I want to congratulate School of Health Information Science students, support staff and faculty on completing another successful and productive academic year. This academic year was busy with the return to face to face classes for on-campus students and also for our graduate students who have been working to support healthcare across Canada during the pandemic. In this issue we highlight the research and practice in the area of Public Health Informatics.

- **Andre Kushniruk,** Director and Professor of the School of Health Information Science

News and Events

Virtual Mini-Conference:
Health Information Exchange Standards

Join us for a 2 half day virtual mini-conference on **Health Information Exchange Standards - Approaches, Applications and Implications**, hosted by **Dr. Francis Lau.**

May 18-19th, 2022 @ 9AM-12PM PT
Register now!

For more details visit here

Workshop: Usability Testing and Human Factors Evaulation to Design Better Healthcare Information Technology

The **Women's Health Research Institute (WHRI)** and the **BC Children's Hospital Research Institute (BCCHR)** are collaborating to host a digital health education series, every first Thursday of the month. This months digital health workshop will focus on **usability testing and human factors evaluation to design better healthcare information technology (HIT)**. The 2-part workshop will be held – May 5 and 12 from 12:00-1:30pm, **Dr. Andre Kushniruk** and **Dr. Elizabeth Boryck** will be the speakers.

Register now!

Research In The News

Dr. Kushniruk is working on the Canadian Institutes for Health Research funded cross-Canada project **Comparing and Modelling COVID-19 Supply Chain Response** (involving digitization and analytics for decision support).

Andre Kushniruk, Elizabeth Borycki, Simon Minshal and **Henry Oluka** are working on a research collaboration with researchers from the State University of New York, New York and Columbia University, New York on a grant entitled "**Evaluating and Enhancing Health Information Technology for COVID-19 Response Workflow in a Specialized COVID-19 Medically Underserved Community**".

Awards and Recognitions

Congratulations to Faculty and Students of School of Health Information Science: **Francis Lau, Karen Courtney and Kelly Davison, Kareen Hall**, on their work on Canada Health Infoway on the Social Determinants of Health. Their work includes developing practices and strategies for implementing social determinants of health concepts and digital health systems.

Faculty and Student Publications

Public Health Informatics: Dashboards

Monkman, H., Martin, S. Z., Minshall, S., **Kushniruk, A. W.**, & Lesselroth, B. J. (2021). Opportunities to Improve COVID-19 Dashboard Designs for the Public. Studies in health technology and informatics, 286, 16–20. https://doi.org/10.3233/SHTI210628

Public Health Informatics: Decision Support

Chrimes D, Zamani H, Spenser C, Westwood A (2021) Decision-Support Expert System to Assess Severe COVID-19. COVID-19 Pandemic: Case Studies & Opinions 02(03): 279–303. https://researchinfotext.com/article-details/Decision-Support-Expert-System-to-Assess-Severe-COVID-19

Public Health Informatics: Evidence-based Research

Fernandez-Luque, L., **Kushniruk, A. W.**, Georgiou, A., Basu, A., Petersen, C., Ronquillo, C., Paton, C., Nøhr, C., Kuziemsky, C. E., Alhuwail, D., Skiba, D., Huesing, E., Gabarron, E., Borycki, E. M., Magrabi, F., Denecke, K., Peute, L., Topaz, M., Al-Shorbaji, N., Lacroix, P., … Zhu, X. (2020). Evidence-Based Health Informatics as the Foundation for the COVID-19 Response: A Joint Call for Action. Methods of information in medicine, 59(6), 183–192. https://doi.org/10.1055/s-0041-1726414

Public Health Informatics: Consumer Informatics

Monkman, H., Kushniruk, A. W., Parush, A., & Lesselroth, B. J. (2021). Information Chaos: An Adapted Framework Describing Citizens' Experiences with Information During COVID-19. Studies in health technology and informatics, 286, 26–30. https://doi.org/10.3233/SHTI210630

Public Health Informatics: Social Media

Griffith, J., Marani, H., & **Monkman, H.** (2021). COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Canada: Content Analysis of Tweets Using the Theoretical Domains Framework. Journal of medical Internet research, 23(4), e26874. https://doi.org/10.2196/26874

Public Health Informatics: Supply Chain

Zhang, J., Mitchell, C., **Kushniruk, A.**, & Guitouni, A. (2022, February). Facing

disruption: Learning from the healthcare supply chain responses in British Columbia during the COVID-19 pandemic. In Healthcare Management Forum (p. 08404704211058968). Sage CA: Los Angeles, CA: SAGE Publications.

Public Health Informatics: Virtual Care and Safety

Borycki, E. M., **Kushniruk, A. W.**, **Kletke, R.**, Vimarlund, V., Senathirajah, Y., & Quintana, Y. (2021). Enhancing Safety During a Pandemic Using Virtual Care Remote Monitoring Technologies and UML Modeling. Yearbook of medical informatics, 30(1), 264–271. https://doi.org/10.1055/s-0041-1726485
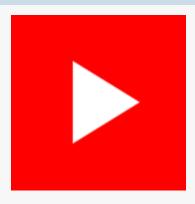
Faculty Presentations

Dr. Dillon Chrimes was invited to speak about using **dashboard software with open source datasets** as learning tool for the: Let's Talk About Teaching (LTAT) 2021 Teaching Series . His talk was entitled "**Establishing Learning by Creating a Health Informatics Decision-Support Dashboard Using Software**"

https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/TeachAnywhere/2021/07/02/ltat2021-schedule/#day1

Professional Development

Borycki, E. spoke about: **Virtual care in a Post-Covid Era: The future of healthcare is digital.** Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health. University of Victoria, Canada.

