

# DHERN October 2023 Newsletter

Thank you to our presenters and all of our attendees for making the first DHERN conference so informative! As an update relevant to our discussion, [the NIH National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities has designated people with disabilities as a Health Disparities Population](#)! Learn more at [this Washington Post article](#). We greatly appreciate your advocacy in this important matter.

## DHERN Announcements

1. Dr. Kathleen Bogart joins us **for our upcoming meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2-3pm Eastern**! Don't miss her talk, "Rare in common: Mental and physical health disparities in diverse rare disorders" and register here: <https://syracuseuniversity.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlqdu6rqT4vGdyfSaeVNW5hb5CZxenicrFM>
2. Nominate an undergrad, grad student, or post doc researcher for the DHERN 2023 Paper Award Competition!
  - a. We will provide two awards to papers related to disability health equity, broadly defined. The nominee must be an undergraduate student, graduate student, or a postdoctoral researcher at the time of paper acceptance or publication, and must be the first author on the paper (co-authorship is permitted with student or faculty co-author(s)). The paper must have been published or accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal in 2022 or 2023.
  - b. Each awardee will receive \$500 and will present a summary of their paper at the DHERN meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, 2:00-3:00pm ET.
  - c. One entry is permitted per nominee. Self-nominations will be accepted. The deadline for nominations is 5:00pm on Friday, December 1, 2023.
  - d. Email paper and nomination letter to [sdlandes@syr.edu](mailto:sdlandes@syr.edu).
3. Share your recent publications, upcoming events, job opportunities with the DHERN community! To contribute to the next newsletter, please send the following details to us at [ccerill1@jhu.edu](mailto:ccerill1@jhu.edu) by the 28th.
  - Name:
  - Email address for contact:
  - Twitter handle for contact and/or organization:
  - Details (for event or opportunity, include a brief description no more than 3 lines with dates and necessary links; for publication, include the full citation and an abstract):
  - Link for more information/publication:

## Opportunities

- **EVENTS**

- [Abnormal No More: A DARN Conference on Incorporating Disability into the Teaching of Psychology](#), Oct 6-7, 2023
  - Psychology educators work to promote understanding of the breadth of the human experience, yet the largest minority group, disability, is underrepresented in our curricula. Join us for a free two-day virtual conference for psychology educators to learn about cutting edge research, theory, and pedagogy related to teaching about disability. This conference is hosted by Disability Advocacy and Research Network (DARN), a collective for psychologists who have and/or specialize in disability.

- **GRANTS**

- a. With the NIMHD designation, they have also announced an R01 (Clinical Trials Optional) grant opportunity, [Health and Health Care Disparities Among Persons Living with Disabilities](#). The NOFO is to support novel and innovative research that examines and/or intervenes on the underlying and multilevel causes, pathways, and factors adversely impacting the health and well-being of persons with disabilities at the intersections of race and ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. Open date is January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- b. [Understanding and Mitigating Health Disparities experienced by People with Disabilities caused by Ableism](#) (R01 Clinical Trial Optional). The goal of this NOFO is to encourage research to understand the impact of ableism on health outcomes. Research on the underlying mechanisms by which ableism adversely influences the health of persons with disabilities (PWD), as well as developing and/or testing interventions at a community or health systems level to mitigate adverse health effects of ableism are high priority.

- **POLICY**

- a. Provide a Public Comment for the proposed rule from HHS, [Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability](#), which clarifies Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act to make clear that discrimination does not belong in health care, child care, and other federally funded spaces.
  - The Center for American Progress has [compiled this toolkit](#) to support all to draft a Comment.
- b. Respond to the Request for Information from the National Institutes of Health titled, [“Inviting Comments and Suggestions on Updating the NIH Mission Statement.”](#) The proposed revised mission statement will remove the aim to “reduce... disability.”

- **MEDIA**

- a. The Providence "Health Equity in Action" Podcast is a new podcast focused on healthcare experiences in underserved and/or marginalized communities. An upcoming series will focus on disability and will explore the challenges people with disabilities face in healthcare. To better understand disability health equity, and to hear directly from people with lived experience, [we've designed a 1-question survey](#). If you opt in, we may reach out for more information and/or to ask if we can record the story for our podcast. If recorded, participants will receive compensation for their time. Recordings will be conducted and edited in collaboration with people with disabilities.
- **CALL FOR PAPERS:**
  - a. A team of Disability Advocacy and Research Network (DARN) members are editing a special issue of Teaching of Psychology on [Creating an Anti-Ableist Psychology Curriculum and Teaching Environment](#). Deadline: February 1st, 2024.
    - People with disability represent roughly 1 in 6 of the population and comprise a large, yet understudied and underrepresented, minority group in psychology. There is an urgent need for pedagogical methods and techniques which challenge ableist systems and biases. Likewise, approaches to enhance the educational experience for both students and faculty with disabilities is an important topic for consideration.
  - b. Drs. Lesley Tarasoff and Hilary Brown are Co-Guest Editors for a special collection for [Archives of Women's Mental Health](#) on Disability and Mental Health Across the Reproductive Life Course. [The call for papers can be found here](#). The submission deadline is November 30, 2023.
    - Seeking original research, systematic reviews, and short communications investigating mental health outcomes and mental health care experiences among women with disabilities related to the menstrual cycle, fertility/conception and pregnancy, postpartum and parenting, and the menopausal transition. We will consider quantitative study designs on populations with physical, vision, hearing, and intellectual or developmental disabilities. We encourage the submission of interdisciplinary studies, studies that examine the intersections of ableism and other forms of oppression such as racism, and studies from all global contexts.
  - c. [Special Issue on Autism and Aging: A Lifespan Approach](#) in [Autism in Adulthood](#). This special issue will address the dearth of published research on older Autistic adults by focusing on autism and aging. Authors are encouraged to explore Autistic experience in adulthood and later life from a variety of frameworks and approaches, including those that use a biopsychosocial perspective or build upon social or social relational models of disability, rights-based models, the neurodiversity paradigm, or models of social inclusion.

- Submission deadline for this special issue is January 15, 2024, through the Autism in Adulthood online submission system. Visit the journal website to view more on information for authors including manuscript guidelines, information on available author services, and publication costs.

## **DHERN Member Publications**

- Jennifer Manganello announces she has been selected for the Rockefeller Institute of Government 2023-34 Richard P. Nathan Public Policy Fellowship! She will focus on reducing health inequities for children with disabilities by promoting recommendations to improve information, services, and systems.

## **Disability and Health Journal Featured Article**

- Holm, M. E., Kiviruusu, O., Helenius, J., & Sainio, P. (2023). [Population-level changes in anxiety and depression and the unmet need for support at school among adolescents with and without disabilities, 2017–2021: The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.](#) Disability and Health Journal, 101540.
  - Analysis of population-based, cross-sectional data from the Finnish School Health Promotion study of lower secondary school students from 2017, 2019, and 2021 shows the overall increased prevalence of anxiety and mobility among adolescents was higher among adolescents with cognitive and mobility disabilities and lower among adolescents with sensory disabilities as compared to peers without disabilities. The increased prevalence of unmet need for support was similar for those with and without disabilities, though adolescents with mobility disabilities had a greater unmet need for social workers and psychologists. There is an urgent need for resources and targeted support to prevent anxiety and depression among adolescents with mobility and cognitive disabilities.