Vol. 1, Issue 1, June 2019

Welcome to the School of Health Policy and Management!

I have been Chair of SHPM since October 2016 and was drawn to the School because of the excellent research reputation of its scholars, its dedicated teaching faculty and its innovative programing. I am fortunate to work with an amazing team which includes our full-time tenured faculty, our CLAs, our CUPE faculty and our incredibly hard-working staff.

We are also fortunate to work with so many smart and engaged undergraduate and graduate students-many, as you will see throughout these pages, have reached important milestones this past year and are contributing in significant ways to various professions and to their communities.

The School has attracted scholars from across the disciplinary spectrum, (from medicine to the humanities), who share the goals of improving the health care system, challenging conventional understandings of health and wellness and foregrounding social justice and equity in our work. Our SHPM researchers and teachers have outstanding reputations for their work and their dedication to social change. You will have an opportunity here to learn about their recent accomplishments. We offer a vibrant undergraduate program in Health Studies which offers specialized honors degrees in Health Management, Health Policy and Health Informatics (continued page 2).
Vol. 1, Issue 1, June 2019

Chair’s Message cont’d:

Our undergraduate students learn about all aspects of the health care system as well as about the social and structural determinants of health that influence the health of Canadians.

We have two innovative graduate programs; one in Health (specialized field in Health Policy & Equity) and one in Critical Disability Studies. The former program emphasizes the analysis and promotion of equity in health through public policy action. It is directed at the societal causes of inequalities in health and the organization and delivery of health care and how public policy can redress these issues. Our Critical Disability Studies (CDS) program is the first of its kind in Canada and the only one to offer a PhD. CDS takes an interdisciplinary approach with a focus on critical theory, human rights and social justice, social policy and activist scholarship as it situates contemporary and historical discourses within which the ideas and materiality of disability are located.

We are excited to be launching this first edition of our newsletter and to begin a new tradition of showcasing the work of the SHPM. Our last year has been full of new accomplishments, expansion of faculty complement and new program and curriculum developments. We invite you to enjoy learning more about who we are and what we do!

SHPM PROMOTION & TENURE

Congratulations to Tamara Daly and Liane Ginsburg for promotion to full Professor status in 2019, and to Christo El Morr for achieving Associate Professor in 2018.

SHPM NEW FACULTY HIRES

The School of Health Policy & Management has been growing!

In the fall of 2017, the School of Health Policy and Management received the following new faculty members:

Globalization, Health Equity & Policy - Associate Professor Claudia Chaufan
Health Informatics & Analytics - Assistant Professor Lora Appel
Indigenous Health Inequities and Human Rights - Assistant Professor Sean Hillier
Disability, International Human Rights, Law and Health Equity - Assistant Professor Jessica Vorstermans

In 2019, we are pleased to welcome Leeat Granek as Associate Professor in Health Management, and Assistant Professor Lynda van Dreumel in Health Management.

SHPM RETIREMENT

In January 2019, University Distinguished Research Professor and Order of Canada member Marcia Rioux retired. Many thanks to Marcia for her outstanding contributions to the field of Critical Disability Studies, establishing the CDS MA program in 2003, and first CDS PhD program in Canada in 2007. You will be missed immensely, Marcia!
NEW FACULTY PROFILES

Globalization, Health Equity & Policy
Associate Professor Claudia Chaufan

Health Informatics & Analytics
Assistant Professor Lora Appel

Indigenous Health Inequities and Human Rights
Assistant Professor Sean Hillier

Disability, International Human Rights, Law and Health Equity
Assistant Professor Jessica Vorstermans

Health Management
Associate Professor Leeat Granek

Health Management
Assistant Professor Lynda van Dreumel
Aging in the City Series

Faculty members in the School of Health Policy and Management, led by Professor Tamara Daly are involved in the “Aging in the City” series which examines key issues for aging equity, including quality care and work in long-term care; the social determinants of health and aging; and thinking through issues related to aging, diversity and difference.

The series is in partnership with Toronto Public Library, and co-sponsored by The Age Friendly Communities within Communities Partnership Grant, The York University Centre for Research and Education (YU-CARE), and the York University School of Health Policy and Management.

As an example of the series, Dr. Daly and Dr. Sean Hillier, along with Indigenous Elders Frances Whiskeychan & Patrick Etherington presented

Aging, Truth and Reconciliation in the City

in March 2019. The Elders are a husband and wife team that have worked in a variety of Indigenous communities and non-Indigenous organizations. They are both Indian Residential School Survivors, and have led Awareness and Healing Walks for Truth and Reconciliation.

