

IHPME CONNECT 03.2015

THE EUGENIE STUART FACULTY AWARD WINNERS

Professor Jeremy Veillard – Best New Course Offered at IHPME

Professor Jeremy Veillard's students see a dedication to student learning and a passion for teaching each time they walk in the classroom. "His passion is evident, and he applies the flipped classroom technique, making the lesson come alive with real life examples from his practical work experience," says Vidhi Thakkar, a doctoral student who recently took Performance Management with Professor Veillard. "He also engages students in an active discussion around controversial topics and invited visiting scholars to interact with students."

In addition to his teaching duties at IHPME, Jeremy serves as the Canadian Institute for Health Information's Vice President of Research and Analysis. He was also President of the Canadian Association for Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR) for 2013–2014. His experience includes international exposure, including as regional adviser for health policy and equity at the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe.

"Professor Veillard challenged us to think beyond Canadian borders and consider international comparisons and lessons to be learned from Europe and other countries. His inquiry-style approach to teaching helped me develop into a better scholar and writer," says Vidhi.



Kerry Kuluski – Best Instructor

Those who've studied with Kerry Kuluski learn more than course material. They see continual improvement in action. Those nominating her for the "best instructor" award consistently cite her never-ending efforts to improve her courses. Says student Sophie Roher, "I believe that HAD5011 will continue to improve because of Dr. Kuluski's openness to learn and her willingness to try innovative teaching methods and to cater to each individual year of students. This year, she introduced a policy talk assignment in response to feedback from last year's students – it was well thought-out, clearly explained, and relevant to each student's research."

Kerry holds a partnered position with IHPME and the Bridgepoint Collaboratory for Research and Innovation, studying the needs and experiences of individuals with multiple, complex health problems. She recently managed her first team at Bridgepoint, which included a postdoctoral fellow, two graduate level research associates and an undergraduate level practicum student. "What makes Dr. Kuluski stand-out as an exemplary faculty member, preceptor and tutor is her ability to give students the confidence to push the boundaries of their learning while remaining positive and encouraging throughout the process, however challenging," says Amanda Gibson, who co-authored a paper with Kerry, which will be published in the first 2015 edition of *Healthcare Management Forum*.

George Tomlinson – Best Thesis Supervisor

Professor Tomlinson teaches a Bayesian Analysis course as part of the PhD program in clinical epidemiology. His class explores





George Tomlinson (middle)

the uses and limits of biostatistics and teaches students to apply Bayesian methods to a range of questions.

“He breaks down complex concepts and shows the beauty and utility of the ideas,” says Kate Nelson, who enrolled in Dr. Tomlinson’s Bayesian Analysis course as part of my PhD program in clinical epidemiology. “When he writes formulas on the board, you wonder if you’re in over your head, then he patiently and carefully allows students to see formulas as helpful (and not just anxiety provoking.) His homework sets seem like a reach, but completing them gives a sense of accomplishment and new-found knowledge.”

Students admire a rare ability to cover the underlying statistical theory and concepts at a depth needed for a graduate student, while maintaining the focus on the practical application that would be my focus as a clinician scientist.

“He puts a lot of extra effort into making sure the subject matter and the assignments catered to our learning needs and our thesis and career requirements,” says Husam Abdel-Qadir, M.Sc. candidate and MD, FRCPC, DABIM (Cardiology and Internal Medicine). “In fact, he worked with each of us individually on a course project that was catered to our research interests.”

James Mullen – Best Practicum Supervisor

Launching a career can depend on two important things: skills and knowledge, and a bit of luck to be in the right place at the right time. Students working with James Mullen, Manager, IMG Operations & Special Projects at Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), were exposed to both. He took on five IHPME students for the largest CIS implementation project in Ontario. Together, they integrated patient information systems to build and implement one hospital-wide integrated clinical information system for CAMH.



James Mullen (middle)

“When we needed human resources to help with the implementation, IHPME students were flexible, adaptable, keen and positive,” says James. “They understood the context in which we were operating without months of work in training and orientation. They ‘get it’ from the ‘get go.’”

The group placement was a great success, not just for the current participants but future students. Their performance, under James’ guidance, made a strong impression on the CAMH community. As a result, all departments at CAMH have asked for IHPME MHI students for their eHealth projects, and CAMH will be welcoming six students again this summer. Soon, students on campus will also benefit from James’ commitment to teaching. He’ll be coming on board as an Adjunct Lecturer this winter to provide guest lectures and develop an elective course for next fall.



