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 50th Anniversary for SHP	Kathleen W. Scotto, RBHS Vice Chancellor for Research Introduction by: SHP Dean Jeffrey DiGiovanni
10:15 - 10:20	SHP Leadership	SHP's 50 Years of Growth	Jeffrey DiGiovanni, SHP Dean
10:20 - 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	Artificial Intelligence in Education		
	Lead: Jessica Gomes		
	10:30-10:35	Introduction	Jessica Gomes (SHP)
	10:35-10:45	Evaluating an AI-Generated Virtual Health Simulator for Experiential Learning in Health Professions Education	Rebecca Brody (SHP)
	10:45-10:55	Beyond the Technology: Faculty Experiences Implementing an AI-Enabled Virtual Healthcare Simulator	Lisa Palladino-Kim & Jennifer Bridenbaugh (SHP)
	10:55-11:15	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) • Nkechi Mbadugha (SHP)
11:15 – 12:00	Discovery to Impact		
	Lead: Aaron Dallman		
	11:15-11:20	Introduction	Aaron Dallman (SHP)
	11:20-11:30	Learning to Change Care: Building a Neuro-Affirming Health System	Aaron Dallman (SHP)
	11:30-11:40	Assessing and disseminating a drug safety profile of Ibogaine use as Research Is Fast-Tracked for Veterans	Barbara Tafuto (SHP)
	11:40-12:00	Discussion Panel (20 mins) "Rocky Road from Discovery to Impact" With Q&A	Moderator: Aaron Dallman (SHP) • Michael Falvo (VA) • Barbara Tafuto (SHP) • Kiera McNair (SHP) • Albert J. Heuer (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	Introduction	Antonina Mitrofanova (SHP)

	1:05-1:15	Automated Meal Detection from Continuous Glucose Monitoring in Gestational Diabetes: Accuracy and Clinical Utility of a Machine Learning Framework	Shristi Rawal (SHP)
	1:15-1:25	Artificial Intelligence in Neurorehabilitation: Predicting Recovery and Guiding Personalized Treatment	Soha Saleh (SHP)
	1:25-1:45	Discussion Panel (20 mins) "Ethical and Responsible use of AI in Research: challenges and opportunities" With Q&A	Introduction: Antonina Mitrofanova Moderator: Vivek Singh (Library and Information Science) • Jean-Francois Daneault (SHP) • Nathan Wages (SHP) • Priya Kachroo (SHP) • Leslie Lenert (BMIHAI) • Lesia Semenova (CS)
1:45 – 2:05	SHP Free Clinics as Living Laboratories		
	Lead: Ryan White		
	1:45-2:05	Discussion Panel (20 mins) "Free Clinics as Living Laboratories: Exploring Educational Scholarship and Collaboration Opportunities" With Q&A	Moderator: Ryan White (SHP) • Frank Giannelli (SHP) • Andrew Lynch (SHP) • Elizabeth DiProspero (SHP) • Stephanie Hubbell (SHP) • Aubrey Daniels (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) • Michelle Zechner (SHP) • Kristen Victoriano (SHP) • Aaron Dallman (SHP) • Lois Rockson (SHP) • Joachim Dzidzor Sackey (SHP) • Mark Vorensky (SHP)
	2:35-2:45	Q and A session "Reflections on the SHP Community Engagement Exhibition"	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		
	2:45-2:48	Brief Overview of Joy at Work Projects at SHP	Judy Deutsch (SHP)

	2:48-2:51	Cultural Harmony Circles: What We Carry Forward	Rhea Banerjee (NC State)
	2:51-3:10	Satsang Community for Wellness and Connection & Wellness Experience- Breath, movement and gratitude practice	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!

