

## Afternoon Session Summaries

### Track A: Gambling Addiction in the Asian Community

*Why is gambling an invisible public health issue among Asian workers in Boston's Chinatown and beyond?*

*What needs to be researched to bring possible interventions to this population?*

This workshop is designed to explore the issue of problem gambling, a concern voiced for many years by members of Addressing Disparities in Asian Populations through Translational Research (ADAPT), Tufts CTSI's community-academic partnership. Legalization of casino gambling in Massachusetts elevated that concern, especially for at-risk members of the Asian community with social and linguistic barriers. A scientific understanding of this hard-to-reach population is scarce and resources for interventions are lacking. To diagnose, prevent, and treat these community members, it is important for the academic and scientific community to understand the risk factors and best practices for working with community agencies to support this population.

Part 1 of the session will feature a panel of community-based organization representatives and a clinician who will share their observations of who is at risk of developing addictive behaviors to gambling; why they are at-risk; and their likelihood of developing other behavioral issues, such as alcohol and tobacco.

In Part 2, academic and policy panelists will respond to the community panel and provide insights about available evidence and gaps in gambling addiction support services and research. We will also explore community assets to address this problem.

The brainstorming session will solicit community-based approaches to identify potential research questions, stakeholders, and areas where data collection is crucial for future prevention and intervention.

### Track B: The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) in the Community

*What do we know so far about substance use disorders? What knowledge gaps can we address?*

*How can clinical and translational research support the community and assist with the collection of data needed for developing interventions?*

The purpose of this workshop is to bring together diverse stakeholders including researchers, community workers, and health care providers to discuss substance use disorders deeply impacting our community. Our goal is to identify potential gaps and collaborative research ideas to generate innovative solutions.

In Part 1, a panel of community experts will discuss the substance use disorders faced by the people they serve; their first-hand experiences with recovery; and innovative approaches to the implementation of care.

In Part 2, academic and government experts will engage with community experts and participants to identify areas where scientific data and evidence can be transformative and how researchers can best work with community agencies to support these populations. This workshop invites participants to brainstorm actionable next steps for research questions, project ideas, and new partnerships for collaborative research.

### Track C: Biostatistics, Computation, and Spatial Epidemiology for Addiction Data Analysis

*Interested in learning about novel data analysis methods and tools for addiction research?*

To better understand the science of addiction disorders, researchers need to develop novel methods across the translational research spectrum. This hour-long session will feature exemplary innovations in addiction research.

Dr. Philip will showcase the integrated genetics and genomics core of the Center for Systems Neurogenetics of Addiction (CSNA) at The Jackson Laboratory (JAX). He will describe genomic and genetic tools used for quantitative trait locus (QTL) mapping of behavioral phenotypes and discuss how animal modeling can enhance our understanding of human behaviors.

Dr. Stopka will discuss the use of geographic information systems and spatial epidemiology to analyze the opioid syndemic (overlapping epidemics caused by the use and misuse of opioids) and other health disparities issues.

After the session, there will be time to network and learn about additional JAX research. Researchers, biostatisticians, epidemiologists, and data scientists are encouraged to attend.

## Presenter Biographies and Abstracts



**Andrea Acevedo, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Community Health  
Tufts University School of Arts and Sciences

Afternoon Session, Track B: The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) in the Community, Part 2

Dr. Acevedo's research focuses on racial/ethnic inequalities in access and quality of health services, particularly those related to alcohol and drug use disorders.

She has been involved in the development and testing of quality indicators for substance use disorders, and using established measures to understand racial/ethnic inequities in treatment. Dr. Acevedo has examined racial/ethnic disparities in performance measures for substance use treatment in several states. She has also been involved in the implementation and evaluation of provider-level interventions to improve treatment quality among clients receiving publicly funded services. Her research has been more recently focused on how community characteristics may impact inequities in quality of treatment, as well as in outcomes and on providers' perspectives on inequities in treatment. Her work extends to issues of quality of care in other areas, including ways to improve nursing home quality reports to meet the needs of community members of color.