IHPME Student Rob Smith (left) and Jeremy Veillard (right)



IHPME STUDENT'S RESEARCH MAKES HEADLINES AROUND THE WORLD



Avi Biswas

On January 19th IHPME PhD Candidate Avi Biswas published a systematic review in the prestigious *Annals of Internal Medicine*. His study showed that sitting for too long has serious negative consequences for health, even in people who exercise regularly. The world took note. Within the first week of its publication, Avi's work was reported on in more than 20 Canadian and international news broadcasts and over 130 newspapers. After a whirlwind month of interviews with the press, Avi spoke with fellow IHPME student Natasha Lane about his big break.

Natasha Lane: Congratulations Avi! A lot of people seem shocked by the results of your study. As an expert in the field, were you surprised by what you found?

Avi Biswas: Like most people, I had a hunch that sitting for long periods of time is probably bad for health. But my intuition was that we might cancel out the health risks from sitting for most of our day if we just exercise regularly. I think a lot of people assumed the same. Our study found that while exercising reduces risks from a sedentary lifestyle, it doesn't cancel them out. I was surprised this finding and how strong the data are to show it.

NL: You started studying sedentary behavior before it was all the rage in the media. What inspired you to pursue these research questions?

AB: There were three things, really. First, I witnessed a close relative manage a debilitating chronic disease by diligently making small changes to their lifestyle. Second, I worked at a non-profit health promotion organization and saw first-hand how many chronic disease sufferers crave a better understanding of how to change their lives to be healthier. And then I (like many) was

inspired by Dr. Mike Evans' "23 ½ hours" YouTube video, and the idea that simple, accessible disease prevention behaviors might be the most effective. I discussed these inspirations with my doctoral supervisor [cardiology researcher Dr. David Alter] who supported and helped fine-tune my dream of studying how sedentary behavior affects health.

NL: Your study received a lot of news and social media attention. Jimmy Kimmel even based a whole skit on it! Did any findings get skewed in 140 character tweets or news snippets?

AB: A lot of the media attention has focused on the message that sitting is bad for you. Sitting is not inherently bad for you, but like most things, doing it in excess is. It's also not very hard to reduce the risks from long periods of sitting by taking a standing/walking break every 20-40 minutes. But that wouldn't make for a very funny Jimmy Kimmel skit.

NL: What's next for you in sedentary behavior research?

AB: My doctoral work builds on the findings from this study. I'll be studying patients attending cardiac rehabilitation. These patients are interesting because they're get prescribed a regular program of exercise to address their cardiac risk, but no one really knows how this affects their likelihood to sit for prolonged periods otherwise. I'll be using mixed methods to figure out which cardiac rehab patients are more likely to be sedentary, why they're sedentary and what might help them to be less sedentary.

NL: You've often cited your wonderful relationship with your PhD supervisor, Dr. David Alter, as key to your success here at IHPME. What have you learned from him?

AB: I've always felt like a peer rather than a student with David, and that has given me a lot of confidence in believing that even my doctoral work can be meaningful and influential. I've also learned from him to follow my passion regardless of convention, and have fun doing it.



Re-imagining Long-Term Residential Care: An International Study of Promising Practices

Pat Armstrong, PI

Our seven year, SSHRC and CIHR funded project includes researchers from the US, the UK, Germany, Norway, Sweden and five Canadian provinces. It is truly interdisciplinary, with people from architecture, medicine nursing, cultural theory, philosophy, history, cultural theory, economics, social work and sociology. It is also multimethods, with a current focus on rapid site-switching ethnography.

For more information: <http://reltc.apps01.yorku.ca/>

Paula Goering Collaborative Research and Knowledge Translation Award: Linking Sectors & Linking Data to Improve Mental Health of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

The Health Care Access Research and Development Disabilities (H-CARDD) program is a research program whose primary goal is to enhance the overall health and well-being of people with developmental disabilities through improved health care policy and services.

March 5, 2015

12:00pm to 1:00pm

To register and for more information, click [here](#).