Poster Session & Reception

3:15pm- 5:00pm

Location: Trayes Hall, Section A

Poster # 1
A Culturally Tailored Mobile Intervention Among Hispanic Adults for Skin Cancer Prevention: Results from a Randomized Controlled Trial
Zhaomeng Niu
Department of Health Informatics
Authors and Co-Authors: Zhaomeng Niu, Carolyn Heckman, Yonaira Rivera

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Poster # 2
MyCTEJourney - A Digital Toolkit for Helping Students Navigate Educational Resources and Supports
Ni Gao
Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation & Counsel Programs
Authors and Co-Authors: Ni Gao, Clover Hu, Ifrah Akhtar

Poster # 3
Do Psychotic Symptoms Improve as Ptsd Improves? a Longitudinal Study of Psychotic Features among Individuals with Major Depressive Disorder and Co-Occurring Ptsd
Weili Lu
Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation & Counsel Programs
Authors and Co-Authors: Weili Lu, Abigail Malbrough, Carolina Carlsson, Katrina Heller, Krista Rogers, Skylar Moeller, Jaybian Salazar, Kim Mueser

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Poster # 4
Trauma-Related Cognitions and Affective Symptom Burden among Individuals with Major Depressive Disorder and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
Weili Lu
Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation & Counsel Programs
Authors and Co-Authors: Weili Lu, Abigail Malbrough, Carolina Carlsson, Katrina Heller, Krista Rogers, Kim Mueser

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Poster # 5
Trauma-Related Cognitions and Affective Symptom Burden among Individuals with Major Depressive Disorder and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
Weili Lu
Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation & Counsel Programs
Authors and Co-Authors: Abigail Malbrough, Rachel Seo, Weili Lu, Carolina Carlsson, Krista Rogers, Kim Mueser

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Poster # 6
Evaluating the CRISPE Prompt Engineering Framework for Physical Therapy Neck Pain Recommendations
Mark Vorensky
Department of Rehabilitation & Movement Sciences
Authors and Co-Authors: Mark Vorensky, Daniel Peredo, Richard Ferraro, Emily Paris, Paul Spano, Asma Mohammadi, James Scott Parrott

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Poster # 7
Advancing HOPE: Patient Engagement and Student Learning in an Interprofessional Diabetes Education Initiative
Elizabeth Di Prospero
Department of Physician Assistant Studies & Practice and Department of Clinical and Preventive Nutrition Sciences
Authors and Co-Authors: Elizabeth Di Prospero, Patrice Paolella, Frank Giannelli

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Poster # 8
Community Service Reflections: A Quality Assurance Analysis
Thea Cogan-Drew
Department of Physician Assistant Studies & Practice
Authors and Co-Authors: Thea Cogan-Drew, Pamela Rothpletz-Puglia

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Poster # 9
Community Engagement Initiatives at SHP
Pamela Rothpletz-Puglia
Department of Interdisciplinary Studies
Authors and Co-Authors: SHP Strategic Priority 3, Goal 3 Team & Health Disparities Collaboratory Team

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Poster # 10
From Civilian Exposures to Military Risk: An Umbrella Review of Airborne Hazards and Interstitial Lung Disease
J. Scott Parrott
Department of Interdisciplinary Studies
Authors and Co-Authors: Chelsea Rodriguez, Raven Profit, Marissa Coloske, Shobhik Chakraborty, Frederick Coffman, Michael Falvo, Albert Heuer, Kim Klingler, Sarah Levan, Jacqueline Mares, Yingting Zhang, Jens Jap, J. Scott Parrott

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Poster # 11
(How) Can Large Language Models Be Used Effectively for Data Extraction from Complex Epidemiological Studies?
J. Scott Parrott
Department of Interdisciplinary Studies
Authors and Co-Authors: J. Scott Parrott, Giovanni Gallo, Shobhik Chakraborty, Marissa Coloske, Raven Profit

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Poster # 12
Beyond the Bookshelves: Communicating Research Findings to Veterans and Policy Makers
J. Scott Parrott
Department of Interdisciplinary Studies
Authors and Co-Authors: J. Scott Parrott, Raven Profit, Marissa Coloske, Chelsea Rodriguez

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Poster # 13
Evaluating an AI-Generated Virtual Health Simulator for Experiential Learning in Health Professions Education: A Mixed-Methods Pilot Study
Rebecca Brody
Department of Clinical and Preventive Nutrition Science
Authors and Co-Authors: Rebecca Brody, Joy Jia, Dasantila Sherifi, Lisa Palladino-Kim, Derek Malenczak, Stephanie Cochrane, Scott Parrott

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Poster # 14
THE IMPACT OF AN INTERDISCIPLINARY SIMULATION-BASED CPR TRAINING PROGRAM ON SELECTED OUTCOMES
Albert J. Heuer
Department of Interdisciplinary Studies