Dr. Acevedo received her PhD in Social Policy with a concentration in behavioral health services and policy from Brandeis University, and her master's degree in Science in Health and Social Behavior from the Harvard School of Public Health.



**Michael Apkon, MD, PhD, MBA**

President and CEO, Tufts Medical Center and Floating Hospital for Children

Morning Session, preceding Lunch, Poster Session, and Networking

Dr. Apkon is the new President and Chief Executive Officer of Tufts Medical Center and Floating Hospital for Children.

Prior to joining Tufts Medical Center, Dr. Apkon became CEO of the Hospital for Sick Children, also known as SickKids, in January of 2014. The 300-bed hospital, considered one of the best pediatric hospitals in the world, has 11,000 staff, trainees and volunteers and annual revenue of \$1 billion. Previously, Dr. Apkon served as the Chief Medical Officer for Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and the Executive Director at Yale New Haven Children's Hospital in Connecticut.

A patient safety champion, Dr. Apkon led efforts at SickKids which reduced preventable patient harm by two-thirds in less than three years. At SickKids and CHOP, he expanded international consulting, resulting in safe and effective health care services and new health care facilities abroad, including in South Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Europe. In 2017, Glassdoor named Dr. Apkon as the top-rated CEO of a large organization in Canada, winning the approval of 99% of his employees.

Dr. Apkon started his education with a biomedical engineering degree from Northwestern University. He went on to receive his MD and PhD from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and an MBA from Yale School of Management. He is board certified in Pediatrics and Pediatric Critical Care Medicine and has published more than 20 peer-reviewed articles related to quality improvement, patient safety and the application of health care information technology. He also served as a Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Toronto, and has held faculty appointments at the University of Pennsylvania and the Yale School of Management.



**Catharina Armstrong, MD, MPH**

Associate Director, Substance Use Services, Newton-Wellesley Hospital  
Assistant Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine

**Afternoon Session, Track B: The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) in the Community**

Dr. Armstrong is Associate Director of the Newton-Wellesley Hospital Substance Use Services and an infectious disease and addictions physician at the Lemuel Shattuck hospital. She graduated from University College Dublin School of Medicine. She completed Internal Medicine residency training at Massachusetts General Hospital and a fellowship in Infectious Diseases at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Dr. Armstrong was awarded a masters degree in Public Health from Harvard Medical School in 2015.

Dr. Armstrong is the Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital in Boston. She has an HIV clinic caring for women who are currently incarcerated in Framingham women’s prison. She is a Principal Investigator (PI) for the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital site CorECT study; a community HIV re-engagement study. She is board certified in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases, and Addiction Medicine and is an Assistant Professor at Tufts University School of Medicine. Her clinical and research interests are in prevention and management strategies to support high risk groups with infectious diseases, particularly co-infection with Hepatitis B and C and HIV.



**Tackey Chan, JD**

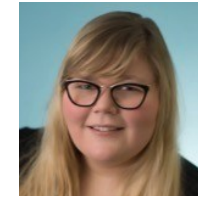
State Representative for the Second Norfolk District  
House Chair, Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure  
Asian American Legislative Caucus Member  
Massachusetts House of Representatives

**Afternoon Session, Track A: Gambling Addiction in the Asian Community, Part 2**

Rep. Tackey Chan is currently the State Representative for Massachusetts’ Second Norfolk District, including 13 of the 30 precincts in Quincy, Massachusetts. Rep. Chan is a lifelong resident of Quincy. He was first elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 2010 and is serving his fourth term in office. He is House Chair of the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, where he reviews legislation ranging from data breach protections to gaming regulations and alcohol licensing. In 2010, Rep. Chan was one of the three first State Representatives of Asian American descent elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and is the first Asian American and minority elected to office in the City of Quincy. He is also the first Asian American to be chairman of a committee in the House of Representatives.

