

# Institute for Health Equity and Social Justice Research

MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

## Upcoming Events

**Works in Progress Series:** A space to learn about our colleagues' work and discuss and provide feedback. This event will be virtual. Below are the doctoral student presenters for our May Works in Progress session:

1. Cynthia Orofo will cover a dissertation study that evaluates how a Community Health Worker program supports adults with cardiovascular disease by taking an implementation science perspective and mixed methods approach, guided by the PRISM Framework.
2. Samuel Carr will discuss how adults are promoting physical activity and making physical activity spaces more gender inclusive and affirming for transgender and gender expansive (TGE) youth. Samuel will dive into factors facilitating engagement of TGE youth and best practices for practitioners.

**Date/time: May 23rd from 12-1 PM**

**[Virtual meeting link](#)**

**Zoom meeting ID: 952 7827 4380 | Passcode: 762591**

## Publications and Presentations

Salus Populi, with the support of many current and former research assistants, had a blog posted in the Bill of Health, a health policy and law blog by the Petrie-Flom Center at Harvard Law School. The piece, [linked here](#), is about evaluating the Salus Populi judicial education program on the social drivers of health.

Dr. Tiffany Joseph, an IHESJR Faculty Scholar, has had two recent publications. The first is an op-ed/comment in the journal *Nature* titled, "Citizenship Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Academic Mobility Knapsack," [linked here](#). This work explores the immigration bureaucracy researchers in the global south face compared to the citizenship privilege researchers in the global north often possess and ways to counteract the inequity.

The second publication is titled "Challenges to Transforming Narratives and Seeing Others." It is an invited book review for esteemed sociologist Michèle Lamont's new book, *Seeing Others*, part of a book review symposium in the *Ethnic and Racial Studies Review* journal. In her review, [linked here](#), Dr. Joseph notes challenges that make it difficult to transform narratives in our complex social world.

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A number of IHESJR-affiliated researchers recently had an article published titled "Health education to promote knowledge about sickle cell disease and newborn screening in pregnant women: a community-based pilot study using the healthy beginning initiative." The work, [linked here](#), was published in the journal *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*. Collaborators included Dr. Lorraine Lacroix-Williamson, a former Population Health PhD student; Drs. Beth Molnar and John Olawepo, IHESJR Faculty Scholars; and Madeline Gully and Maisha Tomo Rose Gregory, former Health Equity Interns.

## Institute News and Updates

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Congratulations to the IHESJR Faculty Scholars (bolded below) who have received this year's Tier 1 awards:

- Improving Health Sciences Education with Virtual Reality: Investigating Interactivity and Learning
  - Project Leads: **Dr. Leanne Chukoskie**, Dr. Eileen McGivney, Dr. Heidi Cheerman
- Health at All Scales: Innovating a Multi-modal Rural Healthcare System
  - Project Leads: **Dr. Sara Carr**, **Dr. Katherine Simmonds**, **Dr. Tiana Yom**, Michael Arnold Mages, Dr. Susan Mello

[Click here](#) for the full list of FY25 research development Tier 1 Grants awarded.

Dr. Idia Thurston, Associate Director of the IHESJR, was featured in a *Northeastern Global News* article titled "Does Hollywood have a pain problem? Study of Netflix finds that depictions of pain in TV and movies could be reinforcing stereotypes." In the article, Dr. Thurston discusses how the notable differences in how characters of different genders and races experience and respond to pain in adolescent media impact stereotypes. The *Northeastern Global News* article can be found [here](#).

## Self-Care Spotlight

♥ A resource to consider using to center your wellbeing and care for yourself. ♥

### Tranquil Tuesdays

#### Yoga & Meditation

Relax and Recharge on Tranquil Tuesdays - Join us for Yoga & Meditation Sessions

**Meditation:**  
**12:00 - 12:30 PM**

**Yoga:**  
**4:00 - 4:45 PM**

May 7th - August 13th



Northeastern University  
Center for Spirituality,  
Dialogue, and Service  
**CSDS**



Starting Tuesday May 7th and continuing through Tuesday August 13th, Northeastern's Center for Spirituality, Dialogue, and Service will be holding free Guided Meditation and Yoga each Tuesday during Summer 1 and Summer 2 except for breaks and/or holidays.

Meditation will be held 12-12:30 PM ET and Yoga will be held from 4-4:45 PM in the Sacred Space, 200 Ell Hall.

Note: These are in person events held on the Boton campus open to all NU community members.



