



U.S. News & World Report ranks UMass Medical School's Graduate School of Nursing 90th in nursing Master's programs and 47th in Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs. We are proud that the work of our GSN faculty, staff and students is recognized nationally for their programs of distinction. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3xGkLWD>

UMass Medical School Graduate School of Nursing

Top 47 in Doctor of Nursing Practice Programs

Top 90 in Nursing Master's Programs

U.S. News & World Report



The Graduate School of Nursing is pleased and honored to announce that Dean Dr. Joan M. Vitello-Cicciu has been elected as the new Chair of Newton-Wellesley Hospital's Board of Trustees. Joan has been a member of the Board since 2016 and will serve as its 41st Chair. Joan is the first nurse to serve on our Board and now becomes the first to assume the role of Chair. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Vitello-Cicciu.

Appreciative Reflection

“The only way we can make the most of our lives is to make the most of our moments.”

Cleo Wade

Faculty Spotlight



Assistant Professor Rosemary Taylor presented *Combating Workplace Bullying: Expanding the Scope of the National Academy of Medicine Action Collaborative on Well-Being and Resilience* as part of the *Workplace Bullying in Healthcare Settings Symposium* at the International Association on Workplace Bullying and Harassment (IAWBH) virtual conference on April 14th. The presentation had been scheduled to take place in Dubai in June 2020 but was rescheduled to April of this year.

She also co-authored a manuscript, *Registered Nurses Experiences with Incivility During the Early Phase of COVID-19 Pandemic: Results of a Multi-state Survey*, with colleagues from the University of California San Francisco, the University of Washington Tacoma, and UMass Lowell. The manuscript was accepted for publication in the journal *Workplace Health and Safety*.

2021 Educational Recognition Award Recipients

Dean's Award: for outstanding faculty contribution to graduate nursing education

Carol Bova, PhD, RN, ANP

Distinguished Faculty Award: for an outstanding educator who best exemplifies excellence in teaching

Prelicensure Program – Mary Fischer, PhD, MSN, WHNP-BC

Doctoral (DNP) Program – Jill Terrien, PhD, ANP-BC

Doctoral (PhD) Program- Donna Perry, PhD, RN

UMassMedNews: <https://bit.ly/3ug0e9g>



Please join the Graduate School of Nursing in congratulating **Dr. Karen Dick, Associate Dean for Advanced Practice Programs** on being selected as the 2021 recipient of the Massachusetts Coalition of Nurse Practitioners (MCNP) Lifetime Achievement Award.

The MCNP Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes a nurse practitioner who has made significant lifetime contributions to nurse practitioner practice on a state (Massachusetts), national or international level.

She will be honored during a virtual awards reception being held as part of the 2021 New England Regional Nurse Practitioner Conference.

Faculty Spotlight



The 33rd Induction Ceremony for Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Iota Phi-at-Large Chapter was held April 21st.

Dr. Jill Terrien, Associate Dean, Interprofessional and Community Partnerships received the Marsha Williams Leadership Award

Congratulations to our colleague **Benjamin Woodward, MSN, ENP-C, FNP-C, FAWM, Assistant Professor** who presented his DNP Scholarly Project, successfully completing his requirements for his Doctor of Nurse Practitioner degree from Yale University today.

Congratulations Dr. Benjamin Woodard!



Dr. Mary Antonelli, as lead author of the abstract, “Designing Educational Mailings to Motivate Patient-Caregiver-Provider Conversations about Deprescribing,” was selected for oral presentation at the 2021 Health Care Systems Research Network Conference, May 11, 2021.

Student Spotlight

Please join me in congratulating **Patty Meza**, PhD student, on the successful defense of her dissertation, “**Life Transitions of Children with Idiopathic Childhood Apraxia of Speech**” on April 30, 2021.

The focus of her study on the challenges associated with transitions during school years for children with Childhood Apraxia of Speech will make a significant contribution to the literature - we look forward to seeing it in print! Identifying the challenges these children encounter growing up is important work; results of this study may propel future work with school nurses in particular to address some of the identified concerns. I would like to acknowledge the Dissertation Committee Members Dr. Jessica Pagano-Therrien and Dr. Donna Perry for their efforts and help in guiding Patty through the dissertation process.



