



URBAN SERVICE TRACK/AHEC SCHOLARS INTERPROFESSIONAL SUMMIT:

# A SYMPOSIUM TO ADDRESS HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS' RESPONSIBILITY IN PUBLIC HEALTH

### SPEAKERS:

LUCINDA CANTY, PHD, CNM, FACM & NDIDIAMAKA AMUTAH-ONUKAGHA, PHD, MPH

### POSTER PRESENTATIONS BY:

ADOLESCENTS | BEHAVIORAL HEALTH | GERIATRICS PEDIATRICS | PUBLIC HEALTH | SOCIAL JUSTICE WOMEN'S HEALTH | HEALTHCARE POLICY & ADVOCACY

April 22, 2023 10 AM - 1 PM EST Zoom Conference







# ~ Welcome ~ Petra Clark-Dufner, CT AHEC

Once again, our Urban Health/AHEC Scholars have demonstrated incredible leadership and dedication in bringing peers together in student-centered and driven interprofessional learning communities. They have tackled challenging questions for today's healthcare workforce striving to provide the very best care to marginalized and minoritized communities. Through monthly conversations, review of scholarship and clinical cases, advocacy and service projects, the UST Interest Groups (IGs) have broadened their knowledge and appreciation for the intersection of public health and healthcare.

Today's Summit is testimony to what a talented group of health professions students can do when given the reins to shape and inform their educational journey. A special thanks to the leadership teams for each of the Interest Groups, the members and most importantly, the larger community that supports them.

Petra Clack - Dufuex

Petra Clark-Dufner
CT AHEC Director
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine
Founding Director, Urban Service Track



# ~ Welcome ~ IG Summit Chairs

Welcome to the 2022-23 UST AHEC Interest Group Summit! Our names are Steve Kim, Cohort 14, Urban Health/AHEC Scholar, and Sandhya Sanapala, Cohort 15, Urban Health/AHEC Scholar. We are the Chairs of the Summit Advisory Committee. On behalf of the Summit Advisory Committee as well as the rest of the Urban Health/AHEC Scholars community, we would like to thank you for joining us today in celebrating the incredible work done by our Interest Groups.

The UST Interest Group Summit is a culmination of the work that our fellow Urban Health/AHEC scholars have put in throughout the course of this academic year. On top of their heavy workload as health professions students, the Urban Health/AHEC Scholars truly went above and beyond to organize and participate in projects which they felt would positively impact urban and medically underserved communities. We learned firsthand the importance of working with colleagues of different academic and professional backgrounds; we hope that we can continue this tradition of interprofessional learning with this year's sharing of poster presentations and project demonstrations.

Public health encompasses everyone's lives in a major way. As healthcare professionals, we see and treat those who are sick or need help, but the concept of public health is not limited to only those who work directly with patients. We learned, during the COVID-19 pandemic, that it is our collective responsibility not just as healthcare professionals but as members of our local communities to keep each other safe and well. This is why, for the theme of this year's IG Summit, we decided to focus on the concept of public health being the responsibility of each and every one of us.

This year, each Interest Group committed to meeting monthly, learning together, and collaborating on their various projects. Today they are here to share with you what they learned about Public Health through their unique lens and perspectives. We hope you are as excited as we are to learn more about their work and experiences. Thank you very much for being in attendance, and we hope you enjoy this year's IG Summit.



Steve Kim Cohort 14, Urban Health/AHEC Scholar UConn School of Medicine, Class of 2025



Sandhya Sanapala Cohort 15, Urban Health/AHEC Scholar UConn School of Medicine, Class of 2025

# Agenda

### **Opening Remarks**

Iram Nasreen, PharmD Student Max Marks, Dental Student Chinenye Anyanwu, PharmD, MPH 10:00 am-10:15 am

### **Opening Keynote Address**

Introduction: Priya Gupta, Medical Student
Presenter: Lucinda Canty Ph.D, CNM, FACM
Developing a Community Initiative to Address Maternal Health Equity
10:15 am-10:35 am

