International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, observed annually on August 9th, celebrates the rich cultures, histories, and contributions of Indigenous peoples globally. This day also raises awareness of their challenges, advocating for protecting their rights and preserving their cultural heritage. Through this observance, the UN seeks to promote respect, inclusion, and support for Indigenous communities, fostering a world where their voices are heard and their rights are upheld.

Learn more about The United Nations International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples here:

<https://www.unesco.org/en/international-day-worlds-indigenous-peoples>



August 23rd is **International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition**. This day was designated by UNESCO to memorialize the transatlantic slave trade on the anniversary of the uprising in Santo Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated the abolition of slavery in the Caribbean. Did you ever wonder why Haiti is the poorest country in our hemisphere? Well freedom wasn't free. The **Haiti Independence Debt** was an 1825 agreement between Haiti and France that included France demanding an indemnity of 150 million francs to be paid by Haiti in claims over property – including Haitian slaves – that was lost through the Haitian Revolution. Over the 122 years

between 1825 and 1947, Haiti paid approximately \$34 billion to France rather than spending it on economic development or for infrastructure and public services.



Women's Equality Day

Women's Equality Day is observed on **August 26th** each year. It commemorates the adoption of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. The amendment was certified on August 26, 1920.

Women's Equality Day honors the achievements of the women's suffrage movement and serves as a reminder of the ongoing efforts toward gender equality in various spheres, including the workplace, education, and politics.

Women's Equality Day serves to highlight and promote awareness of the

broader issues of gender equality and women's rights. This includes advocating for: equal pay, workplace equality, reproductive rights, political representation, education and career opportunities, combating gender-based violence, and

more. Overall, this day highlights the progress made and the work still needed to ensure equal rights and opportunities for all women!

UMASS CHAN REMINDER

Holiday Calendar for UMass Chan Medical School

Remaining Holiday Schedule for 2024:

- Labor Day – Monday, September 2nd
- Indigenous Peoples' Day – Monday, October 14th
- Veterans Day – Monday, November 11th
- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 28th
- Day After Thanksgiving – Friday, November 29th
- Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24th
- Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25th



UMass Chan Medical School's [Office of Communications](#) is initiating regularly scheduled opportunities where faculty, staff, and students can have a professional headshot taken. Photos are taken every other Wednesday from 9 AM to 3 PM on the fifth floor of the Sherman Center by the elevators. Each session caps at 50 people. Anyone at UMass Chan can sign up using this document found on the SharePoint site. See updated link for new options: [Photo Sign-Ups \(office365.com\)](#)

PQHS Weekly will be sent to all members of PQHS on Monday mornings. The intent is to provide a snapshot of what is going on that week in PQHS and to share our faculty and staff activities with the department. We depend on you to provide the items we need to share. Please send suggestions of events, faculty invited seminars & talks, honors, student thesis presentations, and news – new babies born! – to Kellie (kellie.armstrong@umassmed.edu) & Sarah (sarah.yeboah@umassmed.edu) by Friday each week.