



**2026 Department of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences Women's
Faculty Retreat**

*Bold Voices, Brave Leadership: At the
Intersection of Personal, Political, and
Professional*

“The Cube” – 3rd Floor
Albert Sherman Center
UMass Chan Medical School
55 Lake Avenue N.
Worcester, MA 01655



**Tuesday, April 7th, 2026
8:45 AM – 3:00 PM**

Program Schedule

8:45 to 9:00am: *Welcome & Introductory Remarks*

9:00 to 10:30am - Workshop: *Cultivating Well-being, Resilience and Effective Action Amid Chaos and Crisis: Helping Yourself and Others*

SuEllen Hamkins, MD, Student Counseling Services
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral
Sciences, Post retiree, UMass Chan Medical School

10:30 to 10:40am: Remarks

Kimberly Yonkers, MD
Katz Family Chair of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
UMass Chan Medical School

10:40-10:50 Break

10:50 to 11:00 am: Mindfulness Meditation

Zlatina Kostova, PhD, Training Director, Lifeline for Kids,
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UMass
Chan Medical School

11:00 am to 11:45am - Presentation: *Courage and Authenticity for Women in Leadership in 2026*

Marie Hobart, MD, Associate Professor, Psychiatry, UMass
Chan Medical School & SaraBeth Broder-Fingert, MD, MPH,
Associate Professor, Pediatrics, Executive Director, Eunice
Kennedy Shriver Center, UMass Chan Medical School

Moderated by Elda Zeko, PhD, Assistant Professor,
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UMass
Chan Medical School

11:45 to 12:30pm: Lunch

12:30pm to 12:45pm: Guided Reflection

Phoebe Moore PhD, Vice Chair for Psychology,
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences,
UMass Chan Medical School
Zlatina Kostova, PhD, Training Director, Lifeline for Kids,
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UMass
Chan Medical School

12:45 to 1:30pm – Presentation:

***Survive, Revise, Thrive: Reflections on Professional
and Personal Growth***

Geri Fuhrmann Psy.D, Clinical Psychologist, Professor
of Psychiatry and Pediatrics, UMass Chan Medical School &
Linda Cavallero, PhD Psychologist (retired)
Professor of Psychiatry (retired)

1:30 to 1:45pm: Break

1:45 to 2:45pm - Keynote Address:

Grounded Womanist Leadership

Rev. Debora Jackson, DMin, MDiv, MEng, MS, BS

Classic Western leadership theory commends practices that are technical, deterministic, and masculine. Later leadership theories for women suggested that females be qualitative, relational and nurturing. Womanist leadership focuses on the lived experiences of individuals as a source of knowing and it claims or reclaims its value in leadership through the stories of the women who shaped us. Additionally, this sense of knowing provides grounding that helps us stand firm as leaders particularly in times of challenge. In this interactive session, participants will craft their matrilineal story of leadership and learn how that identity helps to ground them as they lead.

2:45 to 3:00pm: Wrap Up and Closing Remarks

Raffle prizes distributed throughout the day!
(Thank you to all who donated!)

Keynote Speaker



The Reverend **Dr. Debora Jackson** is a successful consultant and executive coach with a breadth of senior leadership experiences as an academic administrator, C-level executive, director, and pastor. She is the Executive Pastor of the historic Emmanuel Baptist Church in Malden, where she supports church operations and financial management.

Most recently, Dr. Jackson served as the Harry G. Stoddard Endowed Professor Management and Dean of the Business School at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, a premiere STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) based institution recognized for project-based education that integrates theory and practice. As Dean, Dr. Jackson was an instrumental catalyst, spurring rapid growth, new program development, and international partnerships, enabling the school deliver on its mission to deliver globally responsible impact at the intersection of business, technology, and people.

As a non-profit leader, Dr. Jackson served as Director of Operations of All Girls Allowed; Inaugural Director of Lifelong Learning at Yale Divinity School; Executive Director of the Ministers Council of the American Baptist Churches, USA, and Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church in Needham, MA. Dr. Jackson was a 20-year business leader, with an emphasis on IT and software engineering, before heeding the call to the ministry. Key roles she held during that time included Chief Operating / Chief Information Officer of an e-commerce

energy services provider and as Managing Director of a supply chain / IT consulting group.

Dr. Jackson received her Doctorate in Ministry and Master of Divinity degree, both with honors, from Andover Newton Theological School. She holds a Master of Engineering degree in Manufacturing Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Management from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business from Indiana University. Dr. Jackson has written numerous articles, book chapters, and two books, *Meant for Good: Fundamentals in Womanist Leadership* (Judson Press, 2019) and *Spiritual Practices for Effective Leadership: 7 R's of Sanctuary for Pastors* (Judson Press, 2015), which was the 2016 Illumination Book Silver Medal Award Winner.