### **Transition to Breakout Rooms**

Anthony Messina, QU PA Student

#### Block 1

10:40 am-11:00 am

#### Block 2

11:05 am-11:25 am

#### Watercooler/Break

11:25 am-11:35 am

#### Block 3

11:35 am-11:55 am

#### Block 4

12:00 pm-12:20 pm

### **Closing Ceremonies**

12:25 pm-12:35 pm

Mai Vestergaard, MPH, PharmD Student

### **Closing Keynote Address**

Introduction: Juan Mitchell, Dental Student

Presenter: Ndidiamaka Amutah-Onukagha Ph.D., MPH

Addressing the Role of Racism in Maternal Health Inequities:

a Focus on Community-Based Research

12:35 pm-12:55 pm

### **Closing Remarks**

Renee Taylor, Medical Student 12:55 pm-1:00 pm

# Opening Keynote Speaker



# Lucinda Canty Ph.D, CNM, FACM

'Developing a community initiative to address maternal health equity"

Dr. Lucinda Canty is a certified nurse-midwife, Associate Professor of Nursing, and Director of Seedsworks Health Equity in Nursing Program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Columbia University, a master's degree from Yale University, specializing in nurse-midwifery, and a PhD from the University of Connecticut. Dr. Canty has provided reproductive health care for over 29 years. Her research interests include the prevention of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity, reducing racial and ethnic health disparities in reproductive health, promoting diversity in nursing, and eliminating racism in nursing and midwifery. She is an artist, poet, and historian. She provides women's health care at Planned Parenthood of Southern New England. She currently hosts web discussions Overdue Reckoning on Racism in Nursing. She founded Lucinda's House, a Black Maternal Health Collective, to promote maternal health equity through community collaboration and programs that provide support and education.

# Closing Keynote Speaker



# Ndidiamaka Amutah-Onukagha, Ph.D., MPH

"Addressing the Role of Racism in Maternal Health Inequities: a Focus on Community-Based Research"

Dr. Ndidiamaka Amutah-Onukagha is the Julia A. Okoro Professor of Black Maternal Health in the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine. Dr. Amutah-Onukagha is the Founder and Director of the Center of Black Maternal Health and Reproductive Justice (CBMHRJ), and of the Maternal Outcomes of Translational Health Equity Research (MOTHER) Lab. Dr. Amutah-Onukagha's research investigates maternal health disparities, infant mortality, reproductive health and social justice, and HIV/AIDS as experienced by Black women. She also serves as the Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the university's Public Health and Professional Degree Programs.

A well-published author, Dr. Amutah-Onukagha's research has been presented in over 61 manuscripts, 6 book chapters, a best-selling book on Amazon, and a textbook on culturally responsive evaluation. Her research has also been featured across a series of platforms, including, The Lancet, TedX, USA Today, and most recently broadcasted on MSNBC. She also serves on the editorial board for the Journal of Women's Health Issues. Currently, Dr. Amutah-Onukagha is the Principal Investigator of two multi-year studies on maternal mortality and morbidity, an R01 funded by National Institutes of Health and an interdisciplinary grant on health equity funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Dr. Ndidiamaka Amutah-Onukagha was an honoree of the 2020 Top 40 under 40 Minority Leaders in

Dr. Ndidiamaka Amutah-Onukagha was an honoree of the 2020 Top 40 under 40 Minority Leaders in Healthcare, as presented by the National Minority Quality Forum. She is a member of the MA-COVID-19 Maternal Equity Coalition, a board member for the Neighborhood Birth Center in Boston, and a former board member of the National Women's Health Network in Washington, D.C. In 2019, she was honored with the American Public Health Association's Maternal and Child Health Section's Young Professional of the Year Award. She currently serves as co-chair of the section's Perinatal and Women's Health Committee.

Dr. Amutah-Onukagha received her Master of Public Health from The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services before completing her Ph.D. in Public Health from the University of Maryland. She also completed the Kellogg Health Scholars postdoctoral fellowship with an emphasis on community based participatory research and health disparities.