Dr. Daly also presented EngAGEing Ideas for Age Friendly Ottawa in Ottawa in May 2019 with Dr. Susan Braedley, Associate Professor in the School of Social Work at Carleton University, and Dr. Monique Lanoix, Associate Professor of Public Ethics and Philosophy at Saint Paul University.

Practicum Course

The School of Health Policy & Management is happy to announce the launch of a 4th year practicum (HH/HLST 4990 6.0). The first cohort of students has begun their application process and will be in their practicum placements in January 2020. Each winter term there will be a practicum announcement and information session for those interested and qualified to begin their application process.

Designed to bridge theory and practice in a variety of community health care settings, the practicum is a planned, supervised and evaluated practice-based experience in which students are mentored and supported by fieldwork-supervisors. To support students’ development of professionalism skills within work integrated learning, students are required to attend pre-practicum workshops and in-class pre-placement sessions. The practicum course will require 15-20 in-class hours and 150-200 in-field hours. Students will prepare a learning contract, complete a field-based project deliverable, participate in continuous reflective-related exercises and prepare a final practicum portfolio.
Cervical and breast cancer screening after CARES: a community program for immigrant and marginalized women

A study with Bangladeshi women: seeking care for breast health

Online mindfulness interventions: a systematic review


Chaufan, Claudia (Associate Professor)


The global diabetes epidemic and the nonprofit state corporate complex: Equity implications of discourses, research agendas, and policy recommendations of diabetes nonprofit organizations

The cultural hegemony of chronic disease association discourse in Canada

What Can the Slim Initiative in Genomic Medicine for the Americas (SIGMA) Contribute to Preventing, Treating, or Decreasing the Impact of Diabetes among Mexicans and Latin Americans?

Lost in translation”: How clinicians make sense of structural barriers to diabetes care among US Latinos with limited English proficiency

A Critical Analysis of Debates Around Mental Health Calls in the Prehospital Setting
Daly, Tamara (Professor)

How do supervisor support and social care matter in long-term care? Correlates of turnover contemplation among long-term care facility workers

Complexities, Tensions, and Promising Practices: Work in Long-term Residential Care

Feminist Political Economy and Flexible Interviewing”, in Creative Teamwork

Exercising Choice in Long-Term Residential Care

‘Leisurely Dining’: Exploring how work organization and informal care shape residents’ dining experiences in long-term care

The Quality Conundrum

da Silva Gorman, Rachel (Associate Professor)

Dialectics of race and disability: On the unintelligibility of revolutionary desire

Quagmires of affect: Madness, labour, whiteness, and ideological disavowal

Disablement in and for itself: Toward a ‘global’ idea of disability

Grieving Empire

El Morr, Christo (Associate Professor; Health Informatics Certificate Coordinator)

Analytics in Healthcare: A Practical Introduction: Springer International Publishing

An Introduction to Health Informatics: A Canadian Perspective: Canadian Scholars’ Press

Novel Applications of Virtual Communities in Healthcare Settings

Perceived impact of contextual determinants on depression, anxiety and stress: a survey with university students

mHealth use for non-communicable diseases care in primary health: patients’ perspective from rural settings and refugee camps

Using Mobile Health to Enhance Outcomes of Noncommunicable Diseases Care in Rural Settings and Refugee Camps: Randomized Controlled Trial

eHealth as a facilitator of equitable access to primary healthcare: the case of caring for non-communicable diseases in rural and refugee settings in Lebanon

Checklist of Unit Behaviours (CUB): Validation within a Canadian outpatient day hospital programme

Assessing the Performance of a Modified LACE Index (LACE-rt) to Predict Unplanned Readmission After Discharge in a Community Teaching Hospital

Knowledge of peripheral arterial disease: Results of an intervention to measure and improve PAD knowledge in Toronto

Online mindfulness interventions: a systematic review

Ginsburg, Liane (Professor)

Patient safety climate (PSC) perceptions of frontline staff in acute care hospitals: Examining the role of ease of reporting, unit norms of openness, and participative leadership

Understanding nurses' and physicians' fear of repercussions for reporting errors: Clinician characteristics, organization demographics, or leadership factors?

