



UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
of MARYLAND

Empowering Students to be Agents for Change in Promoting Health Equity: A Reconvening

April 19, 2023 | University of Maryland, Baltimore

PROGRAM

Poster Session, Registration, and Breakfast | 2nd Floor Lobby outside of Elm Ballrooms

8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Teams from across the USM share posters detailing their work on empowering students to be agents of change in health equity over the past year, the challenges they have experienced, and their upcoming plans and goals for their future work.

Welcome and Opening Remarks | Elm A

9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Bruce Jarrell, President, University of Maryland, Baltimore, **Jay Perman**, Chancellor, University System of Maryland, **Michelle Gourdine**, Secretary, University System of Maryland Board of Regents and Senior Vice President, CVS Health and Chief Medical Officer, CVS Caremark, and **Nancy O’Neill**, Acting Director, USM William E. Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation

Keynote: At the Nexus of Science and Social Justice: Preparing Students for Evidence-Informed Leadership in Health Equity | Elm A

9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Joseph Wright, MD, MPH, Chief Health Equity Officer, University of Maryland Medical System

The last several years have highlighted the importance of ensuring that science and fact-based objectivity align with public discourse. In this keynote address, Dr. Joseph Wright of the University of Maryland Medical System will outline the critical importance of developing thought leaders prepared to address societal health inequities through a lens of evidence-informed scholarship.

Institutional Team Planning Time | Elm A

10:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

Teams discuss the keynote address and plan together on which concurrent sessions to attend.

10:40 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

Transition to Concurrent Sessions

Addressing Health Literacy in Curricula, Part I: Teaching Undergraduate and Graduate Health Literacy Courses | Elm B

10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Cynthia Baur, Director, Horowitz Center for Health Literacy and **Catherine Maybury**, Faculty Specialist, Horowitz Center for Health Literacy, both of University of Maryland, College Park

Dedicated health literacy courses can prepare students to recognize information and communication inequities and develop knowledge and skills to address those inequities. In this session, the facilitators will briefly explain health literacy and share two activities from their courses. Participants will consider the ways in which their programs currently emphasize health literacy as they examine how health literacy courses might strengthen that emphasis.

Concurrent Sessions

SHARP: A Framework for Addressing the Contexts of Poverty and Oppression | Room 351

Wendy E. Shaia, Clinical Associate Professor and Executive Director, The Center for Restorative Change, University of Maryland School of Social Work

The SHARP framework, developed for human service practitioners, provides a lens through which to understand how structural oppression impacts individuals and communities and contributes to poverty, mental illness, and disease. This workshop will provide a brief overview of the framework, including its theoretical underpinnings and application of the framework across multiple disciplines. The session will also support a greater understanding of the SHARP framework's application in research. The module will conclude with intentional time for reflection and plans for implementation.

11:50 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Lunch and Team Time | Elm A

Plenary | Students in Dialogue: What it Means to Develop Change Agency to Advance Health Equity | Elm A

12:30 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Facilitated by **Iona Ringgold**, Assistant Provost for Diversity & Inclusion, Academic Affairs, Towson University and **Seyedeh Zahra Mousavi**, 3rd Year Medical Student, University of Maryland, Baltimore with participants: **Jamie Fleishman**, University of Maryland, College Park, **Danielle Wilson**, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and **Abigail Barker**, Gallaudet University / University of Maryland, Baltimore.

In this plenary session, students will share their views on the importance of health equity, now and as future practitioners, clinicians, and researchers, as well as the kinds of learning experiences that contribute to their development as change agents. The session will run as a dialogue among students and near the end of the session, questions fielded from the audience will be shared with participants.

