

Weekly Newsletter October 2-6, 2023

PQHS NEWS

UPCOMING EVENT

Wednesday, October 4 – 10:00 – 11:00 AM

Research Meeting – Presenters: Arlene Ash, PhD, Professor, PQHS, UMass Chan Medical School

Title: The rationale and logic of propensity scores

Brief Description: This will be a basic (introductory), but “fundamental,” talk about why and how propensity score methods can help protect an observational study from confounding due to differences in the kinds of patients who receive treatment versus those who do not.

Click [here](#) to join or call 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 937 1668 5400 password: 492717

PQHS SHOUT OUT



Congratulations to Sandy Stankus on her promotion to Senior Business Operations Analyst. You'll agree with me that Sandy has the department at heart and is always looking for ways to improve our business processes. Please help me congratulate Sandy on this promotion.



During Mike Kurilla's DCI program update, he highlighted **Zach Dyer, MPH** during a brief segment featuring a handful of standout KL2, TL1, and supplement awardees and "Where Are They Now?" former awardees.

Mike briefly described Zach's work and made a point of mentioning how cool he thinks it is that, as an MD/PhD student, Zach was asked to step in as the Interim Director of the Worcester DPH.

PQHS UPDATE



The Morningside Graduate Assembly approved the name change for our Clinical and Population Health Research (CPHR) doctoral training program. It will now be known as the **Population Health Science program**. This name change will help with the visibility of our program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UMass Boston Department of Gerontology & Gerontology Institute Present Proseminar Speaker Series Fall 2023

Monday, October 2, 2023

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

via [Zoom](#)

Brian Downer, PhD

Associate Professor, School of Public & Population Health, University of Texas Medical Branch

“Building a Career in Gerontology: My Path to a Career in Academic Research”

Monday, October 16, 2023

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

via [Zoom](#)

Joseph Saenz, PhD

Assistant Professor, Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation, Center for Innovation in Healthy and Resilient Aging, Arizona State University

“Disparities in Cognitive Aging in Mexican Older Adults: Exploring the Role of the Physical and Social Environment”

Monday, October 23, 2023

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

via [Zoom](#)

Maira A. Castañeda-Avila, MS, PhD

Postdoctoral Fellow, Division of Epidemiology, Department of Population & Quantitative Health Sciences,
UMass Chan Medical School

“Career Journey in Cancer Epidemiology: Focusing on the Colorectal Cancer Care Continuum Among Older Hispanic Adults”

Monday, November 20, 2023

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

via [Zoom](#)

Jaqueline Contrera Avila, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Gerontology,
University of Massachusetts Boston

“Tobacco Use Among Older Adults: Health Impact and Opportunities for Interventions”

Monday, November 27, 2023

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

via [Zoom](#)

Debby Dodds, MS

Gerontologist and Head of Caregiver Engagement,
Generation Connect

“From Capstone to Commercialization: A Journey in Gerontology, Dementia, and Tech Innovation”

via Zoom: <https://umassboston.zoom.us/j/94175483404> Password: Boston

For more information contact Jaqueline Contrera Avila: Jaqueline.Avila@umb.edu



Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 10:00-11:30AM in UMass Chan Medical School Faculty Conference Room
Equity in Caregiving Community Convening

Event Highlights

- Keynote address - AARP Massachusetts “AARP and The CARE Act”
- Caregiver Panel - “Real World Experiences and Stories of Caregiver Engagement in the Hospital”
- Clinician Panel - “Bearing Witness, Connecting and Caring for the Caregiver”
- Opportunity for Networking



For more information to register click [here](#) or scan the QR code.



Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 10:00-11:30AM

Leveraging Community Engagement To Address Behavioral Health Disparities In The Deaf Community

Featured Speakers – [Melissa Anderson, PhD, MSCI](#) and [Alexander Wilkins, PhD](#)

Click [here](#) to register.



**CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND
TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE**



Monday, October 23, 2023, 12:00-1:00PM

Realizing the Promise of HPV Vaccination: Using Implementation Science to Prevent Cancer

Featured Speakers – Heather Brandy, PhD from St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
Director, HPV Cancer Prevention Program, Co-associate Director for Outreach, St. Jude Comprehensive Cancer Center, Member, Department of Epidemiology and Cancer Control

Click [here](#) to join.

UMASS CHAN REMINDER



NIDDK has issued two RFAs seeking to solicit projects that will form a consortium aimed at using diverse data types to improve subclassification of T2D. These RFAs solicit projects that will make use of large and diverse U.S.-based cohorts with large number of individuals with T2D. More information can be found in the published RFAs here:

RFA-DK-23-019: Integration of Novel Measures for Improved Classification of Type 2 Diabetes
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-23-019.html>

RFA-DK-23-020: Integration of Novel Measures for Improved Classification of Type 2 Diabetes – Biostatistics Research Center
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-23-020.html>

The receipt date for these will be October 26, 2023.



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.