Hoffman, Steven (Professor; Director, Global Strategy Lab, York University; Scientific Director of the CIHR Institute of Population & Public Health)
Why Public Health Matters Today and Tomorrow: The Role of Applied Public Health Research

Probing Popular and Political Discourse on Antimicrobial Resistance in China

Towards ‘smart cities’ as ‘healthy cities.’: health equity in a digital age

Designing Scientific Advisory Committees for a Complex World

An Overview of Systematic Reviews to Inform the Institutional Design of Scientific Advisory Committees

What can be Learned from Experience with Scientific Advisory Committees in the Field of International Environmental Politics?

Towards a Systematic Understanding of How to Institutionally Design Scientific Advisory Committees: A Conceptual Framework and Introduction to a Special Journal Issue

A Typology of Scientific Advisory Committees

Institutionalizing an Evidence-Informed Approach to Guideline Development: Progress and Challenges at the World Health Organization

Priority-Setting in Public Health Research Funding Organisations: An Exploratory Qualitative Study Among Five High-Profile Funders

Contested Roles of Canada’s Chief Medical Officers of Health

Global governance and the broader determinants of health: a comparative case study of UNDP’s and WTO’s engagement with global health

Rethinking Knowledge Translation for Public Health Policy
Raphael, Dennis (Professor, Health Policy & Equity)

Canada’s detention of children in immigration holding centres: Human rights violation, threat to health and reflection of Canada’s problematic political economy. The International Journal of Children’s Rights (in press)

The social determinants of health of underserved populations in Canada

The state of health equity in Ontario Implications of inequities for health promotion practice

Governmental illegitimacy and incompetency in Canada and other liberal nations: Implications for health

Assuming policy responsibility for health equity: local public health action in Ontario, Canada

Ideology, obesity and the social determinants of health: a critical analysis of the obesity and health relationship

Welfare states, cultural values and women’s precarious work: Research questions raised by welfare state and cultural values theory

Competing discourses of household food insecurity in Canada

Narrative review of affinities and differences between the social determinants of oral and general health in Canada: Establishing a common agenda

Welfare states, public health and health inequalities

Perpetuating the utopia of health behaviourism: A case study of the Canadian Men’s Health Foundation’s Don’t Change Much Initiative

The persistence of poverty

Canada considers a basic income guarantee: Can it achieve health for all?

The cultural hegemony of chronic disease association discourse in Canada

Understanding the promotion of health equity at the local level requires more than far more than quantitative analyses of yes-no survey data

Care-leavers: A British affair

Intersectionality Analysis, the Welfare State and Women’s Health

Ideology, obesity and the social determinants of health: A critical analysis of the obesity and health relationship

Reaume, Geoffrey (Associate Professor)

Creating Mad People's History as a University Credit Course since 2000

From the Perspectives of Mad People

Gender and the Value of Work in Canadian Disability History


The Place of Mad People and Disabled People in Canadian Historiography: Surveys, Biographies, and Specialized Fields

Posthumous Exploitation? The Ethics of Researching, Writing and Being Accountable as a Disability Historian

Theodore Jun Yoo, “It’s Madness: The Politics of Mental Health in Colonial Korea”

The Man Who Thought He Was Napoleon: Toward a Political History of Madness
Rioux, Marcia (Professor; Distinguished Research Professor)

- Enabling Virtual Knowledge Networks for Human Rights Monitoring for People with Disabilities
- Disability Rights and Change in a Global Perspective
- A time for the right to education: Back to Basics
- Towards a Concept of Equality of Well-Being: Overcoming the Social and Legal Construction of Inequality
- Human Rights and Disability: The International Context
- The Place of News Media Analysis within Canadian Disability Studies
- Does Theory Matter: Exploring the Nexus between Disability, Human Rights, and Public Policy
- On Second Though: Constructing Knowledge, Law, Disability, and Inequality
- Negotiating capacity: legally constructed entitlement and protection
- Values In Disability Policy And Law: Equality
- Employment, poverty, disability and gender: A rights approach for women with disabilities in India, Nepal and Bangladesh

Tsasis, Peter (Associate Professor)

- Scoping review of inter-professional teamwork theories in health care: Implications for policy, practice and research
- Innovative Healthcare Systems for the 21st Century

Wiktorowicz, Mary (Professor, School of Health Policy & Management, Faculty of Health)

- Improving social accountability processes in the health sector in sub-Saharan Africa: a systematic review
- Determinants of bed net policy implementation: A case study of Southern Benin, Health Policy and Planning
- Power and Culture in Emerging Medical Technology Policymaking: Lessons from the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine in Canada

viva davis halifax, nancy (Associate Professor; Graduate Program Director, Critical Disability Studies)