Iota Phi
at-Large Chapter

The 33rd Induction Ceremony for Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Iota Phi-at-Large Chapter was held April 21st. **The Graduate School of Nursing had 21 inductees:** Vanessa Alves; Rita Amoah; Heidi Boland; Alexandra Cole; Samantha Creamer; Michael Daniell; Maria Danna; Julie Darcy; Karina Dela Cruz-Mundo; Sarah Fixon-Owoo; Casey Gallagher; Courtney Gannon; Amanda Hazeltine; Victoria Johnson; Kathryn Liziewski; Sophia Mirageas; Francis Sabas; Helen Tsiagras; Christine Tuohy; Danielle Urella; Kathryn Walker

PhD student Rita Amoah received a scholarship and our PhD alum Cynthia Bechtel is the guest speaker.

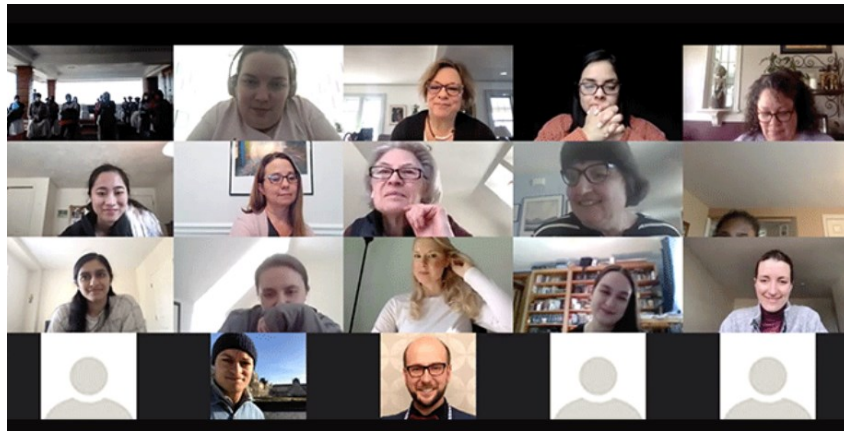
WATCH: UMMS students bring COVID-19 vaccine to underserved downtown Worcester

Graduate School of Nursing student Reginald Sarpong was one of nine UMass Medical School students who spent their Patriots Day at the YWCA. <https://bit.ly/3eUoozF> to learn why it was important for him to give back.



Student Spotlight

First year PhD students **Saisha Cintron, Heather Kennedy, Angela Latter, Shaun L'Esperance, Bill Mar, Lauri Toohey** created this beautiful nature relaxation video as part of their theory class. <https://youtu.be/siDqW7FeE3Q>



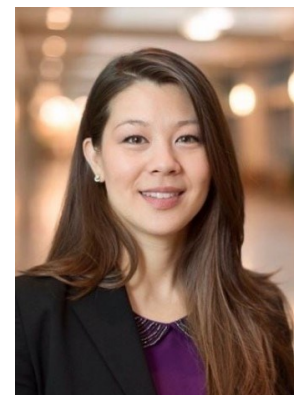
Dominican Republic Batey Health Initiative continues addressing health care needs of Haitian migrant communities. UMMS interprofessional team working remotely to address social determinants of health.

Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3siFTyo>



Casandra Gale and Maria Davila, GEP students, worked at the Worcester Health and Human Services mobile vaccination clinic at the Polar Corporation on Friday April 9th. They vaccinated and provided education to a large number of employees at the onsite clinic. On that same day, 7 GEP students administered vaccines and provided education to patients at Community Health Link in Worcester.

Mother of two and former educator leads quality improvement project while pursuing Doctor of Nursing Practice degree **Amanda Hazeltine, DNP Student** honors her late mother's caregivers by following in their footsteps. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3ti6OG1>



Student Spotlight

Congratulations to DNP year 3 students on successfully completing their **Scholarly Project Presentation April 27th**. Their presentations were exceptional this year. Thank you to faculty advisors and stakeholders for their mentorship and guidance. We are launching a group of wonderful APRN and Nurse Administrator practice leaders who will make a positive difference in quality patient care. Now on to graduation!

