President's Perspective

The historical parallels comparing the development of a vaccine for polio in the 1950s and the current efforts to find one for COVID-19 is the topic of this month’s column by President Milone-Nuzzo.

Provost's Post

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Alex Johnson has written a new post: “You Don’t Have to Be Black to Be Enraged.”

IHP Receives 10-Year Accreditation from NECHE

The New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) has granted the MGH Institute “Continued in Accreditation” status for the next 10 years. This means the Commission determined that the institution remains in compliance with the Commission’s Standards for Accreditation as a result of its review of the institution’s self-study, the report of the evaluation team, and the response of the institution to the team report. In the coming weeks, we will receive a letter confirming this status, along with action steps for our 5-year Interim Report due in 2025.

New Trustees on Board

The Board of Trustees has added four members, two of whom are new and two who are rejoining after an absence. The two new Trustees are Thomas P. Glynn, PhD (top left), chief executive officer of the Harvard Allston Land Company, and Phil DiBuono, CPA (top right), director in the RSM Transaction Advisory Services practice in Charlestown. Rejoining the board are John H. “Joe” Knowles (bottom left), CEO of the Institute for Health Metrics, and Angelleen Peters-Lewis, PhD, RN, FAAN (bottom right), VP, patient care services, and chief nursing executive of Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, MO.

9th Annual Community Day Goes Virtual

The MGH Institute’s ninth annual Community Day took place as scheduled this year. But there was a twist. All of the activities, aimed at serving local nonprofits and building community between students, took place virtually.

Post-Professional OTD Program Begins

The first cohort of the new post-professional Doctor of Occupational Therapy program begins this fall with 10 occupational therapists who will be pursuing the profession’s highest degree.
A Community-Building Virtual Race Without Borders

More than 120 students, faculty, staff, and alumni participated in a 5K that raised $2,455 for the COVID-19 Student Emergency Fund.

A Capstone Project, Broadcasted

Eliza du Pont, a second-year OTD student, took a unique approach to doing her capstone project by creating Bridging the Gap, a podcast in which she facilitates thought-provoking discussions about life after neurological injury and equips listeners with the tools to work toward a better future.

Student Activities

A Virtual Welcome for New and Returning Students

The Student Government Association partnered with the offices of Student and Alumni Services, Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, and Alumni Relations to hold 10 events September 21-25 as part of Welcome Week for new and returning students. The activities were: Beyond Surviving Zoom – Thriving Online; Career Development Workshop – LinkedIn Strategies for Profile Development and Networking; Minorities Engaged in Dialogue and Service (MEDS) Chill-Out Session; Pronouns 101 Workshop; IHP Acts of Service Social; KinslHP Virtual Games and Club Info; OSAS Bingo Night; Student for Racial Justice in Health Care (SRJH) Virtual Games and Club Info; SGA Carnival-Themed Fall Mixer; and the IHP Musicians' Virtual Karaoke.

Students Spearhead Voting Initiative

IHP Votes, an initiative spearheaded by students in the CSD, OT, and PT programs, are working with VoteRX, a voting initiative, to help people check their registration status and how to register, learn how to submit their ballot, and find more information on how to participate in the upcoming November 3 election.

Recognizing Constitution Day

IHP Votes and the Office of Student and Alumni Services teamed up to recognize Constitution Day on Thursday, September 17. Virtual and on-campus activities included a pocket Constitution station, a fun and informative quiz on the Student Life Instagram account, and a Padlet with additional resources to learn about Constitution Day and the U.S. government.

Baugh Lecture Focuses on Racial Literacy
Dr. Howard C. Stevenson (left) presented the E. Lorraine Baugh Visiting Faculty Scholar Lecture, “The Lion’s Story Reckoning: Disrupting Dehumanization with Racial Literacy” on September 21. Dr. Stevenson is executive director of the Racial Empowerment Collaborative, a research, program development, and training center that brings together community leaders, researchers, authority figures, families, and youth to study and promote racial literacy and health in schools and neighborhoods.

**Educating the Future Front Line – The IHP Today**

“Educating the Future Front Line – The IHP Today” on October 22 is a virtual event to support scholarships at the IHP. The featured speaker will be Michael Brenner, a professor at Harvard University, who will present his work on developing a Google app for aphasia patients by partnering with Jordan R. Green, director of the Institute’s Speech and Feeding Disorders Lab. To register for the free event, please email Amy Doherty.

