



Weekly Newsletter April 28 – May 2, 2025

PQHS NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Huong Thu Thi Phan, MD, PhD. Dr. Huong, Adjunct Associate Professor in Epidemiology, was recently appointed as Chairwoman of the Hanoi Medical University Council. She is truly honored, and is deeply motivated by this opportunity to contribute more strategically to their shared mission at UMass Chan Medical School.

Hanoi Medical University (HMU) is the oldest university in Vietnam, as well as the country's most prestigious medical institution. With a strong foundation in training, research, and clinical care, HMU has a network of highly experienced researchers and healthcare professionals. Beyond its central role in researching and providing care for people living with HIV, hepatitis, and other infectious diseases, HMU is also strong in their research and academic programs in diverse areas such as emerging diseases, non-communicable diseases, digital health, and other public health challenges. These broader expertise really helps her see new possibilities for collaboration with UMass Chan, beyond HIV, and allows her to contribute in a more meaningful way.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Teatime - Thursday, May 1 at 2:00 p.m.

The Division of Preventive and Behavioral Medicine (PBM) will be hosting teatime this week. We invite you to stop by for a cup of tea or coffee, enjoy a snack, and take the opportunity to connect with your colleagues.

NHLBI-funded Transdisciplinary Training in Cardiovascular Research Program (T32)



Directed by Catarina Kiefe, MD, PhD (PQHS) and Kevin Donahue, MD (Cardiovascular Medicine), the **NHLBI-funded Transdisciplinary Training in Cardiovascular Research Program (T32)** is currently accepting applications for **post-doctoral trainees**. Please visit [PQHS - Transdisciplinary Training in Cardiovascular Research T32 Training Program](#) for more information on this opportunity." Questions? Contact Rebecca Gigliello (Rebecca.gigliello@umassmed.edu)



Discover the Sixth Floor Lending Library!

Looking for your next great read? Dr. Kate Lapane has sparked something wonderful—a little Lending Library on the sixth floor, near the elevators and stairs!

Whether you're in the mood for a quick escape, an inspiring memoir, or a gripping mystery, swing by and see what treasures are waiting for you. The best part? It's totally free and community-driven.

✦ Take a book, share a book, and spread the joy of reading.

Have a favorite book that changed your life or made you laugh out loud? Drop it off and give someone else the chance to love it too!

UMASS CHAN REMINDERS

Benefits Open Enrollment – Now through Thursday, May 1

Open enrollment happens just once a year. It's important to review your current plan enrollments and make changes that best meet your needs. For more information on the open enrollment process, GIC benefits guide and more, [visit the Open Enrollment page](#).

Use Your Excess Vacation Leave by June 28, 2025

As we get closer to fiscal year end, we want to remind you of the [UMass Chan Holiday, and Personal and Vacation Time Policy](#) and maximum accruals so you can plan accordingly.

As of the last full pay period of the fiscal year, the maximum number of vacation hours employees may carry over into the next fiscal year is 240. During the fiscal year, employees are allowed to accrue hours over 240. Hours over this accrual limit are automatically re-set in the payroll system to the accrual maximum.

This year, the relevant pay period ends Saturday, June 28, 2025. You are encouraged to use any vacation balances that exceed the 240-hour maximum before that date.

To avoid the loss of accrued vacation hours, review the following recommendations:

- Take all vacation over 240 hours before Saturday, June 28, 2025. Keep in mind that the vacation accrual for the pay period ending on that date that will not appear on your paycheck.
- Any hours over the cap will automatically be reset to 240 and will appear on your paycheck on Friday, July 4, 2025.
- If you are approaching 240 hours of accrued vacation time, talk with your manager about planning time off before June 28 and make sure it is approved by them.

Ensure your vacation time has been entered into the Time Reporting system by June 28, 2025.

Holiday Calendar for UMass Chan Medical School

Remaining Holiday Schedule for 2025:

- Memorial Day – Monday, May 26th
- Juneteenth National Independence Day – Thursday, June 19th
- Independence Day – Friday, July 4th
- Labor Day – Monday, September 1st
- Indigenous Peoples' Day – Monday, October 13th
- Veterans Day – Tuesday, November 11th
- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 27th
- Day After Thanksgiving – Friday, November 28th
- Christmas Eve – Wednesday, December 24th
- Christmas Day – Thursday, December 25th



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 Judi (judi.saber@umassmed.edu) & Sarah (sarah.yeboah@umassmed.edu) by Friday each week.