- Recounting Huronia Faithfully: Attenuating our Methodology to the ‘Fabulation’ of Truths-Telling apology under erasure
- (writing) outside the lines
SHPM STUDENT RESEARCH/PUBLICATIONS

Selected Works

Ali, Ahmednur (MA, Health Policy & Equity)

Ideology, obesity and the social determinants of health: A critical analysis of the obesity and health relationship

Ali, Farihah (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

Synthetic Cannabinoid Use in Correctional Populations – An Emerging Challenge for Offender Health and Safety? A Brief Review

Astrid Nunez Silva, Marianna (MA Student, Health Policy & Equity)

Cookbooks: A Tool for Engaged Research

Bakah, May (MA Student, Health Policy & Equity)

New hypotheses regarding the Danish health puzzle

Bindra, Jessica (MA Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

The cultural hegemony of chronic disease association discourse in Canada

Chang, Kiki (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

Fair workplaces, better jobs: Is Ontario addressing precarious employment?

Ford-Jones, Polly (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

A Critical Analysis of Debates Around Mental Health Calls in the Prehospital Setting

The growing presence of LGBTQIs at the UN: Arguments and counter arguments. International Social Work

Khan, Attia (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

Mattering and Psychological Well-being in College and University Students: Review and Recommendations for Campus-Based Initiatives

Prevalence, Predictors, and Diagnostic Dilemmas: State of Bipolar Disorder in Post-Secondary Students in WHO EMRO

Protection of Privacy of Information Rights among Young Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Today’s Youth and Mental Health

The SAGE Encyclopedia of Lifespan Human Development (Encyclopedia entry) Health: Attitudes, disparities, promotion

The SAGE Encyclopedia of Lifespan Human Development (Encyclopedia entry) Mental Health

Komakech, Morris (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

Governmental illegitimacy and incompetency in Canada and other liberal nations: Implications for health

Liu, Grace (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

Scoping review of inter-professional teamwork theories in health care: Implications for policy, practice and research

Mack, Tracy (PhD Candidate, Critical Disability Studies)

Psychiatric Survivors/Consumers Die and Nothing is Done: An Examination of the Discriminatory Nature of the Ontario Coroner’s Act
The Mad and the Bad: The Lethal Use of Force against Mad People by Toronto Police

McKenzie, Cameron (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

Canada considers a basic income guarantee: Can it achieve health for all?

Medvedyuk, Stella (MA, Health Policy & Equity)

Ideology, obesity and the social determinants of health: A critical analysis of the obesity and health relationship

Mendly-Zambo, Zsofia (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

Competing discourses of household food insecurity in Canada

Canada considers a basic income guarantee: Can it achieve health for all?

Power, Luke (MA, Health Policy & Equity)

Care-leavers: A British affair

Prashad, Reshma (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

The Role of Personal Health Record Systems in Chronic Disease Management

A health equity perspective on mHealth applications for the self-management of diabetes

Accessing the Value of Patient Generated Health Data

(Book Chapter) Back to the basics: the importance of health literacy in the development and utilization of ehealth interventions (in Optimizing health literacy for improved clinical practices)

Sayani, Ambreen (PhD Candidates, Health Policy and Equity)

Inequities in genetic testing for hereditary breast cancer: implications for public health practice

Assuming policy responsibility for health equity: local public health action in Ontario, Canada

Socially-based Inequities in Breast Cancer Care: Intersections of the Social Determinants of Health and the Cancer Care Continuum

Shnier, Adrienne (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

Continuing medical education and pharmaceutical industry involvement: An evaluation of policies adopted by Canadian professional medical associations

Torrence, Ryan (MA Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

Governmental illegitimacy and incompetency in Canada and other liberal nations: Implications for health

Zaheer, Shahram (PhD Candidate, Health Policy & Equity)

Patient safety climate (PSC) perceptions of frontline staff in acute care hospitals: Examining the role of ease of reporting, unit norms of openness, and participative leadership

Understanding nurses' and physicians' fear of repercussions for reporting errors: Clinician characteristics, organization demographics, or leadership factors?
SHPM TEACHING & LEARNING

Associate Professor, Claudia Chaufan has been using an active learning technique called “Jigsaw Classroom.” It’s an approach in which learners are organized into “jigsaw” groups, each member with a different, yet complementary task. Learners prepare to perform these tasks both individually (at home) and within “expert” groups (in the classroom), and later return to their “home teams” to peer teach to members of their “jigsaw” groups. After the teaching circle within jigsaw teams is completed, students reflect on and assess their collective understanding.