THESIS DEFENSES

PhD:

Nicole Greenspan (supervisor Rhonda Cockerill) – *“Frontline Measures: Evaluating HIV Prevention at AIDS Service Organizations”*

Anna Durbin (supervisor Rick Glazier) – *“Mental Health Service Use Patterns for Immigrant Groups in ON: Population Based Studies”*

MSc:

Natasha Saunders (supervisor Astrid Guttman) – *“Pediatric Emergency Room Revisits: Does Being an Immigrant Matter”*

AWARDS

Jenna Evans

IHPME graduate, Jenna Evans, is the recipient of the **2014 Outstanding Doctoral Research Award** in the Healthcare Management category for her PhD dissertation entitled, *“Health Systems Integration: Competing or Shared Mental Models?”*. The award is co-sponsored by Emerald Group Publishing and the European Foundation for Management Development with winners selected by the editorial board of the Journal of Health Organization and Management. Congratulations Jenna! Winners listing: <http://www.emeraldgroupublishing.com/research/awards/odra.htm>

Evan Muller-Cheng

IHPME's Evan Muller-Cheng has received The Vital People grant from the Toronto Foundation. Congratulations Evan! For more information: <https://torontofoundation.ca/stories/evan-muller-cheng-agincourt-community-services-association>

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Status-Only Appointments: Assistant Professor

Tammy Clifford, Sumit Gupta, Jemila Hamid, Noah Ivers, Maritt Kirst and Kathryn Tinkam

Status-Only Appointments: Associate Professor

Liane Ginsburg, Stephen Peckham, Kurt Stange and Toni Zhong

Status-Only Appointments: Professor

Orlando Carter Snead III

Visiting Professor

Mohamad Alameddine and Mike Saks

Adjunct Appointments

Abigail Carter-Langford – Adjunct Lecturer and Connie Clerici – Adjunct Lecturer



EVENTS

IHPME Annual Research Day 2015!

IHPME student-led Research Day, hosted at HSB on **May 6, 2015**.

Check our website for continued updates: <http://ihpme.utoronto.ca/events/ihpme-annual-research-day-2015/>

Announcing [Camille Orridge](#), CEO, Toronto Central LHIN as Expert Panelist Moderator. Expert Panelists to include Dr. Arlene Bierman, Dr. Rick Glazier, Dr. Richard Cookson and more!

[Lisa Simpson](#), MB, BCh, MPH, FAAP, President & CEO of AcademyHealth, Washington, D.C. is Research Day 2015 Keynote Speaker!

HCTP Seminar – Designing Child Health Policy in Canada: A Case Study of Development

Screening on **March 4, 2015**

3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Location: Health Sciences Building, Room 412, 4th Floor

Live Webcast Available. More information available at <http://ihpme.utoronto.ca/events/hctp-seminar-march-04/>

Joint Centre for Bioethics Seminar – Public Health Ethics: What Next?

March 4, 2015

4:10 pm - 5:30 pm

Location: Health Sciences Building, Auditorium 610, 6th Floor.

Live Webcast Available. Full Details: <http://ihpme.utoronto.ca/events/joint-centre-for-bioethics-seminar-march-4/>

The Public's Health: A Symposium on Public Health Histories

March 5 - 7, 2015

Register Now! Full Details: <http://ihpme.utoronto.ca/events/the-publics-health-symposium/>

Community Hubs: From Health Care to Health 2015

March 25, 2015

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Community hubs are increasingly seen as a means of overcoming health care fragmentation by gathering together diverse services and providers at a single location and promoting collaboration across sectors.

Registration Now Open! Full Details: <http://ihpme.utoronto.ca/events/community-hubs-from-health-care-to-health-2015/>

IHPME Seminar Series 2014-15 with Dr. Charlotte Waddell

March 25, 2015

12:00pm to 1:00pm

Dr. Charlotte Waddell, MSc, MD, CCFP, FRCPC (Child and Adolescent Psychiatry), Canada Research Chair in Children's Health Policy, Associate Professor/Director, Children's Health Policy Centre, Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University will discuss "Children's mental health policy: Meeting the needs of the one and the many".

Location: Health Sciences Building, Auditorium 610, 6th Floor.

For more details please visit: <http://ihpme.utoronto.ca/events/ihpme-seminar-series-march-25/>

2015 QuIPS Conference & Oral/Poster Competition – Registration and abstract submission now open!

March 5 - 7, 2015

The University of Toronto Chapter of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement Open School (UT IHI) first held the Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (QuIPS) Conference in 2011. Now in its fifth year, QuIPS is an inter-disciplinary conference focused on quality improvement and patient safety held in the heart of downtown Toronto.

Register and submit an abstract early!

Explore the QuIPS conference updated website: <http://conference.utihopenschool.ca/>

