

May 14, 2025

Office of Research Excellence

Message from the Senior Associate Dean for Research

Dear All,

I want to extend my warmest and heartfelt congratulations to the remarkable graduates of the GWSPH Class of 2025! Each of you has reached an impressive milestone, characterized by your relentless hard work, unwavering dedication, and impressive perseverance. The path to this momentous occasion has not been easy; you have faced numerous challenges and obstacles along the way. Today, we celebrate not just your achievements, but the journey that has brought you here.

As you transition into the next chapter of your lives, I encourage you to take time to reflect on all that you have learned during your time at GWSPH. The rich tapestry of knowledge, vital skills, and invaluable experiences you have gained will serve as a sturdy and empowering foundation for your future endeavors. Whether you are entering the workforce, pursuing further studies, or embarking on personal projects, these lessons will guide and support you in navigating the complexities of life ahead.

I would like to express special gratitude to those graduates who have played a vital role in enriching our research ecosystem. Your contributions as helpers, volunteers, and research assistants have been instrumental in advancing our mission, and your dedication has not gone unnoticed. The insights and experiences you have gained in these roles will undoubtedly serve you well as you embark on new adventures.

Once again, congratulations to every member of the Class of 2025! I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you in advance for the positive impact you will have on the world. Your commitment to excellence and innovation will help create a brighter and more hopeful future for us all!



Best of luck

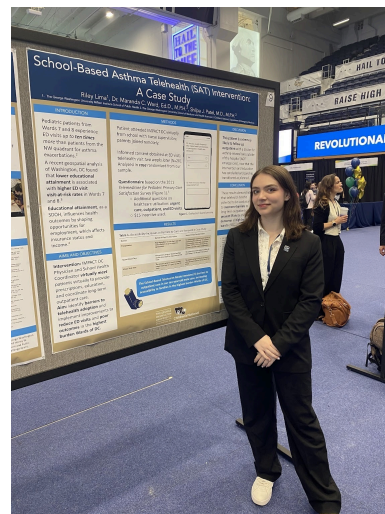
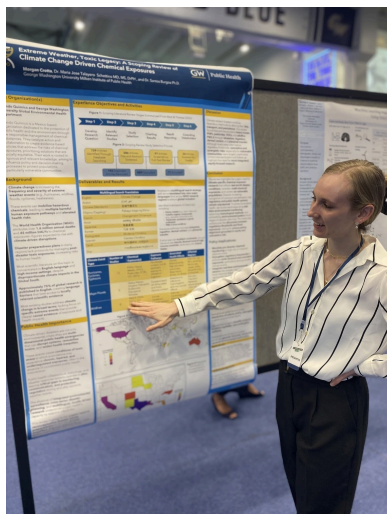
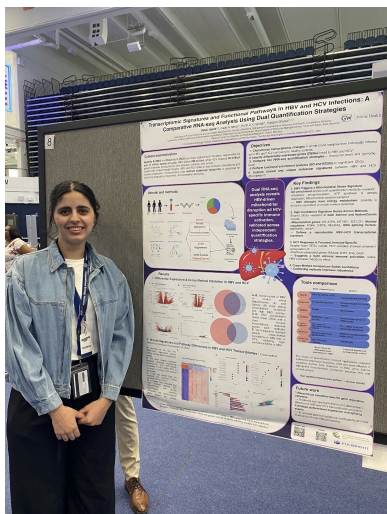
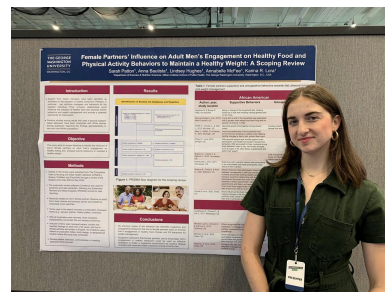
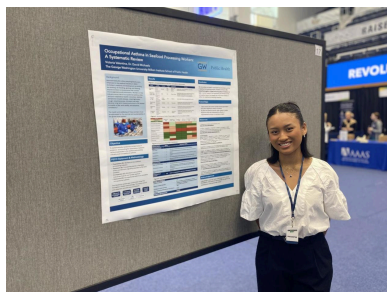
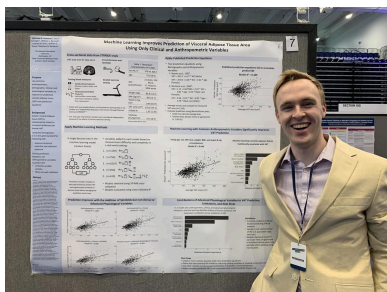


Research Announcements

Applauds To Our Students For Representing GWSPH!