1:20 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Transition to Concurrent Sessions

Addressing Health Literacy in Curricula, Part II: Increasing Plain Language through Team-Based Care | Elm B

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Concurrent Sessions

Amy Kruger Howard, Clinical Faculty, School of Pharmacy and **Everett Smith Jr.**, Director of Telehealth Education, School of Social Work, both of University of Maryland, Baltimore

This session will highlight faculty partnerships and a model for infusing health literacy into clinical practice. UMCP and UMB faculty have built an interprofessional partnership about health literacy based on a 2020 MPower project. One of the many results of this partnership is at UMB where interprofessional education student teams participate in a 2-day experiential learning rotation within a pediatric gastroenterology clinic. During a 1-hr didactic session in consecutive weeks, students discuss health literacy as a social determinant of health and complete learning activities focused on incorporating plain language into patient care. The session facilitators will provide an overview of the clinic setting, the interprofessional nature of the experience, and core didactic concepts, and participants will have the opportunity to work through some of the learner activities.

How to be Anti-Ableist and Anti-Audist when Providing Health Care Services | Room 351

Ellen Schaefer-Salins, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, Advisor - Deaf Studies Minor and Disability Studies Minor, Salisbury University and **Laura Dreany-Pyles**, Program Manager, Deaf Addiction Services at Maryland, University of Maryland, Baltimore

This session will teach the impact of ableism (discrimination toward people with disabilities), audism (discrimination toward people who are deaf), and linguicism (discrimination of people who speak differently) on the healthcare system. And it will help students learn how to be anti-ableist and anti-audist. There will be a focus on issues of accessibility, equity, and respect for all clients/patients who have differing abilities.

2:30 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.

Transition to Institutional Team Conversations

2:40 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.
Concurrent Sessions

Institutional Team Planning Time

Institutional teams meet and discuss learnings (20 minutes). Teams pair up with another institution to share progress and plans (30 minutes)

Elm A: UMB and CSU | Elm B: UMCP and UMES | Room 203: UMBC and TU | Room 351: FSU, BSU, UBalt Room 353: UMGC and SU

3:40 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Transition to Closing Session

3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Closing Session | Elm A

Alison Wrynn, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs and **Nancy O'Neill**, Acting Director, Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation, both of University System of Maryland

FEATURED SPEAKER



Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH

Vice President and UMMS Chief Health Equity Officer

Dr. Wright brings commitment and vast experience in health equity to his role as well as an emphasis on the needs of underserved communities. He began his medical career as a community-based pediatrician in the National Health Service Corp working in his hometown of Brooklyn, NY. That deeply grounding experience has been the touchstone that has framed all of his later activities and efforts.

Before taking on this new position, Dr. Wright served as the senior vice president and chief medical officer at UM Capital Region Health for three years. He is an adjunct professor of health policy and management and teaches at the University of Maryland School of Public Health, where he also serves on the school's Community Advisory Council. He also maintains an adjunct appointment as professor of pediatrics at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

A nationally known expert in pediatric emergency medicine, Dr. Wright has provided national leadership to several organizations, including the Association of American Medical Colleges, the March of Dimes and the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine. He also served on the Pediatric Advisory Committee of the Food and Drug Administration during the Obama administration. Dr. Wright is an elected member of the American Academy of Pediatrics Board of Directors and chairs the Board Committee on Equity.

He was very active in health equity work during his time at UM Capital Region, leading the Health Recovery Committee of the Prince George's Forward COVID-19 Task Force, as well as serving on the District of Columbia Commission on Health Equity. Dr. Wright was recognized as a 2020 Diversity in Business Leader by the *Washington Business Journal*.

Dr. Wright earned a BA from Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT, his MD from Rutgers University, and a Master of Public Health in Administrative Medicine and Management from George Washington University.

The Kirwan Center would like to thank the planning committee for their contributions in framing the program structure and content.

Elsie Stines, University of Maryland, Baltimore; Cynthia Baur, University of Maryland, College Park; Zahra Mousavi, University of Maryland, Baltimore; Iona Johnson, Towson University; Hoai-An Truong, University of Maryland Eastern Shore; Wendy Shaia, University of Maryland, Baltimore; Sylvette LaTouche-Howard, University of Maryland, College Park & Nancy O'Neill, University System of Maryland.

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