Speakers



SuEllen Hamkins, MD is a psychiatrist specializing in college mental health, narrative therapy and resilience. Her passion is helping people thrive in the face of challenges and difficulties. Currently a Clinical Assistant Professor at UMass Chan Medical School, she cherishes her role providing psychotherapy and psychiatric treatment to medical students at Student Counseling Services. Previously, she was the Assistant Director for Psychiatric Services at the Center for Counseling and Psychological Health at UMass-Amherst. Her book, [*The Art of Narrative Psychiatry*](#) (Oxford University Press, 2013), offers detailed guidance in resiliency-focused, culturally-attuned mental health practice, bringing narrative approaches alive through vivid case reports. SuEllen is co-author of [*The Mother-Daughter Project*](#) (Penguin, 2007), which focuses on helping girls, mothers and mother-daughter relationship thrive through adolescence. She has presented at professional conferences around the world.



Marie Hobart MD is an associate professor of Psychiatry at UMass Chan Medical School. Her career has been in community psychiatry through UMass Memorial Healthcare/ Community Healthlink. She has provided leadership in the past as the Chief Medical Officer at Community Healthlink and as the Vice Chair for Public Sector Psychiatry at UMass Chan.

Currently she is the psychiatric consultant for Fitchburg Family Practice. She provides mentorship and teaching for the Primary Care Mental Health Fellowship at Family Health Center Worcester and for the Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Fellowship with the Tan Chingfen Graduate School of Nursing and the UMass Chan Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. She has worked with countless students, residents, fellows, staff and faculty. She is a grateful mother of 2 adult daughters, loves walking with friends, yoga, and outdoor movement of all kinds (on land!), In partial retirement she has more time for Buddhist practice, volunteering to help our immigrant neighbors, advocating for universal health care, and supporting racial justice.



Sarabeth Broder-Fingert, MD MPH is a pediatrician and implementation scientist who studies equity in early diagnosis and treatment for autistic children as well as children with other developmental, behavioral, and/or mental health disorders. She is Executive Director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center and Chief of

Developmental Medicine at UMASS. She is PI or Co-I on multiple NIH-funded awards focused on testing and/or evaluating the implementation of autism diagnosis and treatment interventions. She is also an active mentor on

multiple NIH-career development awards, and has mentored 30 pre- and post-doctoral trainees. She has published >80 peer-reviewed manuscripts, and serves as an editor for the journal *Pediatrics*. Sarabeth is also a proud mother to three young children, a soccer coach, a cross-fitter, and a watersport enthusiast.



Dr. Fuhrmann is a Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics with over 40 years' experience in hospital, courts and public agency settings. Her interests focus on child and family forensic, pediatric psychology and practice improvement in court-related services. Her career was

mostly spent at UMass where she was Director of Child and Family Forensic Center within the Law and Psychiatry Program as well as a member of the Pediatric Psychiatry Consultation-Liaison team. She co-developed Parents Apart, a psychoeducation program for separating parents that was adopted by Family courts in numerous states. Other positions include national trainer and subject matter expert for the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) and adjunct teaching faculty in the doctoral program at William James College. In 2012, after 27 years, she left UMass to serve as Manager of Juvenile Forensic Services for the Department of Mental Health overseeing the Commonwealth's Juvenile Court Clinics that provide forensic mental health evaluations and therapeutic services for court-involved youth. After retiring from state service in 2015, she returned to UMass as a part-time attending on the Pediatric Consult service and a consultant for the Cystic Fibrosis Center.

Awards include the Manual Carballo Governor's Award for Excellence in Public Service, UMass Med. School Psychology Training Award, the Child Psychiatry Teaching Award and the Outstanding Community Service Award by the UMMS' Women's Faculty Committee. National presentations

and publications are primarily related to high-conflict divorce and custody disputes. She is currently working on the second edition of *Evaluations for Child Custody: Best Practices in Forensic Mental Health Assessment*, co-authored with Bob Zibbell.



Linda Cavallero, PhD

After serving as a psychologist on an in-patient forensic psychiatric unit, Dr. Cavallero spent 27 years in the Department of Psychiatry as a child and family forensic evaluator and mental health expert for family courts in the Law and Psychiatry Program. Her interests are

in applying psychological principles and findings to legal matters in family courts, contributing to better informed judicial decisions and making psychological services more broadly available to low-income families involved in the legal system. During her career, she evaluated or supervised hundreds of child custody and/or child protective cases, testified in most of the family courts in the Commonwealth and taught legal and behavioral health professionals.

At UMass Chan, in partnership with Dr. Geri Fuhrmann, she helped develop the Child and Family Forensic Center which served families involved in family courts, mainly in Massachusetts. She lobbied tirelessly for resources and was instrumental in securing legislative funding to help bring psychological expertise to the family court. She created the Brief Focused Evaluation Model which became the assessment model used in the UMASS Family Court Clinic, offering unique services to families otherwise underserved in the legal system. This program won the Irwin Cantor Award for Innovative Programming, given by the international Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) in Hawaii in 2002. She co-wrote guidelines for court-ordered brief, focused assessments which were subsequently

adopted by AFCC. Dr. Cavallero has published and presented nationally on these topics.