Authors and Co-Authors: Albert J. Heuer, Janet Reid-Hector, Courtney Steiglitz, Travis Conklin, Cosimo Laterza, Zoltan Nemeth

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Poster # 15
Artificial Intelligence in Neurorehabilitation: Predicting Recovery and Guiding Personalized Treatment
Soha Saleh
Department of Rehabilitation & Movement Sciences
Authors and Co-Authors: Soha Saleh, Sergei Adamovich, Fares Al-Shargie, Michael Glassen

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Poster # 16
Prefrontal 30 Hz tACS Enhances Directed Cortical Network Connectivity During Dual-Task Performance in Older Adults
Fares Al-Shargie
Department of Rehabilitation & Movement Sciences
Authors and Co-Authors: Fares Al-Shargie, Michael Glassen, Adamovich Sergei, Soha Saleh

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Poster # 17
Speech and Arm Combined Exergame (SPACE) Intervention for Children with Cerebral Palsy: Preliminary results
Younghwa Michelle Chang
Department of Rehabilitation & Movement Sciences
Authors and Co-Authors: Younghwa Michelle Chang, Qinyin Qiu, Jigna Patel, Soha Saleh, Hannah Aura Shoval

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Poster # 18
Pairing Binaural Beats with Exergaming: A Feasibility Study of Auditory Neuromodulation During Upper Extremity Rehabilitation
Qinyin Qiu
Department of Rehabilitation & Movement Sciences
Authors and Co-Authors: Qinyin Qiu, Fares Al-Shargie, Gerard Fluet, Soha Saleh, Amanda Gross, Ashley Mont, Mee Eriksson

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Poster # 19
Beyond the Technology: Faculty Experiences Implementing an AI-Enabled Virtual Healthcare Simulator
Lisa Palladino-Kim
Department of Health Informatics
Authors and Co-Authors: Lisa Palladino-Kim, Jennifer Bridenbaugh, Derek Malenczak

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Poster # 20
Non-Pharmacologic Management of Chronic Pain in Persons with HIV (PWH) and A Pilot Study of TENS and Mindfulness Mediation for Neuropathic Pain in PWH
David Kietrys
Department of Rehabilitation & Movement Sciences
Authors and Co-Authors: David Kietrys, Bridgette Atkinson, Judith Barberio, Oonagh Breen, Elizabeth Campione, Richard Ferraro, Mary Lou Galantino, Mina Ghajar, Todd Levin, Andrew Lynch, Roshni Makim, Rahul Mittal, Grace Mullee, Kelly O'Brien, James Scott Parrott, Sara Pullen, Fallon Quigley, Diane Reibel, Adrienne Simonds, Bryan Spinelli, Shobha Swaminathan, Kyle Vader

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Poster # 21
Learning to Change Care: Building a Neuro-Affirming Health System
Aaron Dallman
Department of Rehabilitation & Movement Sciences
Authors and Co-Authors: Aaron Dallman, Gregory Santucci, Adrienne Robertiellor

Poster # 22
Learning from Imprecise Labels: Multiple Instance Learning for Detecting Dyskinesia from Wearable Sensors
Jean-Francois Daneault
Department of Rehabilitation & Movement Sciences
Authors and Co-Authors: Mateus Souza Silva, Jean-Francois Daneault

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Poster # 23
Cross-Cohort Multi-Omic Colocalization Identifies Replicated Genetic–Epigenetic Loci Linked to Lipid Metabolism in Pediatric Asthma
Gbenga Dairo
Department of Health Informatics
Authors and Co-Authors: Gbenga Dairo, Sanghun Lee, Julian Hecker, Kevin Mendez, Rachel S. Kelly, Christoph Lange, Scott T. Weiss, Jessica Lasky-Su, Dawn L. DeMeo, Priyadarshini Kachroo

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Poster # 24
Beyond Ejection Fraction: Machine-Learning Phenotypes of Heart Failure in Real-World Patients
Priyadarshini Kachroo
Department of Health Informatics
Authors and Co-Authors: Priyadarshini Kachroo and Sajeev Singh

Acknowledgments

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- Michele Sisco

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Soha Saleh	Nima Toosizadeh
Nathan Wages	Qinyin Qiu
Priya Kachroo	Aaron Dallman

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