# IG Presentations

# **Block 1**

10:35am-10:55am

Behavioral Health Interest Group Geriatrics Interest Group Healthcare Advocacy & Policy Interest Group Pediatrics Interest Group

# **Block 2**

11:00am-11:20am
Adolescents Interest Group
Public Health Interest Group
Social Justice Interest Group
Women's Health Interest Group

# **Block 3**

11:40am-12:00pm

Pediatrics Interest Group
Public Health Interest Group
Healthcare Advocacy & Policy Interest Group
Women's Health Interest Group

# **Block 4**

12:00pm-12:20pm

Adolescents Interest Group Social Justice Interest Group Geriatrics Interest Group Behavioral Health Interest Group

# IG Presentations Post Summaries

# **Adolescents Interest Group**

Presenters: Jessica MacInytre SOM & Max Marks SODM Moderators and Watercoolers: Zachary Maddox QU-PA & Nicole Hardy SOM

The Adolescent Interest Group's presentation focuses on the modern barriers to health endured by adolescent demographics throughout the U.S. Our IG members pinpointed many prominent public health issues relevant to the physical and mental wellbeing of adolescents and further explored them through a number of activities including literature reviews, case studies, guest speaker panels, and community engagement opportunities. Utilizing group member knowledge and skills, we were able to identify resounding discrepancies among the health outcomes of vulnerable adolescent populations and synthesize the main products of this year's adolescent IG within our poster.

# **Behavioral Health Interest Group**

Presenters: Anna Hackett SOM & Lauren Barber SOM Moderator and Watercooler: Margaret Mirabella SODM

The Behavioral Health Interest Group focused on researching, analyzing, and educating ourselves about the mental health issues faced by several important populations including children, veterans, LGBTQIA+ individuals, BIPOC individuals, and caregivers. This was accomplished by learning from subject-matter experts, having student-led discussions, and creating tool-kits filled with resources. We hope that our poster presentation will empower all here today to improve the mental health outcomes of all populations as we begin our healthcare careers.

### **Geriatrics Interest Group**

Presenters: Patrick Adamczyk SOM, George Bloom, SODM & Zachary Yannes QU-PA Moderators and Watercoolers: Lily Zhong SOM & Zachary Yannes QU-PA

Our Geriatrics Interest Group poster outlines the extraordinary challenges, uniqueness, and beauty in the field of geriatrics and aging as a whole. We highlight our exploration of thought-provoking topics from cancer screening recommendations and abuse of older adults, to guest speakers on the Beer's Criteria for inappropriate medication use in older patients. Lastly, we will take the audience through a case study involving a geriatrics patient and showcase interprofessional care of older adults in action.



# Healthcare Advocacy & Policy Interest Group

 $Presenters: Daniella Carnevale SOM \ \& \ Conor \ McCarthy \ QU-PA \\ Moderators \ and \ Watercoolers: Parth Patel SOM, Robyn Roznitsky \ QU-PA \ \& \ Ramsey \ Williams \ SOSW$ 

The Healthcare Advocacy and Policy interest group poster focuses on providing students with information and resources on how to stay up-to-date on relevant policies related to healthcare. As future healthcare professionals, it is our duty to address and be involved in the policy aspect of healthcare, as it immensely affects accessibility for our patients. The topics we discussed include community outreach and support for addiction, what healthcare advocacy and policy are, and how policy is developed in the state legislature. Through these resources, we hope to continue to see and support advancements in accessible and affordable healthcare.

# **Pediatrics Interest Group**

Presenters: Bhavana Guanda SOM & Layne Oram SOM Moderators and Watercoolers: Abhishek Gupta SOM & Eddyson Altidor SODM

Our Pediatrics Interest Group poster shows our group's focus on interprofessional facets of pediatric health and wellness including perspectives from a pediatric dentist, a camp geared towards children with serious illness and their families, and a clinical psychologist who focuses on youth care and trauma in juvenile systems. Beyond these lecture-style meetings, our group held an in-person Stop The Bleed and Epi Pen training that resulted in official certification of over 10 of our members. We also organized a multi-school interdisciplinary Zoom event with the Medical Director of Connecticut Children's Regional Lead Treatment Program to raise awareness of recent legislative changes in lead levels, as well as the social and health impacts on children and families. This combination of learning from content experts, engaging in hands-on training, and organizing our own outreach event have allowed us to explore various facets related to the pediatric population, as well as learn how to take action, spread awareness, and advocate for our future patients.