The jigsaw classroom was developed mainly with the goal of fostering cooperation rather than competition among learners. The guiding premise is that the success of each student not only facilitates but is critical to the success of all students.

SHPM FACULTY NEWS

Congratulations to Associate Professor Claudia Chaufan in the School of Health Policy and Management!

Claudia was given the J. William Fulbright grant award to the West Bank. The American-based Fulbright Program aims to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

As a representative of the School of Health Policy and Management, Faculty of Health at York University, we are very proud of her selection by the Fullbright Foreign Scholarship Board’s Specialist Program and the U.S. government’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Exchange Programs.

In June 2018, Dr. Chaufan travelled to Birzeit University, with the Community Health and Social Sciences Programs. There she engaged full-time in research and curriculum development.

SHPM is launching an Indigenous Health Scholar’s Lecture Series in 2019. Watch for upcoming details!

Congratulations to Associate Lecturer Ellen Schraa for her Southlake Recognition of Excellence - Innovation Award.

Dr. Schraa also stepped into the role of Undergraduate Program Director from July 2018 to July 2019.

We welcome Associate Professor Hannah Wong as Undergraduate Program Director for 2019/2020.

Associate Professor Rachel da Silva Gorman became the Graduate Program Director in Critical Disability Studies in July 2018.

Associate Professor Farah Ahmad was our Graduate Program Director in Health from July 2018 to July 2019.

We welcome Associate Professor Claudia Chaufan as Graduate Program Director in Health for 2019/2020.
Welcome to the Undergraduate Program at the School of Health Policy and Management.

The School offers three specialized major programs -- Health Policy, Health Management, and Health Informatics - all leading to a Specialized Honours, Bachelor of Health Studies (BHS) (120 credits). The School also offers an Honours major in Health Studies incorporating courses in health policy, health management, and health informatics in one program, leading to an Honours, Bachelor of Health Studies (BHS). The Honours major is useful for students wishing to pursue a double major honours degree or a major/minor combination with another program at York. A 90-credit Bachelor of Health Studies (BHS) is also option. Students majoring in other York honour programs can add a health policy, health management or health informatics minor. There is also a Health Informatics Certificate you can pursue while completing your degree at York.

The School’s approach to health and health care focuses on broader population and social justice issues. Societal factors that determine why some people stay healthy and others become ill are examined such as income, stress, early life experiences, social exclusion, work conditions, unemployment, social support, food and transportation, as well as varying perspectives including women, Indigenous communities, persons with disabilities, and a range of ethnic communities. By incorporating a determinants of health approach, the programs offered in the School emphasize the organization of health care and other systems, the diversity of Canadians, the role of communities, and fairness and social justice as integral considerations in the development of effective health care models. These concerns are incorporated into the study of the most recent developments in management practice, health planning, and the use of information and technology in health care.

Our graduates are doing very interesting work post-graduation. Some have pursued post-graduate professional programs, such as law or medical school, or Master’s programs, well many others have begun their working careers, in hospitals, clinics, government, or non-government organizations. We are a relatively small university program, so you will get to know your professors and we consider your success our success! We wish you the very best and please reach out when you have questions.

Dr. Ellen G. Schraa
Undergraduate Program Director
Plans for our undergraduate program in disability studies got started in earnest this year. Doctoral students Navi Dhanota, Kim Sauder, and Cindy Jiang joined me to work on the first iteration of our program proposal. We hope to get input from all of our doctoral students in the coming year as we design the program and the courses.

We have an exciting upcoming collaboration highlighting Black Disability Studies. CDS will partner with the Harriet Tubman Institute to create a pan-university Black Health and Disability Studies research stream. Senior CDS doctoral student Evelyn Kissi, and CDS MA graduates Faith Adodo and Fardosa Warsame have been working on this initiative with Institute Director, Prof. Gertrude Mianda. This summer, CDS cross-appointed faculty Prof. Roberta Timothy will be joining Evelyn, Faith, Fardosa, and Prof. Mianda at the University of Ghana to mark the Year of Return at a conference on *Trans-Atlantic Migration: African Diaspora in Solidarity*.