Presentations varied from *“Policy Analysis on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Screening in Primary Care”*; to *“Developing a Virtual Companionship Wellness Program for Socially Isolated Adults with COVID-19”*; to *“Tracheostomy “Go-Bag” Standardization: A Quality Improvement Initiative”*; to *“Increasing Hospice Utilization for Elders at the End of Life”*; to *“Pedal to the Metal: Nurse-Led Early Mobility Protocol Using Cycle Ergometry for Adult Surgical ICU Patients”*

Just a few words after that evening:

“Thank for inviting me to Everlyne’s DNP presentation. Everlyne did a fantastic job identifying a challenging problem, researching background information, and implementing a solution. Cancer related fatigue, as we all know, is major issue especially in the metastatic breast cancer population. It’s inspiring to see how such small changes can make big impacts. Everlyne did just that. Not to mention her bedside manner with pts— she’s bound for success. GSN and Everlyne: I’m so proud of your dedication and hard work. Also, I’m proud to be a GSN alumna myself. Thank you for letting me be a part of it all!” All the best, Jessica Daniel

This is an amazing process and seeing it come together is a testimony to your commitment and vision. It truly is an amazing team and thanks to everyone. The progress and accomplishments of the students has been so wonderful to see and be part of. Great night! Susan Feeney, DNP, FNP-BC, Director of NP Programs

Last evening was such a wonderful milestone for our students. Their joy and pride was palpable and was so well deserved! It was truly inspiring to hear their work – and the impact that their projects have made through their perseverance (during a pandemic) and passion! Gayle Gravlin, EdD, RN, NEA-BC, Assistant Professor

It was quite impressive to see what our students accomplished considering the challenges of the past year. For myself, it was such a positive experience to observe the delivery of the final product after a long labor. Rosemary Theroux, PhD, WHNP-BC
Associate Professor

It was a wonderful evening seeing/hearing them all with competencies to identify issues and challenges and make changes to improve care. This is truly the vision we have had for our students and seeing them all so confident and capable is inspiring and heartwarming. I could see their devotion to patients and the impact of their course work in each presentation. While the process of assisting them in shaping their work can be challenging, tonight is a reminder that making change is a process that requires so much thinking, input, tenacity, flexibility and patience! Pat White, PhD, ANP-BC, FAANP, Associate Professor

Last night was a true testament to student success and perseverance. All the hard work they (and all of you) have put into his program was demonstrated last night. It was tangible evidence of what we are all working towards and made me so proud to be part of this team. Our students are incredible. So are all of you!
P. Max Quinn, M.Ed., Assistant Dean of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

Announcements

UMass Dominican Republic Batey Health Initiative (DR BHI) is asking for your support!

This is an interprofessional, comprehensive, and longitudinal global health initiative lasting over 10 years that focuses on migrant Haitian and Dominican sugar cane workers and their families residing on bateyes in the Dominican Republic. The aim of the UMass team is to improve the overall health and wellness of these sugar cane farmworkers and their families, who have limited access to regular health care and basic amenities. Even with pandemic restrictions that have prohibited our UMass team from traveling, batey residents have continued to receive health education and care from local community health promoters plus medications from the mobile hypertension clinic that we have partnered with and continued to financially support.

Why Your Donation Matters:

- Assist local training and day-to-day work of our dedicated local community health promoters.
- Fund local health care screenings, disease prevention, and health education programs.
- Support care-coordination and local assistance for the most vulnerable sugar cane farm workers and their families.
- Expand student participation with our DR partners via virtual team building during the COVID-19 pandemic.



How YOU Can Donate:

- Purchase handmade South American textiles and colorful zip pouches through our virtual craft sale. First come, first serve, so order now!! All these beautiful, handcrafted items were made by local women and the initial proceeds support their livelihood and fund education. 100% of your contributions will benefit the DR-BHI. Image preview below.
- **Donate at our GoFundMe Page:** <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/umass-dr-bhi-2021>

UMassMedNews' story highlighting the Dominican Republic Batey Health Initiative and the transition to virtual programming amid the COVID-19 pandemic is now posted online [here](#).



