News and Events

Informations Sessions

Join us for our School's Fall 2021 Open House, Thursday, November 4th @ 4:30 PM,

Zoom Link: https://uvic.zoom.us/j/89905893451
Meeting ID: 899 0589 3451

Seminar Series

Practical Applications of Ontologies within EMR Systems

Join us for our seminar with speaker Dr. Sina Madani, PhD, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, on Practical Applications of Ontologies within EMR Systems, October 27th @ 12PM PST
Zoom Link: https://uvic.zoom.us/j/82249193386
Meeting ID: 822 4919 3386

Awards and Recognitions

Congratulations to Our VADA Data Science Trainees!
Amanda Joseph is passionate about health system reform and the intersection of where health informatics can be utilized to create positive change in the healthcare landscape. Her research interests include process improvement in healthcare, patient safety, robotics, usability engineering and human factors.

Amy Kim will use machine learning and drug consumption data to evaluate individuals' risk of opioid use based on their Five Factor Model personality profiles. Her research is centered around the opioid crisis in Canada and the continuous integration of AI into the field of mental health care.

Lisa Shah’s research will focus on quantifying the electronic medical record (EMR) documentation-related burden faced by Canadian physicians. This will be followed by investigating how EMR usability improvements can decrease the cognitive load and documentation-related burden of Canadian physicians.

Evangeline Wagner is a Master’s student at the University of Victoria studying Health Information Science in British Columbia. She is a research analyst for the Global Laboratory of Digital Health Innovation, and her interests include technological assisted living, patient safety, public health and the use of robotics in healthcare.

Congratulations to VADA Data Science Faculty!
Dr. Dillion Chrimes VADA Data Science program work focused on Data, Dashboards and Predicting Usability of Electronic Health Records with linear modeling. Neural regression via machine learning application improved the model correlation. Dr. Chrimes is now a member of the VADA Program Advisory Committee.

Dr. Abdul Roudsari’s research is focused on advanced and intelligent methods for the acquisition, processing, integration and interpretation of patient data from the Electronic Health Record, lifestyle and environmental data, and has joined the VADA Data Science Faculty.

Congratulations on Patient Informatics Leadership!

Congratulations to Dr. Francis Lau, Professor, School of Health Information Science who is spearheading a webinar series on “Advancing the Science of Patient-Centred Measurement in Team-Based Care” see- https://www.bcahsn.ca/initiatives/methods-clusters/patient-centred-measurement/patient-generated-data for the BC Academic Health Sciences Network.

Congratulations on Appointments to the Quality, Safety and Outcomes Track Leaders for MedInfo 2021!

Congratulations to Dr. Elizabeth Borycki, Professor in the School of Health Information Science and Dr. Andre Kushniruk, Director of the School of Health Information Science.
Information Science on their appointment and work as the track chairs for Quality, Safety and Outcomes for the International Medical Informatics Association Conference - MedInfo’s 2021 “One World, One Health: Global Partnership for Digital Innovation” Conference – see https://imia-medinfo.org/wp/medinfo-2021/

**Congratulations to the 2021-2022 Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Award Recipients!**

**Jenny Yu** and **Dr. Helen Monkman** are exploring Canadians who are aged 50 or older attitudes towards, experiences using, preferences, and perceived barriers around telemedicine and its use.

**Roz Queen** and **Dr. Karen Courtney** are investigating stakeholders wants and needs concerning modernizing gender, sex, and sexual orientation within Canadian digital health systems. These stakeholders include but are not limited to: 2SLGBTQIA+ communities, healthcare professionals, vendors, health standard organizations, community-based organizations, patients and their families. Such development knowledge will support implementation guides.

**Research in the News!**

**Dr. Helen Monkman** is leading a team of faculty (**Dr. Elizabeth Borycki, Dr. Karen Courtney, Dr. Andre Kushniruk**), the co-op coordinator (**Jason Bond**), and an undergraduate student (**Samiah Mir**) who are conducting research aimed at updating health informatics competencies. They have conducted a scoping review and are planning to administer a questionnaire to employers of HINF co-op students to get their input as well.
Dr. Karen Courtney is leading a research team with Dr. Francis Lau, Kelly Davison, and Roz Queen. She has received the MSFHR C2 Grant Funding for Co-developing a digital health systems research program to support cultural safety and health equity for Two-Spirit, transgender and nonbinary patients in British Columbia.

Congratulations to Amr Farghali, 2021 Steven Huesing Scholarship recipient!

Amr Farghali is a PhD student and instructor at the School of Health Information Science, at the University of Victoria. The Steven Huesing Scholarship honours the contributions to the field of health informatics (HI).

To read full story click [here](#).
Public Health Informatics and Decision Support


Electronic Health Records and Sex and Gender Terminology


Faculty and Student Presentations

**Dr. Dillon Chrimes** was invited to speak about using [dashboard software with open source datasets](https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/TeachAnywhere/2021/07/02/Ltat2021-recordings/) 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”
Roz Queen will be presenting at the 2021 Community-Based Research Centre (CBRC) Summit: Discussion on how to implement new gender, sex, and sexual orientation information practices in healthcare to promote health equity for 2SLGBTQAI+ people. Thurs. Oct. 28th from 2-3pm PST (5-6pm EST).
https://www.cbrc.net/summit_2021

Books, Toolkits, and Tools

Dr. Alex Kuo and a team of researchers developed a method for applying Lean Six Sigma and workflow improvement. See -

Professional Development

Simon Minshall has developed and launched a new course (HINF 112) called an Introduction to Health Information Analysis. The course is highly practical and teaches students about methods that can be used to solve data-analytics problems using introductory computer programming tools, software libraries and an analytics mindset.

Experiential Learning and Co-op
Spotlight on International and Provincial Co-ops!

Stephanie Cabrera went overseas for an International Work Term with Seven Informatics Ltd. in Oxford in the United Kingdom. Stephanie worked on the The cityEHR. The cityEHR is an open source Electronic Health Record (EHR) product, developed and supported by a team based in Oxford, UK. As part of her work term she participated in an XML Summer School at Oxford University.

Nick To joined the BC Patient Safety and Quality Council’s Analytics & Strategic Initiatives team as a Health Data Analyst this last summer. Read his experience on a blog post by the Council: https://bcpsqc.ca/blog/co-op-at-the-council-nick-tos-experience/

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.

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.

Apply Here
Scholarships and Awards

Apply Now!

If you require financial aid, consider applying for the Health Information Science undergraduate and graduate awards and scholarships.

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We acknowledge and respect the lək̓ʷəŋən 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.