

Weekly Newsletter February 18-21, 2025

## PQHS NEWS

### UPCOMING EVENTS



#### Research Methods Meeting

**Wednesday, February 19th, 10:00-11:00 AM**

**Presenter:** Nathaniel Glassy, ALM, CCRC is a second year Ph.D student in the Population Health Sciences Program and a TL1 Predoctoral Fellow at the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science at UMass Chan Medical School. He is mentored by Bo Wang, Ph.D and Jeroan Allison, MD, MS.

**Title:** Synthetic Control Methods (SCM) for Evaluating the Effects of Single-Unit Interventions in Epidemiology

**Description:** Originally developed in econometrics, SCM creates a weighted combination of control units to estimate what would have happened in the absence of an intervention or exposure. Key conditions for SCM include ensuring no similar interventions are in control units, pre-treatment similarity of covariates, and availability of sufficient pre- and post-treatment data. Real-world applications, including the impact of tobacco taxes on cigarette sales, drug policy changes on overdose rates, and evaluation of HIV prevention programs are discussed.

**Bio:** Nathaniel's main research interests include substance use, mental health, and behavioral interventions. His background is in clinical research coordination, neuroscience, and biomedical sciences, he has contributed to multiple clinical trials across neurology, cardiology, pulmonology, and infectious diseases. His research applies epidemiologic methods to study opioid misuse, depression, and polysubstance use using nationally representative survey data. His dissertation examines how social and environmental factors, along with individual motivation, shape patterns of risk-taking behavior during adolescence, with a particular focus on delinquency, substance use, and sexual risk.

To join the meeting click [here](#).



**Wednesday, February 19th, 2:00PM – 3:00PM**

**Tea Time** - On Wednesday, February 19th, Finance Team invites you to tea time! Take this opportunity to connect with colleagues. We look forward to seeing you!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS



Directed by Catarina Kiefe, MD, PhD (PQHS) and Kevin Donahue, MD (Cardiovascular Medicine), the **NHLBI-funded Transdisciplinary Training in Cardiovascular Research Program (T32)** is currently accepting applications for **post-doctoral trainees**. Please visit [PQHS - Transdisciplinary Training in Cardiovascular Research T32 Training Program](#) for more information on this opportunity." Questions? Contact Rebecca Gigliello ([Rebecca.gigliello@umassmed.edu](mailto:Rebecca.gigliello@umassmed.edu))



WP<sup>3</sup>

WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL PODS PROGRAM

#### Empower Your Career: Join the Women's Professional Pods

**Program!** Increase your professional network and access career advancing skills. The Women's Professional Pods Program (WP3) was developed by Baystate emergency medicine attending Dr Jeannette Wolfe through her UMass Chan Medical School Joy McCann Professorship to help professionals in medicine and science advance their careers. The program is intentionally designed to be high impact without a significant time commitment.

Participants will be placed into a small longitudinal "pod" based on their medical campus (Baystate, Worcester or Lahey), scheduling preferences, career point, and specialty. Importantly, each pod will be interdisciplinary and intergenerational to broaden pod members' networks and opportunities and to foster

organic peer coaching and mentoring. Pods will meet three times a year, and each pod meeting will include an action-oriented career development activity.

WP3 is geared towards women and individuals with minoritized gender identities who are faculty physicians, advanced practitioners, or hold an academic appointed title. All interested individuals are welcome to apply regardless of gender or gender identity.

Invest in yourself and your community- click [here](#) to join a pod!

Deadline for initial pod placement is March 15th.

#### UMASS CHAN REMINDER

#### Holiday Calendar for UMass Chan Medical School

##### Remaining Holiday Schedule for 2025:

- Presidents Day – Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>
- Patriots' Day – Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>
- Memorial Day – Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup>
- Juneteenth National Independence Day – Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup>
- Independence Day – Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>
- Labor Day – Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>
- Indigenous Peoples' Day – Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>
- Veterans Day – Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>
- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup>
- Day After Thanksgiving – Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup>
- Christmas Eve – Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>
- Christmas Day – Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>



*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](mailto:kellie.armstrong@umassmed.edu)) & Sarah ([sarah.yeboah@umassmed.edu](mailto:sarah.yeboah@umassmed.edu)) by Friday each week.*