Weekly Newsletter May 6-10, 2024

PQHS NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, May 7, 2024, 12:00-3:00PM – University Campus (on the plaza between the Medical School Building and Sherman Center, near North Road and Library parking lot)
Employee Appreciation: Food Truck Fest
Join for fun and food as we say Thank you to UMass Chan employees.

Wednesday, May 8 – 10:00 – 11:00 AM
Research Meeting –Title: Risk Adjustment 101
Presenter: Arlene S. Ash, Professor and Chief, Division of Biostatistics and Health Services Research in PQHS, UMass Chan Medical School
Bio: Since 2014, Dr. Ash is a pioneer in risk adjustment methods, and has led teams incorporating both medical and social risk into global payments and quality measures for MassHealth (Massachusetts Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Programs). She is keenly interested in understanding and addressing inequities associated with gender, age, race, and socioeconomics; also, quality, equity and efficiency in health care financing and delivery.
Brief Description: I will discuss why risk adjustment is crucial for managing health care delivery systems, how (and how well) the commonly used models work, and new directions in using computer-assisted technology for generating clinically credible and transparent risk models. Questions from the audience are encouraged. Depending on how much we cover, and audience interest, we may continue with this topic at our meeting on May 23.
Click here to join or call 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 937 1668 5400 password: 492717

Thursday, May 16, weather permitting, following BIO teatime (2-3 pm on the 9th floor), Arlene is inviting members of the department to join her for on her deck overlooking Lake Quinsigamond, between 4:30pm and 6:30pm for socializing. Kayaks will be available. 369 Bridle Path – about 2 miles south of campus, just off Lake Ave.

PQHS SHOUT OUT

Congratualtions to **Elise Stevens PhD** on being selected this year to receive the Early Career Achievement in Science and Health Award. The Awards Luncheon is on Thursday, May 23, 2024 from 11:00AM – 1:00PM in the ASC Cube or via Zoom (in person attendance preferred).
Please click here to register for the event.

Feifan Liu PhD received notice of award for his R01 project, "AI2Equity: AI Integrating Social Determinants of Health to Advance Health Equity in Cardiovascular Risk Prediction".

Elena Byhoff MD, MSc is chairing a special symposium at the Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) Annual Meeting on May 16th, which is being held in Boston. "More Than Just Talk: Advancing Health Equity Through Policy Change and Practice"

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!
Next Lunch will be on May 29th, Sign up today!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, May 17, 2024, 9:30-11:00am
Presentation: *"Adverse Health Outcomes in Adults with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM): The Role of Poorly Resourced Neighborhoods, Health-setting Discrimination and Depression"*
Presented by: Emmanuella Asantewaa Asiedu, MPH
Click here to join.

Friday, June 7, 2024, 3:00-4:30pm
Presentation: *"Use and Effectiveness of Antidepressants on Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia among U.S. Nursing Home Residents with ADRD"*
Presented by: Shiwei (Echo) Liang
Click here to join.

UMASS CHAN REMINDER

UMass Chan Medical School encourages employees to "Take a Break" – Use Your Excess Vacation Leave **by June 29th**. As we get closer to fiscal year end, we want to remind you of the **UMass Chan Vacation Policy** and maximum accruals so you can plan accordingly.
As of the last full pay period of the fiscal year, the maximum number of vacation hours employees may carry over into the next fiscal year is 240. During the fiscal year, employees are allowed to accrue hours over 240; hours over this accrual limit are automatically re-set in the payroll system to the accrual maximum. **This year, the relevant pay period ends June 29, 2024. Accordingly, we encourage you to use any vacation balances over 240 that exceed the 240-hour maximum before that date.**

Holiday Calendar for UMass Chan Medical School
Remaining Holiday Schedule for 2024:
- Memorial Day – Monday, May 27th
- Juneteenth National Independence Day – Thursday, June 19th
- Independence Day – Thursday, July 4th
- 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.