Congratulations to the Critical Disability Studies Students’ Association (CDSSA) for a successful and exciting 13th Annual CDSSA conference, *Bridging Narratives*, held on April 27, 2019. In addition to the cutting-edge scholarly presentations we have come to expect at the annual CDSSA conference, this year’s program included poetry, artwork and posters; and organizers ensured that CART, ASL, and a quiet room were available for participants. A heartfelt thank you to the CDSSA Conference Team, Nancy Viva Davis Halifax, and all of the fabulous scholars and artists who shared their work.

Finally, I want to recognize our doctoral students who reached important milestones this year on the road to their PhDs: Evelyn Kissi, Tracy Mack, Estée Klar, JoAnn Purcell, and Navi Dhanota all competed their comprehensive exams and proposal defences this year! Maria Guadagnoli also defended her proposal, and Dana Corfield completed her comprehensive exam. And congratulations to Jenna Reid, who defended her dissertation!

Rachel da Silva Gorman
Graduate Program Director
Critical Disability Studies
Critical Disability Studies

Congrats PhDs!

Dr. Jenna Reid (PhD 2019)
Materializing a Mad Aesthetic Through the Making of Politicized Fibre Art

Dr. Charles Anyinam (PhD 2018)
Work Experience of Nurses with Self-Identified Disabilities

Dr. Alexis Buettgen (PhD 2018)
From the Standpoint of People with Disabilities: An Institutional Analysis of Work in the Non-Profit Sector

Dr. Anthony Mapp (PhD 2017)
Modernity, Hegemony and Disability: A Critical Theoretical Exploration of Historical Determinants of Disability

Dr. Jessica Vorstemans (PhD 2017)
Theorizing Encounters with Southern Disabled Others: The Reproduction of Disablement in International Experiential Service Learning and Global Citizenship Education and Invitations for Disruptions

Dr. Cameron Crawford (PhD 2016)
Untying the Knots: Furthering Decent New Employment After the Advent of Work-Limiting Disability

Dr. Joanna Rankin (PhD 2015)
Disability and Discourse: The Role of Disability in the Popular Culture Book Club

Dr. Gillian Parekh (PhD 2014)
Social citizenship and disability: identity, belonging and the structural organization of education

Dr. Madeline Burghardt (PhD 2014)
Narrative of separation: institutions, families, and the construction of difference

Dr. Jennifer Rinaldi (PhD 2013)
Autonomy, Equality, and Respect for Difference: Investigating Principle-Based Approaches to Technologically Mediated Reproductive Contexts
Critical Disability Studies

Congrats 2019 MAs!

Alexandra Creighton (MA 2019)
*Disrupting the Status Quo: Basic Income for People with Disabilities*

Kathleen Donovan (MA 2019)
The Social Geographies of Access and Inclusivity for Adults with Learning Disabilities in Indigenous Cultural Contexts

Barbara Gilchrist (MA 2019)
*Issues of gender and power in 19th century Ontario: Women incarcerated in the Wellington County House of Industry, Dufferin County Gaol, and Hamilton Insane Asylum, 1877-1917*

Laura Girardo (MA 2019)
The Profound Impact of Cochlear Implants on a Young Deaf Adult’s Life & Deaf Identity

Victoria Kolakowski (MA 2019)
*Representing Autism in Television: Perpetuating the Stereotype*

Stephanie Mendolia (MA 2019)
Trans-Feminist Witchcraft: A Psychiatric Survivor Narrative

David Zinman (MA 2019)
The Narrative Use of Disability in Tales of Love and Darkness and Sweet Mud
Critical Disability Studies

2019 Applicants to the Graduate Program Chosen!

The CDS Admissions Committee selected 4 PhD students and 14 MA students for the Fall of 2019. Congratulations to those accepted.

CDS Student Association (CDSSA)

The CDS student association CDSSA continues this year. They can also be contacted on Facebook.

CDSSA Conference

This year’s CDSSA Conference took place on Saturday, April 27th, 2019 in the Health, Nursing and Environmental Studies building at York University. The theme “Bridging Narratives” invited students to submit works that connect diverse narratives of disability across disciplines, practices, theoretical standpoints, geographies, histories, colonial contexts, and cultures. Students presented narratives that critically engaged with critical race and anti-colonial theory, as well as connecting disability studies to Indigeneity, settler-colonialism, and to the Global South.

Students also contributed art submissions that addressed the conference theme of “Bridging Narratives” providing important and creative artistic expressions about disability.
I DON'T FEEL SORRY FOR MYSELF.
I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU. YOU'RE GONNA NEED A BUSINESS.