Rep. Chan worked as an Assistant Attorney General in Attorney General Martha Coakley’s Office of Ratepayer Advocacy from 2007 to 2010. Prior to the Attorney General’s office, he worked as General Counsel and Legislative Director for State Senator Michael W. Morrissey from 1995 to 2007. Rep. Chan received his Juris Doctorate from New England School of Law in 2003 and is licensed to appear in the Federal District Courts of Massachusetts and United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

In 2006, Rep. Chan’s exemplary community service led to his appointment to the Massachusetts Asian American Commission by then Senate President Robert Travaglini. In 2007, he was reappointed by Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley to represent her on the Commission.



**Jennifer Toth, MA, PMP, CRS, CIRS**

Director, Substance Use Services, Health Resources in Action (HRiA)

**Afternoon Session, Track B: The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) in the Community, Part 1**

Ms. Toth manages the Massachusetts Substance Use Helpline and the Illinois Helpline for Opioids and Other Substances, overseeing a diverse team of Screening & Information Specialists, Clinicians, and other program staff, as well as the operations of Helpline contact centers and websites. She joined Health Resources in Action (HRiA) in 2006 as an Information & Referral Specialist, connecting individuals to addiction treatment and other public health resources. She has also led data, training, and technology projects at Mass211. Ms. Toth has a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Northeastern University and master’s degree in organizational psychology from William James College. She is a Certified Project Management Professional, a Certified Resource Specialist, and a Certified Information and Referral Specialist. Ms. Toth is passionate about authentic, collaborative leadership.



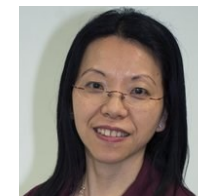
**Alysse Wurcel, MD, MS**

Attending Physician, Tufts Medical Center  
Assistant Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine

**Afternoon Session, Track B: The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) in the Community, Part 2**

Dr. Wurcel completed her undergraduate education at Tufts University. She is a graduate of University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and received a Masters in Clinical Research from the Sacker School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences at Tufts University School of Medicine. In addition to her faculty position in the Department of Geographic Medicine and Infectious Diseases, she is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Medicine and Public Health at the Tufts University School of Medicine. She has a weekly HIV/HCV co-infection clinic and also treats people with HIV and HCV mono-infection. Once a month in her co-infection clinic, she sees patients with Dr. Hannah Lee of the GI department.

Her research interests include treatment of Hepatitis C Virus in people considered "tough to treat" including people who inject drugs (PWID), people in the criminal justice system and people with HIV (PLWH). She is the co-investigator of the Tufts REACTs Study (Responds to the Epidemic of hepatitis C Together), a mixed methods project aimed at assessing HCV treatment readiness in young PWID. This study was awarded funding through the Tufts Institute for Innovation in 2015. She is the PI on a Bristol-Myers Squibb study in a clinical trial of HIV medication called an HDAC Inhibitor. Tufts Medical Center is the only hospital in Boston to offer this clinical trial. She also has funding to conduction quality improvement studies on increasing annual HCV antibody testing in PLWH who were Hepatitis C Antibody negative on entry into HIV care. Dr. Wurcel was recently named to the Tufts Institute of Innovation Affiliates. Affiliates are active members of the TII community they have access to TII lab space, are invited to participate in TII Project Review meetings, and can extend their three-year appointment after its expiration by securing external funding for their projects.



**Yoyo Yau, MA**

Director, Family and Community Engagement, Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center

**Afternoon Session, Track A: Gambling Addiction in the Asian Community, Part 1**

Yoyo Yau is a licensed mental health counselor with a background in early intervention, mental health counseling and brain injury recovery. She has worked with non-profits, hospital settings and state agencies to provide assessment, therapy, treatment and crisis intervention. In 2016, she graduated from the Commonwealth Seminar and is an alumnus of the Institute for Nonprofit Management and Leadership. Ms. Yau has a bachelor’s degree in social work from Hong Kong Polytechnic University, a master’s degree in expressive therapy from Lesley University, and post graduate training in the Existential Psychotherapy Institute and the American Neuro Arts Therapy Institute.





**Jim Stewart, MDiv**

Shelter Director, First Church Shelter

Afternoon Session, Track B: The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) in the Community, Part 1

For 31 years Jim Stewart has been Director of First Church Shelter in Cambridge, Massachusetts. His work at the shelter has brought him into numerous campaigns to promote greater public awareness about homelessness and other forms of persistent poverty.

