

## ■ PARTNERED POSITIONS INITIATIVE

# Giving Voice to the Patient

IHPME's Partnered Positions initiative provides an opportunity for new faculty to work both at the University as well as within a field setting. IHPME is planning on five partnered positions – our first is with Bridgepoint.

### **Kerry Kuluski**

**Partnered position:** IHPME and Bridgepoint Collaboratory for Research and Innovation

**Area of expertise:** Needs and experiences of individuals with multiple, complex health problems

### *Why is Bridgepoint an ideal setting for your partnered position?*

The Bridgepoint Collaboratory for Research and Innovation brings together some of the best minds from across the globe in addressing the growing challenge of complex chronic disease. It provides a rich environment for measuring, designing, implementing and evaluating new models of care for persons with complex health problems (one of the heaviest user groups in our health care system.)

My current program of research examines the needs and experiences of individuals with multiple, complex health problems — giving voice to the patient — and is being used to inform hospital-based quality improvement initiatives at Bridgepoint.

### *How is the partnered position contributing to your own career goals?*

My partnered position provides a great opportunity to advance my career goals which hinges on improving our understanding of medically complex patients and improving their care. I am teaching health policy courses in IHPME where I am able to integrate my research on patient experience, while at the same time developing a research program in improving complex patient care. I am currently managing my first team at Bridgepoint — a postdoctoral fellow, two graduate level research associates and an undergraduate level practicum student.

By working in both clinical and academic settings, I'm able to offer a broader perspective on health system issues for IHPME students and disseminate my research leanings to a diverse audience and through multiple avenues. Since starting my partnered position in September 2013, I have had two papers accepted for publication, and received a Graduate Literary Award from IHPME's Society of Graduates. I've also conducted six invited presentations in different parts of the province.

### *What do you think is the greatest advantage of partnered positions, both for the Institute and for the health care system?*

The research team I've put together supports the grant funding that I have as co-investigator on two research programs, both led by Walter Wodchis. One is a CIHR Team Grant in Community Based Primary Health Care. The other is a Health System Performance Research Network Grant, which focuses on the experience, needs and cost of chronic disease across the life course.

I hope to use this evidence on a broader scale by developing and informing health system indicators that are patient-centered, as well as packages of service that truly meet the identified needs of patients. By having one foot in an academic setting and the other in a clinical setting, I feel I can develop both a conceptual and practical understanding of the healthcare system's heaviest users to guide future system reforms.

The collaborative academic environment at IHPME, combined with the Collaboratory's broad-based team approach to research in complex chronic disease, is providing a truly fulfilling opportunity to help improve health for the rapidly growing number of people living with complex chronic disease in Canada and worldwide.



Kerry Kuluski

■ STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

## Congratulations to IHPME students who defended their dissertations in January:



**Jenna Evans**

Thesis: Health Systems Integration: Competing or Shared Mental Models?

**Seija Kromm**

Thesis: Accountability in Ontario's Acute Care Hospital Sector and its Effect on Organizational Strategic Priorities

**Tetyana Kendzerska**

Thesis: A Risk Stratification Model for Adult Patients with Obstructive Sleep Apnea: Development and Evaluation

■ ALUMNI NEWS

## Continuing education opportunity

A number of U of T faculty at the Hospital for Sick Children are coming together with other professors in Canada and Europe to teach a 3 day course in Innovative Trial Design. IHPME faculty member Wendy Ungar will be leading a core teaching block for this course. Other professors include: Martin Offringa, Terry Klassen, Andy Willan, Wendy Ungar and Maarten Boers.

**EnRICH Innovative Trial Design Short Course**

May 21, 2014 - May 23, 2014

SickKids Research Institute, Peter Gilgan Centre for Research and Learning, Toronto Canada

Registration is currently open until March 1st and the course will be held in May of 2014.

For more information and to register, please see: <http://www.cvent.com/d/j4q9vr>

# IHPME Connection: We'd like to hear from you

Our monthly newsletter profiles members of the IHPME community and lists upcoming events. We're pleased to receive submissions of 400 words or less for consideration in upcoming editions. If you'd like your event listed, please send full details.

Contact: [rhonda.cockerill@utoronto.ca](mailto:rhonda.cockerill@utoronto.ca) and [ihpme@utoronto.ca](mailto:ihpme@utoronto.ca)

# IHPME Events

■ **Health Services Research Seminars 2013-14**

**Calibration and Collaboration in HTA**  
March 26, 2014

Lauren Cipriano, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Ivey Business School,  
Western University, London, ON

All seminars run from 4:00 - 5:30 pm

**LOCATION:** Health Sciences Building,  
Room 208, 155 College St.

Free admission, no registration required

■ **Toronto Health Economics and Technology Assessment (THETA) Collaborative**

**Network meta-analysis of survival outcomes**

February 14, 2014

Shannon Cope

**Is society getting a good return on its funding investment in medical research? Examining the quality of reports of medical research and strategies to maximize the outputs of the investments**

March 7, 2014

Dr. David Moher

All seminars run from 4:00 - 5:30 pm

**LOCATION:** Leslie Dan Pharmacy Building

144 College St., Room 850

■ **Canadian College of Health Leaders-SOG Joint Event**

**From Research to Reality - High Needs Patients Across the Health Care Continuum**

February 13, 2014

8:00 am - 8:30 am **Breakfast, registration and networking**

8:30 am - 10:30 am **Panel Presentation**

**LOCATION:** Hart House - East Common Room, University of Toronto, 7 Hart House Circle

**REGISTER ONLINE:** [http://cchl.in1touch.org/site/chapter\\_gta\\_events#sthash.tkuSYnRI.dpbs](http://cchl.in1touch.org/site/chapter_gta_events#sthash.tkuSYnRI.dpbs)

**COST:** CCHL/SOG Member: \$60; Non-Member: \$75; Student: \$40; (taxes included)

■ **Applied Cancer Research Conference (ARCC) 2014**

Hosted by the Canadian Centre for Applied Research in Cancer Control and featuring health economics, services, policy and ethics in cancer control

May 12, 2014

**MORE INFORMATION:** [www.cc-arcc.ca](http://www.cc-arcc.ca)

■ **For more events and details, visit IHPME's External Events website**

<http://www.ihpme.utoronto.ca/about/events/exevents.htm>