

Weekly Newsletter April 10-14, 2023

## PQHS NEWS

### UPCOMING EVENT

**Tuesday, April 11 – 9:00 – 10:00 AM**

**Research Meeting** – **Presenter:** Jonggyu Baek, PhD, Assistant Professor, Division of Biostatistics and Health Services Research, PQHS, UMass Chan Medical School

**Title:** Review of Lloren A et al. (2019)'s disparity model

**Brief Description:** Jonggyu will review the methodology of a health disparity model in detail in the paper (Lloren A et al., 2019), "Measuring hospital-specific disparities by dual eligibility and race to reduce inequities". (Click [here](#) to access the discussion paper).

Click [here](#) to join or call 646 876 9923 Meeting ID: 851 294 7151 **password: smm2020**

### WELCOME TO PQHS



**Welcome to PQHS as a faculty member!** [Maira A. Castañeda Avila, PhD](#) has started as Assistant Professor in our Epidemiology Division. Maira research interests are centered around understanding and reducing disparities in cancer care outcomes, particularly for older adults from marginalized communities with multiple chronic conditions.

### PQHS SHOUTOUT



Congratulations to [Ben Gerber, MD MPH](#)! Who received the grant award for Team Support to Improve Glycemic Control Using CGM in Diverse Populations (TEAM CGM).

Shoutout to [Maira Castañeda-Avila](#) has been selected as a recipient of the 2022 Clinical Research Scholar Award (KL2). This award is based on the application submitted to and approved by the UMCCTS Mentored Career Development (KL2) Review Committee.

Shoutout to Syed Naqvi who has been selected for support from the UMass Chan Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (IMSD) T32 grant, beginning May 15.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Regenstrief Center for Health Services Research Presents - Hiring, Engaging, and Retaining High Performing Research Staff Professionals: A 2-Part Virtual Conference for Faculty and Leaders of Research Teams**

Please visit the event website for the [full agenda with speaker and chair bios](#).

**Part 1: Friday, April 21, 2023, 11:00 AM – 4:15 PM (EDT)**

- Developing Highly Engaged Teams in Today's Changing Workplaces, **Brian J. Brim, MA, EdD**, Principal at Gallup
- Creating & Managing the Most Excellent and Efficient Research Teams, **Marie Anne Bakitas, DNSc, NP-C, FPCN, FAAN**, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Empowering Research Staff Using a Coaching Conversation Framework, **J. Nicholas Dionne-Odom, PhD, RN, ACHPN, FPCN, FAAN**, University of Alabama at Birmingham

## Part 2: Monday, April 24, 2023, 11:00 AM – 2:45 PM (EDT)

- Changing the Clinical Research Professional Landscape, **Denise C. Snyder, MS, RD, LDN**, Duke University
- Learning from Highly Effective Career Research Professionals
  - **Aquila Brown-Galvan, BS, MPH**, University of Alabama at Birmingham
  - **Curt Austin, BFA, BS, MDiv**, VA HSR&D Center for Health Information & Communication
  - **Diane Bresch, RN, BSN, CCRC**, Duke Office of Clinical Research
  - **Brie Sullivan, MS, PMP**, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

[Click to register](#). Following completion of registration, you will receive an automated confirmation message followed by separate Outlook invitation with Zoom information.

[Visit event website for more details](#)

Event or Registration Questions: [llosee@regenstrief.org](mailto:llosee@regenstrief.org)



Monday, May 8, 2023

**UMCCTS Workshop, “Data Visualization for Effective Science Communication with Diverse Audiences”**. Participants will learn about various approaches to visualizing scientific findings and data for effective communication with diverse audiences. Focus will be on both key principles of effective data visualization as well as concrete skill-building amongst

participants. [Narges Mahyar, PhD](#), and [Ali Sarvghad Batn Moghaddam, PhD](#) will be speakers at the workshop. Registration is required. Click [here](#) to register.



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## DIVERSITY DIGEST

### APRIL 2023

During the month of April, we recognize the achievements of Arab Americans through the celebration of National Arab American Heritage Month (NAAHM).

Arab Americans are defined as those who immigrated from or are descendants of immigrants who came from the predominantly Arabic-speaking nations in Southwest Asia and North Africa. This includes people from the 22 contemporary nations that make up the Arab League: Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Palestine (the West Bank and Gaza), Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Sudan, Somalia, Djibouti and the Comoros Islands. "Arab Americans trace their roots to 22 countries in Africa and Asia that share a common language and heritage. There are of many religions. The majority of Arab Americans are Christian -- Eastern Orthodox (e.g., Greek Catholic, Maronite, Coptic, Assyrian, and Chaldean), Roman Catholic and Protestant, but Muslims are the fastest growing segment of the community. The majority of Arab Americans are native-born Americans, and 82 percent are U.S. citizens" (Allied Media Corp., 2009).

Fun Fact: the next time you have an ice cream cone you can thank Arab American concessionaire Ernest A. Hamwi who rolled his crispy waffle-like pastries, zalabis, into a cone when the ice cream vendor next to him at the St. Louis World's fair ran out of dishes.



### April 21-22, 2023

**Eid al-Fitr** is the earlier of the two official [holidays celebrated within Islam](#) and is called the Holiday of Breaking the Fast or the Festival of Sweets. The [religious holiday](#) is celebrated by [Muslims](#) worldwide because it marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of [Ramadan](#). The confirmed date for Eid al-Fitr is determined according to relevant moon sightings and is celebrated on the first day of the Islamic month of Shawwal, marking the end of Ramadan. The holiday is known under various other

names in different languages and countries around the world.

Eid al-Fitr is celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm, and it is a time for family gatherings, feasting, and giving charity. During the Eid celebration, Muslims greet each other by saying '*Eid Mubarak*', which is Arabic for "Blessed Eid". As it comes after a month of fasting, sweet dishes and foods are often prepared and consumed during the celebration. Muslims typically decorate their homes and are also encouraged to forgive each other and seek forgiveness. In countries with large Muslim populations, it is normally a public holiday with most schools and businesses closed for the day. Practices differ by country and region.



### THE 2023 DIVERSITY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY is NOW LIVE!

We are excited to announce that the [2023 Diversity Engagement Survey is now live](#). This institution-wide survey represents an effort to assess and respond to the needs of our community members. Data collected will assist us in identifying actions that will allow us to become a more equitable and inclusive institution. By responding to the survey, you will help us develop new resources and policies, as well as help us monitor whether we are making progress on our diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic goals. This is a major goal of our Impact 2025 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion pillar.

You may access the survey in your web browser by clicking here: [Diversity Engagement Survey](#)

Your participation in this survey is voluntary. The survey is expected to take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Once completed, you can enter your name for a chance to win a variety of great prizes!

Please be assured that no identifying information will be collected and that the data you provide is confidential. The results of any analysis using this data will be presented in a way that individual respondents cannot be identified. All reports of the findings will be aggregated in nature.

While your participation in this confidential survey is voluntary, I hope that you will take the time to share your perspective and experiences. It is our goal to have as many learners, faculty, and staff as possible from all backgrounds share their experiences so that we have the most representative data and can develop programs, policies and initiatives that are responsive to our community's concerns and needs.

If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to email the Diversity and Inclusion Office at [diversity@umassmed.edu](mailto:diversity@umassmed.edu)

Thank you in advance for helping us work toward making UMass Chan a more diverse, equitable and inclusive community! We look forward to hearing from you and hope you know that your input makes an impact.

### MASS CHAN REMINDER



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