Mr. Stewart was a founding member of the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless and Housing Now Campaign which brought over 100,000 people to Washington DC to call for increased federal support for the creation and maintenance of affordable housing and other services to assist those struggling to survive while homeless. He is a founding and Steering Committee member of Safe Injection for Massachusetts Now (SIFMA Now). SIFMA Now advocates for the availability of Safe Injection/Consumption Facilities as a means to address the current Opioid Overdose Crisis. SIFMA Now worked to bring Safe Injection/Consumption enabling legislation before both branches of the Massachusetts Legislature during the 2018 Session. Their efforts resulted in the establishment of a Harm Reduction Commission which is charged with presenting guidance on authorizing and siting Safe Injection/Consumption Facilities in the Commonwealth by February 2, 2019.

Mr. Stewart has a BA in philosophy from the University of Massachusetts and received a master's degree from Harvard Divinity School.



**Thomas Stopka, PhD, MHS**

Assistant Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine

Afternoon Session, Track C: Biostatistics, Computation, and Spatial Epidemiology for Addiction Data Analysis

Dr. Stopka is an Assistant Professor with the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine and at Tufts CTSI. His major research interests are in the area of infectious disease epidemiology and prevention, geographic information systems (GIS), spatial epidemiology, health disparities, and global health. Through his research, Dr. Stopka explores the interconnectedness of substance use and misuse, social and behavioral risk factors, and infectious disease outcomes among high-risk and often hidden populations through community-engaged, interdisciplinary, multi-methods, applied epidemiological research studies. He is currently the PI, Co-PI, or Co-I of several studies funded by the NIH, CDC, MDPH, the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS, and the MAC AIDS Fund. Through these studies, he is working to identify and characterize hotspot clusters of disease (HIV, HCV, opioid overdose) among people who inject drugs (PWID) to pinpoint the most high-risk neighborhoods for disease transmission, and to determine individual, community, and structural factors associated with disease clusters. He is also studying the HIV care continuum and the opioid syndemic in New England. Through these studies, Dr. Stopka aims to inform clinical and translational health policy decisions and interventions on the local, state, and national level.



**Norma Terrin, PhD**

Scientific Director, Biostatistics Epidemiology, and Research Design (BERD) Center, Tufts CTSI

Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine

Afternoon Session, Track C: Biostatistics, Computation, and Spatial Epidemiology for Addiction Data Analysis, Facilitator

Dr. Terrin is the Scientific Director of the BERD Center at Tufts CTSI and Professor at Tufts University School of Medicine. She received her PhD in Mathematics from Boston University and served on the faculty of the Department of Statistics at Carnegie Mellon University, where she taught and conducted research in stochastic processes and statistical methodology. Since coming to Tufts Medical Center in 1996, her methodological research has included longitudinal analysis, joint models for longitudinal and survival outcomes, meta-analysis, publication bias, predictive modeling, and model performance. Dr. Terrin collaborates with clinical and health services researchers in many departments across the Tufts CTSI affiliates. She teaches biostatistics and meta-analysis and mentors clinical research fellows. Dr. Terrin has received funding as Principal Investigator from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). She is an elected member of the Society for Research Synthesis, serves on the editorial board of Research Synthesis Methods, and is Senior Statistics Editor of Clinical Infectious Diseases.



**Elissa Chesler, PhD**

Professor, The Jackson Laboratory

Morning Session, Scientific Talks: Addiction Research Across the Translational Spectrum

Dr. Chesler's laboratory integrates quantitative genetics, bioinformatics and behavioral science to understand and identify the biological basis for the relationships among behavioral traits. She develops and apply cross-species genomic data integration, advanced computing methods, and novel high-precision, high-diversity mouse populations to find genes associated with a constellation of behavioral disorders and other complex traits. This integrative strategy enables Dr. Chesler to relate mouse behavior to specific aspects of human disorders, to test the validity of behavioral classification schemes, and to find genes and genetic variants that influence behavior.