Ramadan Mubarak



May the holy essence of this auspicious month remain in your heart and life!



Every year, Muslims around the world anticipate the sighting of the new crescent moon that signifies the official first day of Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and the most sacred month in Islamic culture.

The naming of Ramadan stems from the Arabic root “ar-ramad,” which means scorching heat. Muslims believe that in A.D. 610, the angel Gabriel appeared to Prophet Muhammad and revealed to him the Quran, the Islamic holy book. That revelation, *Laylat Al Qadar*—or the “Night of Power”—is believed to have occurred during Ramadan. Muslims fast during that month as a way to commemorate the revelation of the Quran.

During Ramadan, Muslims aim to grow spiritually and build stronger relationships with Allah. They do this by praying and reciting the Quran, making their actions intentional and selfless, and abstaining from gossiping, lying, and fighting.

The start of Ramadan fluctuates each year because the lunar Islamic calendar follows the phases of the moon. The beginning and end of Ramadan are determined by a [moon sighting committee in Saudi Arabia](#). It begins the day after the committee spots the new crescent moon, which can be tricky since it’s quite faint and can be seen for only about 20 minutes. If the moon isn’t visible to the naked eye because of haze or clouds, lunar calculations are used to predict whether it’s in the sky. **This year Ramadan is predicted to begin on April 12, and to end May 12 with *Eid al-Fitr* celebrations.**

This year, the coronavirus pandemic is disrupting Ramadan observances across the world, closing mosques and upending plans for traditional suhoor and iftar gatherings. But while celebrations might be subdued this year, the spirit of this centuries-old tradition will remain the same for many as [a time for piety and self-reflection](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/ramadan).

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims abstain from all food and drink from dawn to sunset. This religious duty of fasting is known as *sawm* in Arabic. It is one of the “**Five Pillars**,” or basic acts of worship in Islam. Ramadan ends as it began, with the sighting of the new moon. **Eid al-Fitr** (“Feast of Breaking the Fast”) celebrates the end of Ramadan and the first day of the month called Shawwal. <https://www.whyislam.org/americanmuslims/ramadanguide/>

Recipe of the Month



Bacon Wrapped Asparagus Bundles

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 pounds asparagus spears, trimmed 4 to 5 inches long tips
- Extra-virgin olive oil, for drizzling
- A few grinds black pepper
- 4 slices center cut bacon or pancetta
- Chopped chives or scallions, optional garnish

Directions:

- Preheat oven, if using, to 400 degrees F.
- Lightly coat asparagus spears in extra-virgin olive oil. Season the asparagus with black pepper. Take a quick count of the spear tips. Divide the total number by four. Gather that number of spears and use a slice of bacon to wrap the bundle and secure the spears together. Repeat with remaining ingredients.
- To grill, place bundles on hot grill and cover. Cook 10 to 12 minutes until bacon is crisp and asparagus bundles are tender.
- For oven preparation, place bundles on slotted broiler pan. Bake 12 minutes.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES!

- Student Coalition Diversity Summit – STUDENTS ONLY – May 3rd at 4:00 pm
- Education Awards & Last Lecture - May 5th at 4:00 pm
- GSN Awards/Scholarship Celebration - June 3rd at 4:00 pm
- Graduation - June 6th at 12 pm

Be part of the next newsletter

TELL US SOMETHING GOOD AND EXCITING!

ENTER YOUR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS & BE FEATURED IN OUR 1ST EDITION !

WE WILL RELEASE THE MONTHLY GSN NEWSLETTER ON THE 2ND WEEK OF EVERY MONTH
YOU CAN BE FEATURED IN OUR STUDENT/FACULTY/STAFF SPOTLIGHT SECTION, OR
RECOMMEND A PEER :)

- EVENT PROMOTIONS WITHIN GSN & UMMS
- KUDOS & RECOGNITION
- SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS
- RECIPE OF THE MONTH
- GSNO UPDATES
- STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS: APARTMENTS FOR RENT, CARS FOR SALE, ETC...

For the May newsletter have your submissions in by May 15th. [submission form!](#)

Follow Us on Social Media