STORIES ARE METAPHORS FOR HUMANITY, AND WE'RE METAPHORS FOR ALIENISM.

DONT WE ALL WANT TO CHASE AWAY ANXIETY?
As a Graduate Program Director, I am humbled by the students’ wealth of experience brought to the Health Policy and Equity program at both master’s and doctoral streams. Their enthusiasm to understand and promote equity in health policy is commendable. They learn and employ critical stance to unpack the underlying assumptions. Our students have already made incredible scholarly contributions and examples include organ transplantation discourses, pharmaceutical conflicts of interest, food security in Canada, health equity in cancer care, anti-black racism in Toronto, the WHO approach to health equity in Europe, health and care in Rwanda, the health and well-being of care leavers in the UK, type 2 diabetes among immigrants, and too many other topics to list. Their work is reaching the wider community through refereed journal articles and conference presentations around the world. The student success as well as the success of the program builds on the inclusive pedagogical practices that align with Benjamin Franklin’s dictum that “Involve me and I learn”.

We are also proud of the doctoral work completed by Zabia Afzal and her post-humus doctorate. We miss you, Zabia, but there are no goodbyes for you. Wherever you are, you will be close to us through your simile, laughter, words and passion for community engagement.

The Health Graduate Student Research Conference is the highlight of 2019 Winter Term! Congratulations to the winners of Best Poster Award: Ryan Terrence and Ngozi Iroanyah. Also, heartiest congratulations to Zsofia Mendly-Zambo for receiving SSHRC Doctoral Award, and to Ambreen Sayani for receiving Skinner Agents of Change Award. I am proud of our graduates’ work and envision their high success in contributing towards equitable health polices and programs for a just society.

Lastly, I welcome Professor Claudia Chaufan as the incoming Graduate Program Director from July 01, 2019 and wish a successful year to all our graduate students in Health.

Dr. Farah Ahmad
Graduate Program Director
Health Policy & Equity
Health – Specializing in Policy & Equity

Congrats PhDs!

Dr. Cameron McKenzie (PhD 2019)
*Policy in Motion: LGBTQ+ Health from the Fringes to Mainstream*

Dr. Mirna Romero Lopez (PhD 2019)
*The Selection Process of the Mexican National Essential Medicines List (NEML): A Grounded Theory Approach*

Dr. Syeda Kabir (PhD 2018)
*Psycho-Social Contributions to Higher Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Prevalence among South Asian Immigrants Living in Canada*

Dr. Akwatu Khenti (PhD 2018)
*Three Decades of Epidemic Black Gun Homicide Victimization in Toronto: Analyzing Causes and Consequences of a Criminological Approach*

Dr. Juha Mikkonen (PhD 2018)
*Intersectoral Action for Health: Challenges, Opportunities, and Future Directions in the WHO European Region*

Dr. Shahram Zaheer (PhD 2017)
*Understanding the Impact of Safety Climate, Teamwork Climate, and Mindful Organizing on Safety Outcomes at a Large Community Hospital*

Dr. Adrienne Shnier (PhD 2016)
*Medical Education and Financial Conflict of Interest Relationships with the Pharmaceutical Industry in Canada: An Analysis of Four Areas of Medical Education*
Health – Specializing in Policy & Equity

Congrats 2019 MAs!

Catherine Duru (MA 2019)
Persistent Childhood Poverty in Canada: Causes and the Social Determinants of Health That Shape Them: Political Economic Perspective

Gurpreet Karir (MA 2019)
Health Promotion in Canada: Reverence, Relevance and Resistance

Manasi Nandakumar (MA 2019)
Pathologizing Abuse: Examining Approaches to Addressing Intimate Partner Violence in Canada

Devika Parsaud (MA 2019)
Fighting Poverty With Empowerment: Evaluating Oxfam International’s Gender Equity Long-Term Development Framework

Tyler Ward (MA 2019)
Canada’s Detention of Children in Immigration Holding Centres: Long-term Health Equity Implications from a Political Economy Perspective

Tesia Wood (MA 2019)
Contracting Case: Evaluating the effects of the ‘Second Generation Health System Strategy’ on the contracting environment for community organizations in the Downtown East side of Vancouver

Amanda Wootton (MA 2019)
Health – Specializing in Policy & Equity

2019 Applicants to the Graduate Program Chosen!

The Health Admissions Committee selected 5 PhD students and 12 MA students for the Fall of 2019. Congratulations to those accepted.