**Dr. Chesler will discuss:**

Many individuals are exposed to addictive drugs through recreational and medical use, but only a fraction progress to substance use disorders. A substantial amount of this variation is attributable to genetic factors, and the genetic variants associated with substance use disorders and related traits are being discovered in humans and model organisms. Genetic and genomic analysis in multiple species allows discovery of the mechanisms of addiction vulnerability, the effects of drug exposure and ultimately, of the mechanisms of behavioral change. The Center for Systems Neurogenetics of Addiction examines the biomolecular basis for the relations among addiction related traits including drug intake, impulsivity and sensation seeking in advanced mouse populations. This information is intrinsically useful in providing insight into the biological basis of addiction, and may also lead to new therapeutic avenues.



**Jonathan Davis, MD**

Associate Director and Director of the Trial Innovation Liaison Team, Tufts CTSI  
Vice Chair of Pediatrics and Chief of Newborn Medicine, Tufts Medical Center  
Professor of Pediatrics, Tufts University School of Medicine

Morning Session, Scientific Talks: Addiction Research Across the Translational Spectrum  
Afternoon Session, Track B: The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) in the Community, Co-Facilitator

Dr. Davis is Vice-Chair of Pediatrics and Chief of Newborn Medicine at the Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center and Professor of Pediatrics at Tufts University School of Medicine. His research has focused on neonatal drug development, including optimizing approaches to treat neonatal abstinence syndrome. He is currently funded by NIH and FDA to develop better biomarkers and outcome measures for clinical trials and new and existing therapeutics to improve neonatal outcome. Dr. Davis is Chair of the Neonatal Advisory Committee in the Office of the Commissioner at FDA and Associate Director of Tufts CTSI. He is Co-PI of a recent \$8M NIH award to Tufts Medical Center to fund a national clinical trial studying the integration of targeted genomic sequencing into neonatal diagnosis and care.

**Dr. Davis will discuss:**

The opioid epidemic has had a profound impact in the US, with over 46,000 overdose deaths in 2017. Opioids have had a significant effect on pregnant women as well with record numbers filling prescriptions for opioids, receiving medication assisted treatment, and using illicit substances. This has resulted in one infant born every 15 minutes exposed to opioids and an eight-fold increase in the incidence of neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) in the past decade. We will review the risk factors for NAS in newborn infants as well as assessment and treatment options. Finally key knowledge gaps and precision medicine approaches will be discussed.



**Michael Ferullo, MSW, LICSW**

**President and Director, Boston Bulldogs Running Club**

**Morning Session: Breakfast and Opening**

**Afternoon Session: Track B, The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) in the Community, Part 1**

Coach Michael Ferullo is the founder of the Boston Bulldogs Running Club, first established in 2008 at the HopeFound Shelter at the Shattuck Hospital, adopted by the Pine Street Inn in 2012, and established as an independent organization in October 2015 to serve a broader community including those in recovery, family, and friends who are affected by addiction and the clinical and wellness communities as well as those in the community at large who support the idea of wellness in recovery.

The “Coach” as he is known to members of the Club, is a clinical social worker with a Masters Degree from the Boston College School of Social Work, spent many years working with staff and students in public and private school systems and treats individuals and families with a specialty in treating addictions in his private practice in Brookline MA.

In the course of his own recovery some 40 years ago, Mr. Ferullo found solace and wellness in running. He has been a runner ever since and is dedicated to the idea that through self-leadership and community, and through a commitment to wellness we can all find the “kind-hearted warrior within.”

“Coach” Mike has been recognized by the New England Patriots as a “Difference Maker” and by the Celtics as a “Hero Among Us,” and received the Community Champion Award from the Italian Home for Children in 2017.

