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

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.

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.

Monday, October 2, 2023
1:00 – 2:15 p.m.
via Zoom

Monday, October 16, 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”

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](https://umassboston.zoom.us/j/94175483404) Password: Boston
For more information contact Jaqueline Contrera Avila: Jaqueline.Avila@umb.edu

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**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.

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**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.

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**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

RFA-DK-23-020: Integration of Novel Measures for Improved Classification of Type 2 Diabetes – Biostatistics Research Center

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.