Pitt Public Health

Dean’s Day

5-7 April
Since 1999, Dean’s Day—Pitt Public Health’s annual showcase of student research—has hosted poster sessions during which students present their work to a multidisciplinary audience. Faculty members judge presentations, students evaluate posters for Grand Rounds credit, and the Pitt Public Health community learns about the research our students are conducting.

Schedule of Presentations.............................3
Schedule of Additional Events...................15
Award Categories..........................................18
Faculty Judges.................................................19
Monday, April 5
9:00-11:00 am

Darien Beall - Epidemiology- MPH
Allegheny County Health Department Overdose Surveillance Experience: Death Narratives during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Bridget Brassil - Epidemiology- PhD
Demographics and mitigation efforts associated with the county-level impact of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania

Simon Cao - Epidemiology- MPH
Effects of smoking and drinking on oropharyngeal cancer outcome by HPV serostatus

Teresa Capasso - Human Genetics- PhD
In search of "hepatic factor:" Lack of evidence for ALK1 ligands BMP9 and BMP10

Youngmin Kwon - Health Policy and Management- PhD
Survival Disparities in Medicare beneficiaries with Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) by Medicare-Medicaid Dual Eligibility Status: Analysis of Pennsylvania Cancer Registry (2007-2016)

Xinran Liu - Behavioral and Community Health Sciences- PhD
Change in medical and health care decision-making patterns at the End-of-Life: a cohort of the very old people
Monday, April 5
9:00-11:00 am

Cara Lyons  
Epidemiology- MPH  

Alex McPherson  
Infectious Diseases and Microbiology- PhD  
Defining the mechanisms of antitumor immunity enhancement in melanoma by the probiotic bacterium Lactobacillus reuteri, Presenting With Mackenzie Bender, Reinhard Hinterleitner, Marlies Meisel, Surya Pandey, and Mohit Rana

Alexis Nasr  
Epidemiology- PhD  
Premenopausal Life’s Simple 7 score is associated with high-density lipoprotein metrics later in life: The SWAN HDL Study

Taylor Robinson  
Epidemiology- MPH  
Adherence to Antibiotic Prophylaxis and Opioid Prescribing Guidelines Among Dentists in Allegheny County, PA, 2020

Jian Zou  
Biostatistics- PhD  
Outcomes After Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy and Radiation Therapy in Elderly Women with Estrogen Receptor-Positive, Early-Stage Breast Cancer; Presenting With Neil Carleton, Fangyuan Chen, Yusi Fang, Steve Koscumb, and Osama Shah
Monday, April 5
1:00-3:00 pm

Heng Bai
Environmental and Occupational Health- PhD
Association of Arsenic Exposure and Metabolism with Body Composition: the Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA)

Deena Blumenfeld
Behavioral and Community Health Sciences- MPH
Two Pillows, Your Breath, and a Notebook: A Literature Review on Birth Outcomes After Attending a Group Childbirth Class

Nemin Chen
Epidemiology- PhD
Prefrontal cortex activation during dual-task walking: a functional near infra-red spectroscopy study

Noelle Cornelio
Health Policy and Management- PhD
Impact of State Reforms on Medicaid Enrollment Among Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries

Paula Dzimira
Epidemiology- MPH
Hepatitis Services and Providers in Pennsylvania: A Preliminary Survey

Alexandra Glynn
Health Policy and Management- PhD
Eligible but Not Enrolled: Consequences of Forgoing Prescription Drug Subsidies Among Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries with Diabetes
Monday, April 5
1:00-3:00 pm

Marina Levochkina          Infectious Disease Pathogenesis, Eradication, and Laboratory Practice - MPH
Temporal Dynamics of Neutrophil-to-Lymphocyte Ratios & Infections after Traumatic Brain Injury

Alexander Sundermann      Epidemiology- DrPH
Whole Genome Sequencing Surveillance and Electronic Health Record Machine Learning for Enhanced Hospital Outbreak Detection; Presenting With Praveen Kumar

Xinjun Wang               Biostatistics- PhD
SECANT: a biology-guided semi-supervised method for clustering, classification, and annotation of single-cell multi-omics

Yi-Chuan Yu              Epidemiology- MS
Serum Iron Markers in Relation to Hepatocellular Carcinoma Risk Among Patients with non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease
Tuesday, April 6
9:00-11:00 am

Renee Anderko  Infectious Diseases and Microbiology- PhD
NK cells: the key to successful HIV immunotherapies

Zhadrya Bizhanova  Epidemiology- PHD
Identifying Baseline Predictors of Adherence to the Physical Activity Goal in a mHealth Weight Loss Trial

Pattra Chun-on  Environmental and Occupational Health- PhD
Recurrent TPP1 promoter mutations as a potential driver of telomere maintenance in melanoma

Megan Czekalski  Human Genetics- MS
Mainstreaming Genetic Testing for Epithelial Ovarian Cancer by Oncology Providers: A Survey of Current Practice