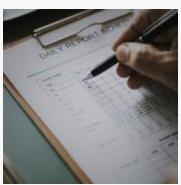https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lsCe7V8hFUQ

Books, Tools and Toolkits: A Focus on Public Health Informatics

Reza Zarei, **Mu-Hsing Kuo**. Design and Development of a Web-based Self-monitoring System to Support Wellness Coaching. Studies in Health Technology and Informatics 234 (2017), 401-406. (Medline)

Kivuti-Bitok, L.W., McDonnell, G., **Roudsari, A.**, Pokhariya, G.P. (2014). System dynamics model of cervical cancer vaccination and screening interventions in Kenya. Journal of Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation, 12(26).
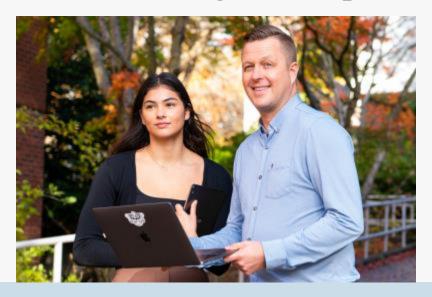
Mussavi Rizi, S.A. & **Roudsari, A.** (2013). Development of a public health reporting data warehouse: lessons learned. Studies in Health Technology and Informatics, 192, 861-5.

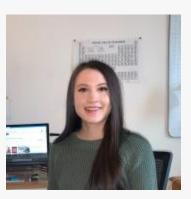# Teaching Innovations in Public Health Informatics

Simon Minshall teaches Programming for Health Care, a course that instructs students who are new to computer programming, about methods of visualization typically featured in the display of public health data. Students learn how to create interactive, compelling, and accurate visualizations in a series of easy-to-learn web application projects. Senior students report that methods learned in their early computer programming courses within the school, are used during their co-op program requirements.
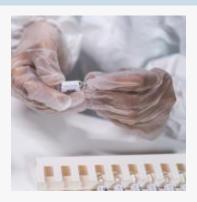
Experiential Learning and Co-op

Featured Co-op Students

Rachelle van Raamsdonk is a 4th year student working with the Domestic Vector-Borne Diseases Technical Team at The Public Health Agency of Canada. The Domestic Vector-Borne Diseases Technical Team mainly consists of epidemiologists who are responsible for the surveillance of tick and mosquito-borne disease cases in Canada (e.g. Lyme Disease and West Nile Disease).

Tianna Smids-Dyk, a 21-year-old student born and raised within walking distance to campus, is now in the BSc degree with the School of Health Information Science. She worked for the Red Cross at Island Health's Lake Cowichan clinic, held at the local community centre, gathering and inputting client information into the Island Health data management system.

Co-op Hiring

Considering a Co-op student? Typical Health Information Science Co-op jobs include:

+ Business applications analyst
+ Clinical applications student
+ Go-live support
+ Health business consultant
+ Health data analyst
+ Health systems analyst

The hiring process is simple. If you are interested in learning more about hiring please contact the Health Information Science Co-op office hiscoop@uvic.ca

Co-op Funding Opportunities

Co-op Funding Update: BioTalent
The Federal government's Student Work Placement Program (SWPP) provides up to 50% of the student's wages (to a maximum of $5,000) or 70% (to a maximum of $7,000) for students from underrepresented groups which includes female STEM students, first year students, indigenous students, student with a disability, visible minorities and newcomers to Canada.

SWPP has 12 funding partners who deliver the funding across Canada based on industry sector. Each funding partner has different application processes and there are some slight differences in criteria.

- Consider applying to [BioTalent Canada](#)

Employers, uncertain if your job qualifies? Contact Colleen at 1-866-243-2472, ext. 218 or askme@biotalent.ca

- You have to apply for the funding before the student starts their job.
- Multiple grants are possible eg. Hire two students and receive two grants.
- Student eligibility: This Federal program is only available to students who are Canadian citizens, Permanent Residents or students who have refugee status. International students are not eligible for this funding.

Employers have told us that the application process takes 15-20 minutes to complete. Grants are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis so you are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. Should you not find a suitable student for your position, simply inform the funding partner that you do not need the grant.

Educational Program Deadlines

Health Terminology Standards Graduate Certificate

Apply by June 1st 2022 for September 2022 entry
[Read more](#) and [Apply Now](#)

Undergraduate Degree Admission

Learn more about:

- BSc in Health Information Science
- BSc in Health Information Science and Computer Science

Apply by September 30th 2022 for January 2023 entry
[Read more](#) and [Apply Now](#)

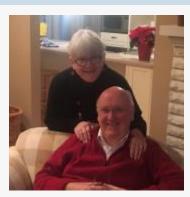or contact his@uvic.ca for application information

Graduate Degree Admission

Learn more about:

- MSc in Health Informatics
- Master of Nursing and MSc in Health Informatics
- PhD in Health Informatics

Apply by December 1st 2022 for September 2023 entry
[Read more](#) and [Apply Now](#)

Donors

Denis and Pat Protti Endowment Award

In 2004, a group of generous donors came together to honour Denis and Pat Protti's contributions to the Canadian healthcare system.

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We acknowledge and respect the ləkʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory the University of

Victoria stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

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