# **Public Health Interest Group**

Presenters: Maria Katsetos MS-1 & Alexis Vasciannie DS-1 Moderator and Watercooler: Khadijah Stanford SON- Junior

Our poster, "Get Comfortable Being Uncomfortable," explores the use of an interprofessional student-led group to define public health, discuss current public health crises, and identify actionable long term solutions for those crises. The topics discussed include food insecurity, social determinants of health, mental health, and the dangers of implicit biases in diagnostics. The resources utilized for these discussions include primary literature, videos, group presentations, guest speakers, and community outreach.

# **Social Justice Interest Group**

Presenter: Zara Mason, SON-Senior

Moderators and Watercoolers: Emma Bergstrom, DS-2, and Catherine Qiu, MS-2

Our poster showcases the learning that we did as an IG throughout this academic year. As a group, we sought to define social justice and understand why it is critical for us as future healthcare providers to be committed to ensuring equitable delivery of healthcare and access to resources. We focused on equipping ourselves by teaching one another about national and local resources and organizations that work to ensure equity and justice, as well as current social justice topics such as climate change and environmental justice, the various impacts of COVID-19 on disadvantaged populations, and the intersection between social justice and correctional health care. Our demo will feature a pamphlet, which was assembled by our IG, that highlights some of the resources we identified and major themes from our literature review discussions.

# Women's Health Interest Group

Presenter: Claire Surkis, MS-1 Moderators and Watercoolers: Julia Levin MS-1 & Sofia Adams QU-PA S-1

The Women's Health Interest Group's presentation focuses on the history of women's health, barriers to maternal health, and access to preventative health screenings. As a group, we learned that the fight for women's health care is not something from the past but is also a current issue today. Even with the progress that has been made, we still encounter challenges that include maternal mortality rate and barriers to preventative care, which also disproportionately affect minorities and marginalized groups. Our poster highlights these issues with the hopes that we continue this conversation and never stop advocating for women's health in an effort of promoting public health. Included in the poster will also be promising breakthroughs and initiatives that have been taken to improve the lives of women everywhere.

# **Commonly Asked Questions**

#### How do I select a breakout session?

Participants can "move" themselves to different breakout rooms. This requires using the Zoom application, not the web client, <a href="having the most current Zoom update (5.14.5)">having the most current Zoom update (5.14.5)</a> and clicking on the icon at the bottom of the screen that says "breakout room."

To leave the breakout room and return to the main session, maximize your screen, click the blue button-leave room

You can also pick your next breakout room by pressing Breakout Room, then click join which will be to the right.



∨ Room 1	Join
∨ Room 2	0
× Room 3	0

#### How much time do I have to travel between Zoom rooms?

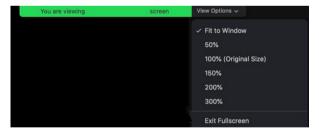
We have set aside 5 minutes between each presentation for attendees to move between the breakout rooms. Should you have any issues, please return to the main room and our technical support staff will help you.

#### How do I participate in a virtual platform?

Unlike an in-person conference, participants are encouraged to "ask" questions of presenters and share insights on topics through the use of the Zoom "chat" tool. A volunteer moderator has been assigned to each session and they will alert presenters to questions in the chat. We know that all participants will pose questions in a collegial and civil manner. We also encourage you to turn your camera on and remain in the presentation room, till it is time to travel to the next block.

### Can I zoom-in on a poster to make it more read-able?

Yes! At the top of your screen you should see a green bar. Click view options and 100%.



#### How do I enter the raffle?

During the Watercooler/Break- enter the breakout room named Raffle.

Click on the link or scan the QR code to the right to access the Slido.

Participant Code: lcvqqq

Event link: <a href="https://app.sli.do/event/5GgDjwMA9MBYoiY9AJTiVA">https://app.sli.do/event/5GgDjwMA9MBYoiY9AJTiVA</a>

To be entered into a raffle, be sure to click the link in the Slido menu for the Google Form!

# Scan me!



#### Where can the evaluation form be found after the Summit?

If you missed the evaluation in the chat, please visit this website by Saturday at  $8\ \mathrm{pm}$ .

