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September 26-30, 2022



"The Center for Health Equity Transformation (CHET), Lexington Kentucky, is located on the original homeland of diverse Native peoples who arrived over 10,000 years ago. The most recent among them were the Shawnee. Today, Kentucky is still home to over 25,000 Native people representing scores of tribal groups. CHET recognizes the injustices Native peoples have endured. Through this statement, we hope to begin the long process of healing."

Visit our Website

CHET's Weekly Communication Digest

Update: CHET's Elevating Equity Speaker Series with Dr. Darrell Gray

Due to the enthusiastic response to this event, we have relocated Dr. Gray's talk to the Harris Ballroom in the Gatton Student Center. If you would like to register, please visit: bit.ly/3qIZnDjt. If you previously registered and are no longer able to attend, please email chet@uky.edu and we will update your registration. **The registration deadline is October 12, 2022.**

**Advancing Health
Equity:
Translating
Stories to
Partnership,
Policy and
Practice**

**October 17, 2022
Harris Ballroom
Gatton Student Center
11:30am - 1:00pm**

Save the Date

October 17, 2022

CHET's Elevating Equity Speaker Series



**Darrell Gray II,
MD, MPH, FACG**

Chief Health Equity
Officer for
Elevance Health,
parent company of Anthem
BlueCross and BlueShield

 Elevance
Health

Join us for a luncheon with
clinical and health policy expert
Dr. Darrell Gray II as the
inaugural event for our
2022-2023 CHET Speaker
Series



bit.ly/3qlZnDjt

SPARK Call for Applications

Students Participating as Ambassadors for Research in Kentucky (SPARK) is a dynamic collaboration between the Center for Health Equity Transformation (CHET), the Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS), the Cardiovascular Disease Research Priority Area, and Aetna Better Health of Kentucky. Participants will be introduced to community-engaged research focused on health disparities/health equity and receive extensive mentorship. Students will identify a research topic, program leaders will assist in identifying mentors, and students will work with their mentorship team to develop a project. Students will conduct this project in their home communities over the summer, receiving a \$5,000 stipend to support this research. After implementing the project, participants will meet with their mentors, undertake data analysis and write-up, and present and publish their research in professional settings.

Any undergraduate students at the University of Kentucky and Kentucky State University with at least two academic years left until graduation and a GPA of 2.8 or higher are invited to apply for SPARK. Students from underrepresented groups or disadvantaged backgrounds, [as defined by the National Institutes of Health](#), are especially encouraged to apply.

The application window deadline is **October 31st**. Please submit your application online at the following link: <https://medicine.uky.edu/centers/chet/spark-applications>. The required application components include:

1. Cover letter (limited to one page) describing your interest in health equity research
2. Resume, including GPA and major
3. A list of three professional references with contact information

[Click here to for more information on the application and program.](#)

IPEP Call for Applications

Applications are due **November 7, 2022** for The Office of the Vice President for Research postdoctoral programs, the Lyman T. Johnson Fellowship and the University Research Fellowships. Fellows pursue an individualized research program under the mentorship of UK faculty. Within these two fellowships programs, the Inclusive Postdoctoral Enrichment Program (IPEP) provides additional support and career development for diverse postdoctoral fellows. IPEP includes personal navigation to UK and the research enterprise, dedicated support from the Proposal Development Office for grant development, mentoring to a career of academia, networking and inclusion opportunities, and other assistance from the research infrastructure. Fellowships provide stipend plus benefits and are available to eligible trainees from all disciplines who have a UK mentored research and training plan.

[Click here to learn more about the program.](#) Submit inquiries and applications to: vprgrants@uky.edu or contact Nancy Schoenberg (nesch@uky.edu) or Baron Wolf (baron.wolf@uky.edu) for more information.

CHET Director, Dr. Nancy Schoenberg, receives Outstanding Service Award

Congratulations to Dr. Schoenberg for being awarded the Outstanding Service Award by the Society of Postdoctoral Scholars (SOPS) at the SOPS Annual Research and Career Symposium. SOPS is a postdoc run organization at UK, residing under the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, whose mission is to assist "current, past, or incoming postdocs with career advice, professional development, and networking opportunities." In addition to receiving the Outstanding Service Award, Dr. Schoenberg also presented as a panelist at the symposium. She is pictured alongside SOPS Dr. Erome Hankore (College of Pharmacy).