GWSPH takes immense pride in showcasing the remarkable achievements of its talented students who participated in the [GW Bioinformatics Symposium Showcase](#) and the esteemed [GW InnovationFest Showcase](#). This annual university-wide event serves as a vibrant platform for students from diverse academic backgrounds to present their groundbreaking research, illuminating the rich tapestry of innovation and inquiry at GW.

The dedicated community at GWSPH has been thoroughly impressed by the commitment and diligence demonstrated by our students in their research endeavors. Their work spans a wide range of public health topics and each project not only showcases the students' skills and knowledge but also holds significant potential to address pressing issues, enhance public well-being, and foster social change. This commitment to impactful research mirrors the ongoing efforts within the school to advance health outcomes and drive meaningful progress in the public health sector.



Nicholas Foreman, "Machine Learning Improves Prediction of Visceral Adipose Tissue Area Using Only Clinical and Anthropometric Variables"

Victoria Valentina, "Occupational Asthma in Seafood Processing Workers: A Systematic Review"

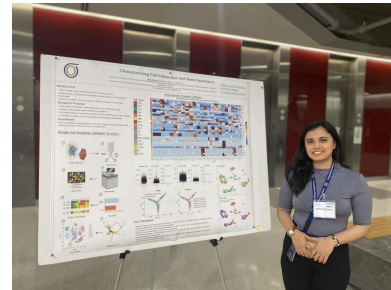
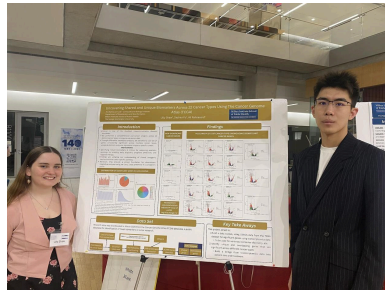
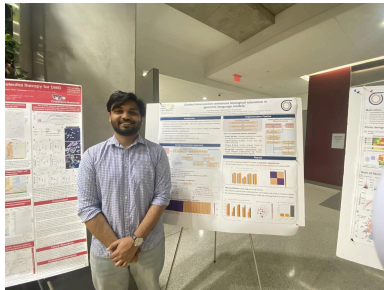
Sarah Patton, "Female Partners' Influence on Adult Men's Engagement on Healthy Food and Physical Activity Behaviors to Maintain a Healthy Weight: A Scoping Review"

Nihal Habib, "Transcriptomic Signatures and Functional Pathways in HBC and HCV Infection: A Comparative RNA-seq Analysis Using Dual Quantification Strategies"

Morgan Crotta, "Extreme Weather, Toxic Legacy: A Scoping Review of Climate Change Driven Chemical Exposures"

Riley Lima, "School-Based Asthma Telehealth (SAT) Intervention: A Case Study"

[Click Here](#) to see list of all **GWSPH Presentations** from the GW InnovationFest Showcase event



Vedant Mahangade, "Guided Tokenization Enhances Biological Relevance in Genomic Language Models"

Lilly Shaw; Dezhao Fu, "Uncovering Shared and Unique Biomarkers Across 22 Cancer Types Using the Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA)"

Ishita Chopra, "Characterizing Cell Interaction and Gene Expression"

[Click Here](#) for a list of all **GWSPH Presentations** from the GW Bioinformatics Symposium Showcase event.

OSP Federal Research Updates 2025

OSP, in partnership with OVPR and other university personnel, has [created a website page](#) in order to monitor the potential impact of federal actions on our research enterprise. This page is updated frequently as new information is available. The most recent updates include information on expense report requests from federal funding agencies. Please share this website page with any faculty, staff, or students who may benefit from the guidance and news that it disseminates.

Federal Research Updates 2025

New Customs Clearance Process For Imported Research Specimens

Researchers have recently reported increased challenges when importing research specimens into the U.S., including customs clearance delays and instances of

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[researchers being detained by customs authorities](#). To avoid issues, researchers are urged to:

Fully disclose the nature and quantity of these specimens on the appropriate declaration forms

Prepare for potential delays due to updated clearance requirements.

Secure a Customs Power of Attorney (CPOA) form, signed by an authorized institutional official, prior to specimen arrival at U.S. Customs

Additionally, researchers should take all necessary precautions to ensure that the quality of their research specimens is maintained, even in the event of delays.

Announcement for GWSPH Principal Investigators

Are you planning on submitting a proposal for funding consideration from an outside sponsor (e.g. NIH, DOD, RWJ, etc.)?

As soon as you identify the funder and funding mechanism, please inform PH&L RST - formerly Pod 2 by completing an **Intent to Submit Form** *as soon as possible*.

A sponsored research administrator (SRA) from PH&L RST - formerly Pod 2 will be assigned and will reach out to you to set up a kickoff meeting to go over logistics, establish timeline deadlines, and gather more information about the proposed project.

PH&L RST requests at least **10 business days** to process a proposal on top of the **5 business days** required by the Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP).