Chinwoke Isiguzo  Behavioral and Community Health Sciences- DrPH
Breast, Bottle, or Both? Breastfeeding experiences of Immigrant Somali Mothers; Presenting With Deena Blumenfeld and Abisola Olaniyan
Tuesday, April 6
9:00-11:00 am

Shuwei Liu, Human Genetics- PhD
Genetic variation in LIPC, MGAT1, and APOA1 is associated with longitudinal change in serum lipid levels in Samoan adults;
Presenting With Haoyi Fu

Talia Oranburg, Human Genetics- PhD
LMNB1 mutations and cell specific effects leading to Autosomal Dominant Leukodystrophy

Amy Raslevich, Health Policy and Management- PhD
Medicaid Expansion and Race Disparities in Chronic Disease Management

Taylor Robinson, Epidemiology- MPH
Examining the Role of Environmental Pollution, Healthcare Access, and Social Vulnerability in Children’s Asthma Emergency Department Visits in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania in 2017

Mary Schiff, Epidemiology- PhD
The Differential Impact of Residential Segregation on Gestational Hypertension Development among Minority Women

Tianyu Zou, Human Genetics- PhD
Genome-wide survival analysis of dental caries incidence
Tuesday, April 6
1:00-3:00 pm

Stephanie Christian  Behavioral and Community Health Sciences- PhD
Formative Evaluation of a Front Desk Program at a Latino Community Resource Center

Wei-Hsin Hsiao  Epidemiology- PhD
Multidimensional Sleep health During Nulliparous Pregnancy: A prospective cohort study

Elora Kalix  Epidemiology- MPH
The Methodology of Reporting Race and Ethnicity in COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths in the United States

Yu-Hsuan Lai  Epidemiology- PhD
Characterizing the family social environment among a predominantly Black teenage mother population

Yujia Li  Biostatistics- PhD
In utero human intestine harbors unique metabolome, including bacterial metabolites

Qiao Lin  Environmental and Occupational Health- PhD
Eradicate Multi-Drug Resistant Pseudomonas Aeruginosa Biofilms and Persisters With SPLUNC1-Derived Novel Antimicrobial Peptides
Tuesday, April 6
1:00-3:00 pm

Meiyuzhen Qi  
Epidemiology- PhD
Cardiovascular fat and cognitive function among perimenopausal women: The Study of Women's Health Across the Nation (SWAN) cardiovascular fat and heart ancillary study

Alex Spenceley  
Epidemiology- MPH
Longitudinal Trends in Transplantation for Pediatric Liver Cancer

Noelle Spencer  
Behavioral and Community Health Sciences- PhD
Women's Experiences with Cash-Only Buprenorphine Clinics for Opioid Use Disorder: A Qualitative Study

Kaylee Williams  
Human Genetics- MS
Genetic Counseling for Trans* Populations: Development of Educational Material for Genetic Counseling Programs

Ke'alohi Worthington  
Epidemiology- MPH
Racial Disparities in COVID-19 cases in Hawai'i

Wei Zong  
Biostatistics- PhD
Diurnal rhythms across the human dorsal and ventral striatum; Presenting With Kelly Cahil, Jill Glausier, Mariah Hildebrand, Kyle D. Ketchesin, Madeline R. Scott, and Vaishnavi G. Shankar
Wednesday, April 7
9:00-11:00 am

Adrianna Acevedo-Fontanez  Epidemiology- PhD
Longer Sleep Duration is Associated with less Myosteatosis in African Caribbean Adults

Mariele Anneling  Human Genetics- MS
Comparison of video education and traditional genetic counseling for pancreatic cancer: Assessment of patient satisfaction and knowledge

Jingheng Chen  Human Genetics- MPH
RE-AIM Evaluation of the Clinical Utility and Implementation of Population Genomic Screening Pilot Programs in an Integrated Health System

Jessica Cheng  Epidemiology- PhD
Changes in Healthy Eating Index Diet Quality in Weight Loss Trials: A Systematic Review; Presenting With Hai-Wei Liang

Fouzia Farooq  Epidemiology- PhD
Preconception Thyroid Dysfunction and Risk of Preterm Delivery

Alexandra Glynn  Health Policy and Management- PhD
Characteristics associated with high time burden for caregivers of young children with Type 1 diabetes
Wednesday, April 7
9:00-11:00 am

Ryan Katz  
Epidemiology- PhD
Association of Leukocyte Telomere Length with Perceived Physical Fatigability

Claire McCreavy  
Infectious Disease Management, Intervention, and Community Practice - MPH
Readability, Suitability, and Quality of Initial, Online Masking Guidance from U.S. States During the COVID-19 Pandemic; Presenting With Lizz Piccoli

Jenna Napoleone  
Epidemiology- PhD
Metabolic Syndrome and Objective Physical Performance Measures in Mid-to-Early Late Life Women: SWAN

Ekaterina Orlova  
Human Genetics- PhD
Genome Scan of Early Childhood Caries Again Implicates Beta-Defensins

Anna Patterson  
Health Policy and Management- MPH
Changes in Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Preventive Cancer Screenings Among Low-Income Women Associated with Medicaid Expansion