Health Graduate Student Conference

The Health Graduate Student Conference took place on Thursday, March 28th, 2019 in the new Student Centre at York University. The Conference was an opportunity for grad Health students to showcase their research with topics open to research proposals, comprehensive exams, thesis/Major Research Paper (MRP) projects in either presentations or posters. Professor Tania Das Gupta from L&PS presented her inspiring work on “Hidden injuries of gender, race and class: Immigrant and migrant women in precarious employment and implications for health.”
Health – Specializing in Policy & Equity
Health – Specializing in Policy & Equity
Alex Abramovich (MA 2008) completed a Masters in Critical Disability Studies, writing a major research paper on Young, Queer and Homeless in Toronto: Where is the Support? Alex completed a PhD at OISE, University of Toronto, in September 2014. Alex is a faculty member at the University of Toronto’s Dalla Lana School of Public Health, and Independent Scientist at the Institute for Mental Health Policy Research at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH). Alex also has a website Everyone Deserves A Safe Place to Sleep.

Devon MacPherson (MA 2016) completed a Masters in Critical Disability Studies at York University, writing a major research paper on Dyadic-Belonging: Using Critical Disability Studies and Critical Animal Studies to Improve Service Dog Well-Being. Devon wasn’t alone when she crossed the convocation stage to receive her degree. Barkley, her mental health service dog, shared the limelight in his own gown and cap. Diagnosed with a generalized anxiety disorder, she credits her dog, a white Standard Poodle, with helping her complete her education at York University and for York creating a supportive environment. Devon is a copywriter for NewAge Products and serves on the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee for the Canadian Commission, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (CCUNESCO).

Michelle Singh (MA 2006) completed a Masters in Critical Disability Studies at York University, writing a major research paper on Narrative Analysis of Epilepsy and Blindness. Michelle worked at Reena as a support worker in Thornhill, Ontario, an agency that works with people with developmental disabilities. She has worked in the social service sector for many years, assisting persons with a variety of disabilities. As a nurturing person, she is deeply committed to assisting persons with disabilities.

Eva Weber (MA 2012) completed a Masters in Critical Disability Studies at York University, writing a major research paper on Grey Matters of Rehabilitation: Autoethnography of an Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Therapist Through the Lens of Critical Disability. Eva is a Brain Injury Rehabilitation Therapist with Acquired Brain Injury Behavior Services (ABIB) at West Park Healthcare Centre in Toronto.

Asiatou Barry (MA 2013) completed a Masters in Health Policy & Equity at York University, writing a major research paper on Poverty as a Key Determinants of Malaria in Sub-Saharan Africa: An Evaluation of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership's 2015 Malaria Eradication Goal. Asiatou is an HIV Disclosure Intervention Researcher at the Women's Health In Women's Hands (WHIWH) Community Health Centre in Toronto who coordinates the 'HIV Disclosure Study', a WHIWH-CHC led initiative in collaboration with multiple health agencies in Ontario. She oversees development and implementation of a disclosure intervention for African, Caribbean and Black (ACB) women living with HIV. The intervention is primarily designed for integration/institutionalization purposes by AIDS Service Organizations (ASOs).

Vanessa Knight (MA 2014) completed a Masters in Health Policy & Equity at York University, writing a major research paper on A Political Economy of Rural Health Inequalities: Analyzing the Impacts on the Social Determinants of Health of the Post-Fordist, Neoliberal Transformation in Two Communities in the South Georgian Bay Area. Vanessa is a Policy Analyst at the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services in Toronto.

Avra Selick (MA 2012) completed a Masters in Health Policy & Equity at York University, writing a major research paper on Identifying Barriers to the Implementation of Integrated Services for Individuals with Concurrent Disorders. Avra is a Research Coordinator at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) in Toronto.

Carina Zimenkov (MA 2012) completed a Masters in Health Policy & Equity at York University, writing a major research paper on A Pan-Canadian Electronic Health Record System: Privacy Implications for the Elderly and Chronically Ill. Carina's MRP explores whether the impending pan-Canadian electronic health record system can adequately protect the privacy of vulnerable patient groups such as the elderly and chronically ill. Furthermore, it assesses whether provincial privacy policy can sufficiently reflect these impending health information technology changes. Carina is currently employed within the Veteran's Centre at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. Her research interests have been fuelled by her firsthand experience with issues of privacy for elderly individuals living with chronic conditions.