Questions: gwresearchpod2@gwu.edu

[Intent to Submit Form](#)



Funding Opportunities

Pfizer Global Medical Grants & Partnerships

Pfizer Global Medical Grants & Partnerships have announced a new education RFP (Expanding Access to Maternal Immunization Resources and Point-of-Care Tools). Potential applicants are encouraged to identify and address the educational needs, barriers and gaps for access to maternal immunizations. Application deadline: **May 14, 2025**.

[Learn More](#)

RWJF Evidence for Action: Rapid Response Research Awards

Rapid Response Research awards are specifically intended to support early- to mid-career health equity researchers whose racial or Indigenous health equity research was interrupted by federal funding shifts. Project Directors (PD) for this award need not have

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wide range of costs that were associated with the original research project. Application deadline: **May 28, 2025 at 3pm.**

[Learn More](#)

REACH Center Pilot Grant Competition

The REACH Center announces its second annual seed grant competition, offering **\$80,000** total to fund multiple projects at **\$20,000-\$40,000** each. The program supports multidisciplinary teams-including community partners-from GW, Howard, and George Mason universities. The goal: advance health equity and environmental justice while building capacity for future NIH R-level proposals. Read the [full RFP here](#). **LOIs due June 1, 2025.**

William T. Grant Scholars Program

For early career faculty (within seven years of post-doctorate), this program supports researchers focused on youth issues (ages 5-25). The Foundation has shared a webinar replay on crafting a competitive application and how research can influence policy and practice. Application deadline: **July 1, 2025 at 3pm.**

[Learn More](#)

National Science Foundation (NSF): Major Research Instrumentation Program

An MRI proposal may request up to \$1.4 million for acquisition of a multi-user commercially available research/research training instrument and up to \$4 million for development of a research instrument with new capabilities. Internal Competition Application Deadline to the OVPR: **July 29th, 2025.**

[Learn More](#)

William T Grant Foundation- Institutional Challenge Grant

This grant encourages university-based research institutes and centers to partner with public agencies or nonprofits to reduce inequality in youth outcomes. The award will provide \$650,000 over three years **Application opens: May 15, 2025. Deadline: September 15, 2025 at 3pm**

[Learn More](#)



Continuous Deadlines

Intramural

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

[Research Enhancement Awards](#)

[OVPR Limited Submissions and Intramural Funding Competitions](#)

Extramural

[NIH Supplemental Opportunities](#)

[RWJF: Evidence for Action - Innovative Research to Advance Racial Equity](#)

For further details about funding, please visit the [GWSPH Research Funding Resource Center](#).



Lectures & Events

OSP May 2025 CRAG Meeting: AI Across the Research Lifecycle

Thursday, May 15th | 11:00 a.m - 12:00 pm

Join the May CRAG meeting featuring Lori Schulz, Assistant Vice President for Research Administration at Colorado State University as she presents "AI Across the Research Lifecycle: From Idea to Award Closeout." AI has already created a profound impact on our campuses, influencing both academic pursuits and research activities. This session will explore its growing role in tasks like proposal writing, award negotiations, and compliance challenges while discussing how it shapes the research lifecycle and your work as research administrators—so come ready with your thoughts and inquiries!

[Register](#)

Strategies for Successful Interdisciplinary Collaborations

Thursday, May 29th | 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Effective interdisciplinary collaboration is increasingly essential for securing funding for large-scale projects. In this webinar, we will explore the art of working with experts beyond your field — from identifying and reaching out to potential collaborators to navigating each phase of developing a competitive grant proposal.

[Register](#)

Save the Date: Community-Based Primary Health Care in Times of Volatility and Change

Saturday, November 1st | 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Washington, DC

The CBPHC Working Group will host an in-person workshop just ahead of the American

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space—not just a lecture room—for policymakers, practitioners, researchers, and community leaders to share lessons, explore partnerships, and move forward on advancing community-based primary health care, both in the U.S. and around the world.



Research Resources

NIH Resources

- [Explore a Typical NIH Funding Opportunity Resource](#)
- [Preparing for 2025 Application and Review Changes- Tips and Resources](#)
- [Updated NIH Research Performance Progress Report \(RPPR\) Instruction Guide \(PDF document\)](#)
- [NIH Submission Checklist FORMS-I](#)

The Office of Research Excellence (ORE) at The George Washington University's Milken Institute School of Public Health (GWSPH) is a vital support system for our faculty, staff, and students in their research activities. It plays a crucial role in providing guidance for research coordination, compliance, integrity, communication, and services to promote research and discovery, making each member of our community an integral part of our research mission.

Please visit our [website](#) to learn more about how ORE can support you on your research mission. For any questions or additional information, please email GWSPHResearch@gwu.edu.

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