Trinity Sprague  
Human Genetics- MS
Psychosocial impact and residual resource needs following institution of enzyme substitution therapy for PKU
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<td>Rushikesh Deshpande</td>
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<td>Chinwoke Isiguzo</td>
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Wednesday, April 7
1:00-3:00 pm

Alexander Layden  Epidemiology- PhD
Pre-pregnancy BMI associated with placental dysfunction in early but not late preterm birth

Sarah Minion  Epidemiology- PhD
Driving distance to maternity hospitals and risk of adverse perinatal outcomes and maternal morbidity: an analysis of Pennsylvania birth records from 2011-2015

Brittany Pantoni  Human Genetics- MPH
Suicide Surveillance, Delaware 2014-2018

Ravella Raker  Human Genetics- MS
Genetic literacy and the acquisition of clinical genetics knowledge in medical students

Sarah Sanders  Behavioral and Community Health Sciences- PhD
Evaluation outcomes of a targeted marketing and education intervention for a mobile food market; Presenting With Chinwoke Isiguzo

Lang Zeng  Biostatistics- PhD
Comparison and Assessment of Deep Neural Network Based Methods for Time-to-Event Data
TIPS & TRICKS TO SIMPLIFY THE RESEARCH PROCESS
WITH HELENA VONVILLE (MLS, MPH), HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY SYSTEM

Monday, April 5, 12-12:45 pm
Register Here

Dean's Day is a time to celebrate our students who have spent their time and energy in research, and maybe you are interested in being a part of this next year. But where do you begin? Join the Health Sciences Library System as they discuss tips to find your way, from identifying the area you want to learn more about to best practices in collecting information and data. After this session you will be one step closer to Dean’s Day 2022! Open to all students.
KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM YOUR GRADUATE RESEARCH

With Julianna L. Baron (IDM '14)

Tuesday, April 6, 12-12:45 pm
Register Here

Every student who has participated in Dean’s Day or attended the event has asked, “How can this help me on my professional career?”. What IS next for your research journey? Can this be somehow brought up during job interviews or even applicable in a professional setting? For those who are not presenting this year, are there pieces of advice for next year or the year after, to prepare you for your research? Join alum Julianne L. Baron (IDM '14) as she shares how her experiences as a student research presenter, along with other opportunities during her time in the Graduate School of Public Health, that have helped shape her career in the public health field!
One initiative the Graduate School of Public Health is seeking to implement is an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to hear a "behind-the-scenes" story and/or account of how certain individuals got to where they are. There is no better way to begin this series than with our own Dean, Dr. Maureen Lichtveld. Come hear her stories on personal research, why she became interested in the topics she has worked on, what struggles she has had in the past, and how she achieved her goals to become the person she is today. Find out how to achieve your own goals through our Q&A, and take away motivation from one of the members and pillars of our School. Moderated by Bethany Flage (IDM-PhD).
AWARD CATEGORIES

Doctoral category
1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes

Master’s category
1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes

Delta Omega poster award

Keleti Prize
For excellence in environmental health

Rosenkranz Award
For greatest public health significance

Catherine Cartier Ulrich Memorial Award
For service to the underserved

Center for Public Health Practice Award
For translation and application of research to public health policy and practice

Department of Epidemiology Health
Disparity Research Award

Departmental awards
Thank you to our Faculty Judges

**Infectious Diseases and Microbiology**
Toan Ha
Josh Mattila

**Biostatistics**
Kaleab Abebe
Hanna Bandos
Jeanine Buchanich
Jenna Carlson
Chaeryon Kang
Yan Lin
Gong Tang
Lu Tang
Hong Wang
Jiebiao Wang
Ada Youk

**Environmental and Occupational Health**
Aaron Barchowsky
Nesta Bortey-Sam
Berthony Deslouches
Peter Di
James Fabisiak
Nick Fitz
Phouthone Keohavong
Kyongnyon Nam
Sally Wenzel

**Epidemiology**
Emma Barinas-Mitchell
Marnie Berotolet
Maria Brooks
Natacha Degenna
Balasubramani Goundappa
Wendy King
Iva Miljkovic
Bonny Rockette-Wagner
Andrea Rosso
Akira Sekikawa
Stephen Smagula
Evelyn Talbott

**Health Policy and Management**
Kevin Broom
Cindy Bryce
Howard Degenholtz
Julie Donohue
Coleman Drake
Tina Hershey
Hawre Jalal
Marian Jarlenksi
Bonnie Jin
Eric Roberts
Lindsay Sabik
Elizabeth Van Nostrand

**Human Genetics**
F. Yesim Demirci
Brenda Diergaarde
Andrea Durst
Frank Fan
Robin Grubs
Candace Kammerer
Ryan Minster
Quasar Padiath
HJ Park
Beth Roman
John Shaffer

**Behavioral and Community Health Sciences**
Steven Albert
Todd Bear
Kar-Hai Chu
Mary Hawk
Cyndy Salter
Thank you for taking part in Dean's Day 2021! We're looking forward to hearing your feedback soon!

For more information, please contact: stuaff@pitt.edu