Upcoming Talk with Dr. Erica Littlejohn: "Translating Health Equity: Neuroplasticity, Early Life Stress Exposure, and VCID"

Date and Time: Monday, 10/10, 12pm-1pm

Location: In person in Room 104 Medical Behavioral Science Building, 1100 Veterans Drive and via [Zoom](#)

Dr. Erica Littlejohn is interested in conducting mixed methods research to uncover relationships that exist between vascular contributions to cognitive impairment and dementia (VCID) and the neurophysiological consequences of Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) exposure. Through research collaboration, Dr. Littlejohn intends to leverage Sanders-Brown Center on Aging UK-Alzheimer's Disease Center resources to identify biomarkers



for VCID secondary prevention screening through clinical studies. Through multidisciplinary research, Dr. Littlejohn also plans to investigate neurophysiological consequences and sensitive ACE exposure periods in ACEs animal models of neglect, like Maternal Separation with Early Weening (MSEW) combined with experimental VCID. Her work will examine hippocampal remodeling and downstream effects on functional outcomes including learning and memory.

SPARK Student Highlights

Congratulations to Princess Agbozo, a member of the SPARK Program, for being highlighted in the College of Public Health (CPH) newsletter. She is a current international and first-generation student pursuing a Public Health major and is on the pre-medical track. Her goals include earning MD and MPH degrees and working in the global health field to improve healthcare accessibility for impoverished and underserved communities. In the video below, she shares why UK is a great place to learn, live, and play — for everyone!



Congratulations to Sairakshitha Yalla for being selected as one of 22 members of UK's Undergraduate Research Ambassador Program for 2022-23. Sai aspires to be a physician-scientist who translates fundamental research into clinical interventions that drive effective and impactful healthcare outcomes.

The Undergraduate Research Ambassador program's mission is to increase awareness and create opportunities for students to actively engage in research and creative scholarship. Ambassadors must demonstrate academic excellence, leadership potential and be involved in mentored research.



UK College of Medicine

PRIDE WEEK

SEPT
28

Wednesday • Noon -1 p.m. ET
HIV Stigma Panel
Via Zoom

SEPT
30

Friday • Noon -1:30 p.m. ET
Monkeypox Q&A
HKRB 110 (Refreshments provided) and Zoom

OCT
4

Tuesday • 4-6 p.m. ET
PRIDE Outside
Courtyard between HKRB and BBSRB

SEPT
29

Thursday • 5-7 p.m. ET
Film Screening of “Milkwater”
MN 363

OCT
3

Monday
Social Media Day



**College of
Medicine**

Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Save ^{the} Date

Bringing back

BECKY

Conference

BUILDING EPIDEMIOLOGIC CAPACITY
IN KENTUCKY (BECKY)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19,
2022

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER



[Registration](#) is now open for the 12th Building Epidemiologic Capacity in Kentucky (BECKY) Annual Conference to be held on October 19, 2022 – “Bringing Back BECKY!” This year’s conference will be held at Kentucky State University’s Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm located at 1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601.

Please register before October 7 to ensure that we meet any dietary needs and so food accommodations are adequate. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. To register, click on the registration link in the first sentence, or use the handy QR Code above to link to registration on your cell phone or other device.

Collaboration Column

This weekly column provides space for any of our CHET affiliates to seek out involvement of others. We request that contributions be no more than 3 sentences and include contact information.

If considered appropriate, contributions sent to chet@uky.edu by Thursday will be included in CHET's Friday digest. Contributions will run twice, unless requested otherwise.

For more information, please contact the Communication Subcommittee via chet@uky.edu

Biostatistics and Research Design Core

To request a consultation with the CHET Biostatistics and Research Design Core, please click the following link: https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9GlFBA9n9aPOFlb

CHET Student and Trainee Listserv

Please encourage your students and trainees to join our listserv here: bit.ly/joinchet

