

Weekly Newsletter November 27-December 1, 2023

## PQHS NEWS

### PQHS HAPPENINGS



**Congratulations** on a successful UMass Chan employee giving campaign! We are excited to share that the total donation amount is just over **\$156,000**. **33% of PQHS donated this year! Thank you to all that donated!**



**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!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### UMass Boston Department of Gerontology & Gerontology Institute Present Proseminar Speaker Series Fall 2023

Monday, November 27, 2023  
1:00 – 2:15 p.m.  
via [Zoom](#)

**Debby Dodds, MS**

Gerontologist and Head of Caregiver Engagement,  
Generation Connect

*“From Capstone to Commercialization: A Journey in Gerontology, Dementia, and Tech Innovation”*

via Zoom: <https://umassboston.zoom.us/j/94175483404> Password: Boston  
For more information contact Jaqueline Contrera Avila: [Jaqueline.Avila@umb.edu](mailto:Jaqueline.Avila@umb.edu)



**Thursday, December 7, 2023, 11:00-1:00PM**

***“Thinking about Information Disorder in the Context of Health and Science: How Bad is the Problem and What Can We Do About It?”***

Presented by: Ezra Markowitz, PhD, Professor at UMass Amherst

Click [here](#) to Register. Registration is required.



CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND  
TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

## UMASS CHAN REMINDER

### **Annual Privacy and Information Security Training**

Cybersecurity threats targeted against UMass Chan networks and data have become commonplace and the tactics that criminals employ are increasingly more sophisticated. UMass Chan's annual Privacy and Information Security Training is a proven and effective deterrent against social engineering, phishing schemes and malware such as ransomware. The online training is informative and focuses on important steps that you can take to ensure you are safe from cybercriminals.

This year's training begins Monday, Oct. 16, with an email from [UMassChanInformationSecurity@umassmed.edu](mailto:UMassChanInformationSecurity@umassmed.edu).

The training consists of six short interactive modules:

- You Are the Shield
- Email and Phishing
- Targeted Attacks
- Data Security
- Personally Identifiable Information (PII)
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

You will have 60 days to complete the training, but we strongly recommend that you prioritize this critical tool for protecting your data both at work and at home.



**Holiday season public health reminders:** With the holiday season upon us, many will be traveling and gathering with family, friends and colleagues, which, while festive, may increase the possibility of contracting COVID-19, the flu, RSV and other viruses or infectious diseases. Consider masking while on public transportation and in crowded areas. Please be reminded to follow good public health practices, including receiving annual vaccinations against influenza, COVID-19 and, if in a risk group, RSV ([How to Get Your Flu, COVID-19, and RSV Vaccines This Year | CDC](#)) and practicing good hygiene, including frequent hand washing. If you are experiencing symptoms of any illness, contact your health care providers, avoid coming to work or school, and contact Employee or Student Health for return-to-work guidance.

[Click here for instructions on what to do if you are experiencing symptoms or are exposed to COVID-19.](#) We continue to require that individuals who test positive for COVID-19 report the test result to Employee or Student Health so that we can prevent outbreaks.

Free, at-home COVID-19 tests are available to order at <https://www.covid.gov/tests>. To locate COVID-19 vaccines in your area, visit <https://www.vaccines.gov/>.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for helping to keep our campus community safe and healthy.



**Holiday season is upon us.** Here is the [link](#) to the Holiday Calendars for UMass Chan Medical School.

#### **Following Holiday Schedule for the remainder of 2023:**

- Christmas Eve (observed) – Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Christmas Day – Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>



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.*