# Mentorship Opportunity for Recent PhDs

Dr. Idia Thurston and fellow collaborators received a new grant from the British Academy in the United Kingdom supporting a mentorship program for early career Social Psychologists and Social Scientists.

The program is currently looking for applications! The deadline to apply is May 9th. Please see the below flyer and the linked application for more information.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Dr. Thurston at [i.thurston@northeastern.edu](mailto:i.thurston@northeastern.edu). Please also feel free to refer this opportunity to folks who may be interested in the program!

## 2-year long Academic Mentorship Programme for Social Psychologists & Social Scientists -funded by the British Academy, UK

### Vision:

- ✓ To effectively tackle systemic barriers facing African scholars within the current publishing ecosystem. To achieve this vision, we take a decolonial, non-extractive, diversity-valuing, humanising approach to our mentorship.

### Outcomes:

- Support each participant to publish 1 article in a high impact journal.
- Collaboratively write 1 joint grant application.
- Expose participants to a large and international collaborative network that will provide career advancement support beyond this programme.

### Impact:

- ✓ We will facilitate direct dialogue between participants and chief editors of major international journals with the aim to work toward fostering a more inclusive, decolonial publishing ecosystem.

### The mentorship is for you if you are...

- An early career (PhD completion within the last 15 yrs) in Social Psychology or broader Social Sciences.
- Based in Ethiopia, South Africa, or Uganda.
- Of the global majority: Black, Brown, or those who identify as Multiple-Heritage.

[Click Here to APPLY](#)

Submit your application no later than 12:00 pm (S. African time), May 9, 2024

### Peers/Organisers



Dr Masi Noor,  
Keele University, UK



Prof Peace Kiguwa,  
University of the Witwatersrand, SA



Prof Idia Thurston,  
Northeastern University, US



Prof Kevin Durrheim  
University of Johannesburg, SA

# Call for Visual and Written Works

The LIGHT program is doing an open call for artwork and written works centered around the theme “How might we create healthy spaces and places for all?” There are also cash prizes for the winners! Scan the QR code below for more information, and be sure to submit by May 15th if interested.

More on LIGHT: Leaders Igniting Generational Healing and Transformation (LIGHT) is a collaboration between faculty at Northeastern University, led by Dr. Idia Thurston, and Washington University, led by Dr. Juliet Iwelunmor. LIGHT focuses on generating healing and transformation by centering people and communities first in health conversations and actions. This is accomplished by publishing fiction, non-fiction, poetry, art, letters, and other literary works from authors and artists, particularly those underrepresented in public health spaces.

**DEADLINE EXTENDED: May 15**

LIGHT: LEADERS IGNITING GENERATIONAL HEALING & TRANSFORMATION

**OPEN CALL**



ART - LETTERS - STORIES - POETRY

**Using art, letters, stories, and poetry, tell us: how might we create healthy spaces and places for all?**

Prize: 1st - \$500, 2nd - \$375, 3rd - \$125 in each category

CONTACT: [INFO@LIGHT4PH.ORG](mailto:INFO@LIGHT4PH.ORG)



**TRANSFORM** RESEARCH CENTER  IN COLLABORATION WITH TRANSFORM RESEARCH CENTER - UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER 

# Recent Institute Happenings

Congratulations to all of the Institute's past and present Health Equity Interns who presented at the Research, Innovation, Scholarship, and Entrepreneurship (RISE) Expo on April 11th! With support from IHESJR Faculty Scholars and Research Advisors during the school year, these students did an incredible job showcasing their hard work. [Click here](#) for the list of IHESJR-affiliated presentations and presenters. Please see the below collage showcasing Health Equity Interns and/or their presentations.





Pictured (left to right): Dr. Beth Molnar, Director of the Violence Prevention and Trauma Studies Team and BARCC board member; Megan Souza, Population Health PhD Student; Daphney Mirand, Project Manager for the Molnar Violence and Trauma Research Lab; Dr. Amantia Ametaj, IHESJR Research Scientist, and her son; Sebastian Caicedo, Spring 2024 IHESJR Co-op; Samruddhi Patil, IHESJR Events and Marketing Coordinator

On Sunday, April 21st, a handful of IHESJR staff, under the team name “Health Equity Huskies,” attended the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center’s (BARCC’s) Walk for Change event at Constitution Beach. The team walked a pleasant 2.8-mile loop along the East Boston Greenway, showcasing their support for ending sexual violence and supporting survivors. The team raised \$606 to enable BARCC to continue to provide free, trauma-informed care to sexual violence survivors and advocate for policy change that centers on prevention.