Dr. Cavallero left UMASS in 2012, working in private practice for several years before retiring to pursue other interests.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Phoebe Moore, Ph.D., and Zlatina Kostova, Ph.D., for leading us in mindfulness and reflections exercises throughout the day!

Special thanks to Kimberly Yonkers, PhD, our Department Chair, for supporting this endeavor, joining us for part of the day, and providing some welcoming remarks!

Special thanks to Suzanne Gillies, former administrative support for the committee, and Diane George, for their administrative support during the planning of this event.

Directions to UMass Chan Medical School

From the Mass Pike (I-90):

Eastbound: At exit 10, take I-290 east to exit 21, turn right at end of ramp and follow Plantation Street south.

Westbound: At exit 11, turn left onto Route 122 north for one mile, turn right at third light onto Sunderland road, left at first light onto Lake Avenue for 2.5 miles and cross Route 9. Make U-turn at second break in divider, then turn right into campus.

From I-495:

Northbound: At exit 23, take Route 9 west. Follow Route 9 west for approximately 11 miles. After crossing the Lake Quinsigamond bridge, take first right onto Lake Avenue.

Southbound: At exit 25, take I-290 west to exit 22, turn right at end of ramp, at second traffic light turn left at onto Plantation Street and proceed south.

From I-190:

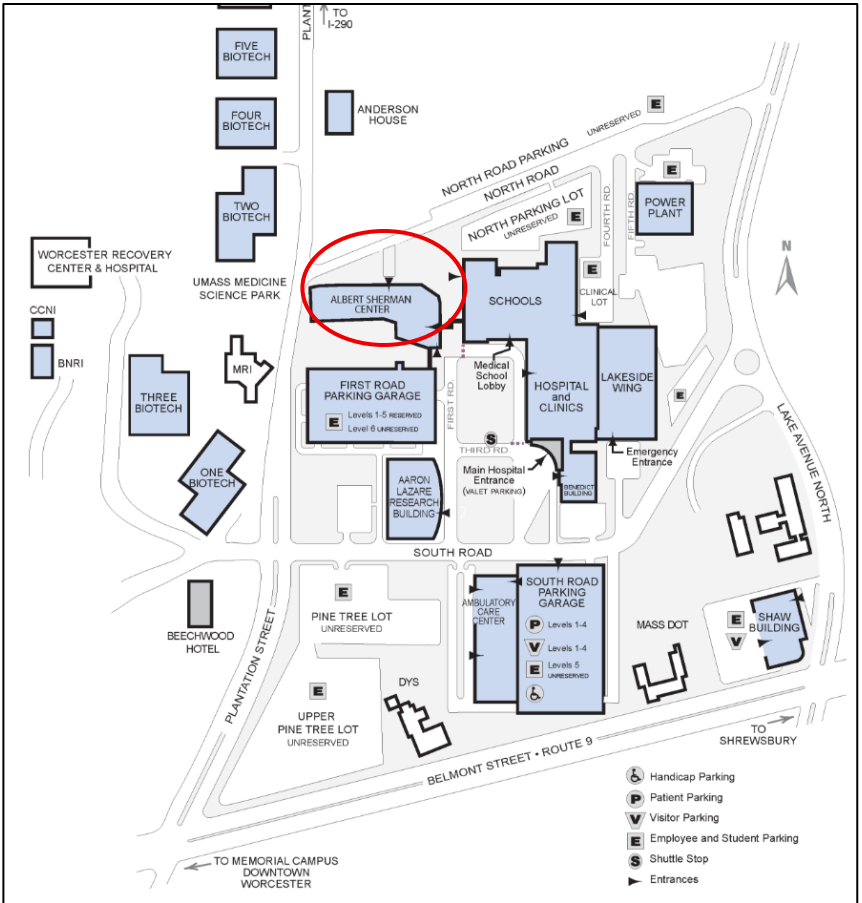
At the merge with I-290 Shrewsbury exit (watch for exit ramp on left), take I-290 east to exit 21, turn right at end of ramp and follow Plantation Street south.

From I-290:

Eastbound: At exit 21, turn right at end of ramp and follow Plantation Street south.

Westbound: At exit 22, turn right at end of ramp, at second traffic light turn left onto Plantation Street and proceed south.

“The Cube” is located on the third floor of the Albert Sherman Center (see next page)



<https://www.umassmed.edu/globalassets/about-umms/documents/campus-map-may-2025-letter.pdf>

Please tell us your thoughts about today's program!

2026 Retreat Survey/Evaluation:

