



RUTGERS HEALTH
School of Health Professions

2026 Faculty Research Scholarship Symposium

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SHP

Reflecting on the past, looking into the future.

Tuesday, October 20, 2026

Douglass Student Center
Trayes Hall (Sections A & B)

Organized by Rutgers SHP Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

9:15 – 10:00	Registration, Coffee and Pastries		
10:00 – 10:15	Rutgers Health Leadership Address	Reflecting on 50 th Anniversary for SHP	Kathleen W. Scotto , RBHS Vice Chancellor for Research Introduction by: SHP Dean Jeffrey DiGiovanni
10:15 - 10:30	SHP Leadership Research Address	Reflecting on SHP's research advances & SHP Excellence in Research Award ceremony	Antonina Mitrofanova , SHP Associate Dean for Research
10:30 - 11:15	Discovery to Impact		
	Lead: Scott Parrott		
	10:30-10:35	<i>Introduction</i>	Scott Parrott (SHP)
	10:35-10:45	<i>Learning to Change Care: Building a Neuro-Affirming Health System</i>	Aaron Dallman (SHP)
	10:45-10:55	<i>Assessing a drug safety profile of Opioid Use Disorder patients as Ibogaine Research Is Fast-Trackd for Veterans</i>	Barbara Tafuto (SHP)
	10:55-11:15	Discussion Panel (20 mins) "Rocky Road from Discovery to Impact" With Q&A	Moderator: Scott Parrott (SHP) • Michael Falvo (VA) • Aaron Dallman (SHP) • Barbara Tafuto (SHP) • Kiera McNair (SHP) • Albert J. Heuer (SHP)
11:15 – 12:00	Artificial Intelligence in Education		
	Lead: Jessica Gomes		
	11:15-11:20	<i>Introduction</i>	Jessica Gomes (SHP)
	11:20-11:30	<i>Evaluating an AI-Generated Virtual Health Simulator for Experiential Learning in Health Professions Education</i>	Rebecca Brody (SHP)
	11:30-11:40	<i>Beyond the Technology: Faculty Experiences Implementing an AI-Enabled Virtual Healthcare Simulator</i>	Lisa Palladino-Kim (SHP)
	11:40-12:00	Discussion Panel (20 mins) "Comparing projects, responsible AI use, faculty and learner adoption, assessment strategies, and future research opportunities" With Q&A	Moderator: Jessica Gomes (SHP) • Dasantila Sherifi (SHP) • Dipali Yeh (SHP) • Rahul Mittal (SHP)
12:00-1:00	Lunch (hot) and networking		
1:00 – 1:45	Artificial Intelligence in Research: advances and ethical considerations		
	Lead: Antonina Mitrofanova		
	1:00-1:05	<i>Introduction</i>	Antonina Mitrofanova (SHP)

	1:05-1:15	<i>Automated Meal Detection from Continuous Glucose Monitoring in Gestational Diabetes: Accuracy and Clinical Utility of a Machine Learning Framework</i>	Shristi Rawal (SHP)
	1:15-1:25	<i>Artificial Intelligence in Neurorehabilitation: Predicting Recovery and Guiding Personalized Treatment</i>	Soha Saleh (SHP)
	1:25-1:45	Discussion Panel (20 mins) <i>"Ethical and Responsible use of AI in Research: challenges and opportunities"</i> With Q&A	Moderator: Antonina Mitrofanova - Jean-Francois Daneault (SHP) - Nathan Wages (SHP) - Priya Kachroo (SHP) - Katya Ognyanova (School of Communication and Information) - Vivek Singh (Library and Information Science) - TBD - Leslie Lenert (BMIHAL) - Lesia Semenova (SAS) -TBD
1:45 – 2:05	SHP Free Clinics as Living Laboratories		
	Lead: Ryan White		
	1:45-2:05	Discussion Panel (20 mins) <i>"Free Clinics as Living Laboratories: Exploring Educational Scholarship and Collaboration Opportunities"</i> With Q&A	Moderator: Ryan White (SHP) - Frank Giannelli (SHP) - Andrew Lynch (SHP) - Elizabeth DiProspero (SHP)
2:05 – 2:45	Community Engagement as a Centerpiece for Impact		
	Lead: Pamela Rothpletz-Puglia		
	2:05-2:35	SHP Community Engagement Exhibition	Pameal Rothpletz-Puglia (SHP) Thea Cogen-Drew (SHP) Lois Rockson (SHP) Joachim Dzidzor Sackey (SHP) Kristen Victoriano (SHP) Mark Vorensky (SHP) Michelle Zechner (SHP) Aaron Dallman (SHP)
	2:35-2:45	Q and A session <i>"Reflections on the SHP Community Engagement Exhibition"</i>	Moderator: Pamela Rothpletz-Puglia (SHP) - Aaron Dallman (SHP) - Thea Cogen-Drew (SHP) - Lois Rockson (SHP) - Mark Vorensky (SHP) - Michelle Zechner (SHP)
2:45 – 3:10	Workplace Well-Being		
	Lead: Judy Deutsch		
	2:45-3:10	<i>Practical Wellness Session</i>	Judy Deutsch (SHP)

3:10-3:15	Closing remarks	SHP leadership	
3:15-5:00	Poster session	Poster Session and Reception	Wine and cheese reception + live music!