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IGSummit23

# **Summit Advisory Committee**



Steve Kim School of Medicine Summit Co-chair



Sandhya Sanapala School of Medicine Summit Co-chair



Emma Bergstrom School of Dental Medicine Secretary Logistics Committee



Edesiri Igbuya School of Medicine Poster Committee Senior Coach



Lahari Kota School of Medicine Poster Committee Senior Coach



Lily Zhong School of Medicine Vice Chair: Keynote



Priya Gupta School of Medicine Keynote Committee



Juan Mitchell School of Dental Medicine Keynote Committee



Bella Hamilton School of Nursing Vice Chair: Logistics



Quyen Le School of Nursing Logistics Committee



Jessica Lewis School of Social Work Logistics Committee



Frukan Ileaasu School of Medicine Vice Chair: Marketing



Kainat Altaf School of Dental Medicine Marketing Committee



Tran Long Doan School of Nursing Marketing Committee



Khadijah Stanford School of Nursing Marketing Committee



Anthony Messina QU PA S-2 Vice Chair: MC Committee



Abhishek Gupta School of Medicine MC Committee



Max Marks School of Dental Medicine MC Committee



Iram Nasreen School of Pharmacy MC Committee



Renee Taylor School of Medicine MC Committee



Mai Vestergaard, MPH School of Pharmacy MC Committee



Aleena Thomas School of Pharmacy MC Committee

# Acknowledgements

# **Interest Group Leadership Teams**

#### Adolescents

Team Co-leads: Karla Palma, SON-Senior, Elizabeth Suschana, MS-2, Abigail Tulchinsky, MS-2
UST Scholar Senior Coach: Sumanya Kumar, MS-3
UST Alumni Partner: Raquel Manley, DMD

#### **Behavioral & Mental Health**

Team Co-leads: Jenna Joshi, SON-Senior, Cameron Rouleau, QU PA, S-2,
UST Scholar Senior Coach: Katie Stevens, MS-4
UST Alumni Partner: Lisa Vallee, LCSW

#### Geriatrics

Team Co-leads: Maxine Collins, SON-Senior, Zachary Yannes, QU PA, S-2
UST Scholar Senior Coach: Elena Navedo, MS-3
UST Alumni Partner: Patricia "Trish" Bowen, JD, MSW

#### Health Care Advocacy & Policy

Team Co-leads: Disha Patel, PharmD Student, Lucy Schlink, DS-2, Ajshe Zulfi, MS-2 UST Scholar Senior Coaches: Katie Botta, MS-4 & Hank Weinstock, MS-4 UST Alumni Partner: Moe Uddin, MD

#### **Pediatrics**

Team Co-leads: Dani Gosselin, DS -2, Alison López Valdivia SON- Senior, Julia Neri, MS-2 UST Scholar Senior Coach: Maitreyee Kale, MS-3 UST Alumni Partners: Lauren Dulieu, DMD and Michaela Lis, APRN

#### **Public Health**

Team Co-leads: Alexandria Gonzalez, MS-2, Iram Nasreen, PharmD Student,
Gabriela Valdiglesias, SON-Senior
UST Senior Coach: Gabriela Resto, MPH, PharmD Student,
UST Alumni Partner: Chineyne Anyanwu, PharmD, MPH

#### **Social Justice**

Team Co-leads: Kat Irani, PharmD Student, Catherine Qiu, MS-2, Jose Rodriguez Sanchez, SON-Senior UST Scholar Senior Coach: Brian Liang, MS-3 UST Alumni Partner: Jon Lis, MD

#### Women's Health

Team Co-leads: Kara Boninsegna, QU PA S-2, Sulaikha Buuh, MS-2, Caroline Raffin, SON-Senior Senior Coach: Greishka Cordero Baez, MS-3 Alumni Partner: Michal Klau-Stevens, LCSW, MPH

# Acknowledgements

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Aysha Hoang DS-2, Catriona Hong MS-2, and
Ramsey Williams SoSW-2

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Finally, thank you to the members of the 2022-2023 UST /AS Interest Groups!

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