**Team IHP Completes Virtual Boston Marathon**

Despite a five-month delay due to the coronavirus pandemic, Team IHP members Dr. Kim Erler, PhD ’17 (right) and Jordan Griffiths, CSD ’19, completed the virtual Boston Marathon in September. Erler and Griffiths raised more than $10,000 to support student scholarships/financial aid and the Dr. Charles A. and Ann Sanders IMPACT Practice Center, respectively.

**Faculty News**

**Christodoulou Hosts Trainings on Reading During COVID-19**

Dr. Joanna Christodoulou, director of the BEAM Team and an associate professor of CSD, was involved in several events supporting educators on their return to a new academic year. She co-led a sold-out webinar on “Improving Reading With Executive Functions: Cognitive Skills, the Summer Slide, and COVID” on September 18 through the education conference organization Learning & the Brain; provided district-wide training to over 200 practitioners in the Cambridge Public School District on screening for at-risk readers in early elementary school grades; and provided school-wide training to educators and practitioners at the Landmark School on assessing reading skills among students with language-based learning disabilities. She also participated in the Global Science of Learning Education Network’s “Global Connections Between COVID, Poverty, and Science of Learning” on August 27.

**Erler Gets Scholarship Award**

Kimberly Erler, PhD ’17, an assistant professor of occupational therapy, received the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine Brain Injury Interdisciplinary Special Interest Group Travel Scholarship Award to attend the 97th ACRM Virtual Annual Conference.
Simmonds to Receive Award from Women’s Health Organization

Dr. Kathy Simmonds, an associate professor of nursing, will receive the Inspiration Award in Women’s Health - Research from the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health on October 16. Simmonds, who has been track coordinator of the Women’s Health and Adult-Gerontology/Women’s Health NP Specialties since 2007, will receive one of the highest honors among women’s health nurse practitioners.

Researching Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

A grant from two private funders will allow Dr. Elise Townsend, associate director of the PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences program and an associate professor of PT, and PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences student Michael Kiefer to improve the understanding of DMD motor function trajectories and outcome measures for clinical trial design and interpretation.

Two HPEd Faculty Appointed to Posts

Dr. Janice Palaganas (left), associate director of health professions education, was appointed as secretary of the Society for Simulation in Healthcare, beginning in January 2021. Dr. BA White (right), an adjunct associate professor, was named president of the Innovation and Leadership Special Interest Group, Southern Group on Educational Affairs, of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

IHP Scholarship, Research, & News

**Health Professions Education**


**Nursing**


**Occupational Therapy**


**New Employee**

**Timothy DeLuca**
Doctoral Research Fellow
Speech and Language (SAI) Literacy Lab

**Virtual Library Support**

The Janis P. Bellack Library and Study Commons may be closed, but librarians are still available to provide you with research and assignment support. Send us your questions or book an online research consultation. We are also offering no-contact pickup for physical library materials. See our website for all of the details and to request materials. Additionally, more e-textbooks have recently been added to the e-course reserves. See the list.

**Shop and Support the IHP**

Support the IHP all year long by shopping with AmazonSmile. Just sign in to your Amazon or Amazon Prime account and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.05% of the proceeds from your qualifying purchases to the IHP. Contact Christopher Bjork in the Office of Development for more information.

**Looking for Stories from the Field**

The Student Government Association's Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow Committee, in collaboration with the Alumni Relations Department, would like to collaborate with you on a new initiative. This endeavor, through the sharing of your stories from the field, aims to bring life to the black-and-white pages of student textbooks. It also seeks to connect students, alumni, faculty, and clinical supervisors to each other through the sharing of paths taken or not, opportunities realized, and experiences that will be remembered for a lifetime. The stories will then be included in a standalone e-publication that will be sent out in spring 2021. Please submit your story by Thursday, December 31.

**Feedback, Tips, Ideas, Etc.**

If you have any news, tips, or ideas for the Yardarm, please fill out a Communications ticket, and email Yardarm editor John Shaw with any questions. View past editions.

**Calendar**

10/22: "Educating the Future Front Line – The IHP Today," 5:00 p.m.
10/26: "What's at Stake? Health Implications of the Election," Noon
10/30: Child Development Day
10/30: Leading Across Professions 2020: Building Trust and Reframing Conflict in Interprofessional Teams, 10:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

View more events on the Institute's Master Calendar.

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**Please submit suggestions or comments about any issue at the IHP to President Milone-Nuzzo's online suggestion box, Institute Input.**