**Peter Friedmann, MD, MPH, FASAM, FACP**



**Chief Research Officer and Endowed Chair for Clinical Research, Baystate Health**

**Associate Dean for Research and Professor of Medicine, UMass Medical School**

**Professor of Quantitative Health Sciences, UMass Medical School**

**Morning Session, Scientific Talks: Addiction Research Across the Translational Spectrum**

**Afternoon Session, Track B: The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) in the Community, Co-Facilitator**

Dr. Friedmann, is Chief Research Officer and Endowed Chair for Clinical Research, Baystate Health; Associate Dean for Research and Professor of Medicine, University of Massachusetts (UMass) Medical School-Baystate; and Professor of Quantitative Health Sciences, UMass Medical School. Before coming to Baystate in 2015, he was Professor of Medicine and Health Services, Policy and Practice at the Alpert Medical School and School of Public Health of Brown University. He was the founding director of the Center of Innovation in Long-Term Services and Supports at the Providence VA Medical Center and the Brown/Rhode Island Hospital Fellowship in Addiction Medicine. He also directed the Research Section in the Division of General Internal Medicine at Rhode Island Hospital.

Dr. Friedmann is a primary care internist, addiction medicine clinician, and established substance abuse researcher who has published over 145 peer-reviewed articles on the organization of treatment services, treatment process and outcomes, implementation of evidence-based practices for substance use disorders (SUDs) in medical, specialty addiction and correctional settings and the role of the physicians in the care of patients with SUDs. He has had continuous funding from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and Department of Veterans Affairs since 1996, and was a Robert Wood Johnson Generalist Physician Faculty Scholar. He is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) and a Fellow of the American College of Physicians (ACP). He is President-Elect of the Massachusetts Society of Addiction Medicine (MASAM); Co-Chair of the Baystate Addiction Workshop; and a member of the Hampden County Addiction Taskforce. He is past president of the Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse (AMERSA) and former director on the American Board of Addiction Medicine.

Dr. Friedmann serves as Deputy Editor for the Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment and on several editorial boards. As Chief Research Officer and Regional Associate Dean for Research at UMass Medical School – Baystate, Dr. Friedmann has responsibility for overseeing research activities and growing the research enterprise across the Baystate Health system.

**Dr. Friedmann will discuss:**

The opioid crisis has raised awareness of the translational gaps that persist for effective treatments for substance use disorders. Dr. Friedmann will provide an overview of the extensive opportunities for meaningful T3, T4 and implementation research in the addiction space.



**Howard Shaffer, PhD**

**Morris E. Chafetz Associate Professor of Psychiatry in the Field of Behavioral Sciences,**

**Harvard Medical School**

**Director of the Division on Addiction, Cambridge Health Alliance**

**Morning Session: Keynote Address**

**Afternoon Session, Track A: Gambling Addiction in the Asian Community, Part 2**

Dr. Howard Jeffrey Shaffer is the Morris E. Chafetz Associate Professor of Psychiatry in the Field of Behavioral Sciences at Harvard Medical School; in addition, he is the Director of the Division on Addiction at the Cambridge Health Alliance, a Harvard Medical School teaching hospital. Dr. Shaffer has served as principal or co-principal investigator on many government, foundation, and industry-sponsored research projects around the world. Dr. Shaffer is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association. He served on the National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council, Committee on the Social and Economic Impacts of Pathological Gambling. His professional appointments have included consultation to many national and international organizations, including consultation to the National Institutes of Health, the National Cancer Institute, the National Council on Marijuana and Health, the Icelandic Ministry of Health and Social Security, the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling, the Tung Wah Hospital Group in Hong Kong, and the Massachusetts Departments of Mental and Public Health.

Dr. Shaffer is the author/editor of approximately 275 peer-reviewed journal articles and more than 20 books or monographs, including the 2012 Choice Award for the APA Addiction Syndrome Handbook, with Drs. LaPlante and Nelson, and the 2012 Change Your Gambling, Change Your Life, with co-authors Ryan Martin, John Kleschinsky, and Liz Neporent. Dr. Shaffer is the past editor of The Psychology of Addictive Behaviors and The Journal of Gambling Studies. Also, he is a founder and past associate editor of The Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment. Dr. Shaffer serves as a member of many editorial boards and is as an ad hoc reviewer for many other scholarly journals.

Dr. Shaffer has received many awards, including the 2010 American Psychological Association, Division 50, award for “Outstanding Contributions to Advancing the Understanding of Addictions.” During 2015, he received the Lifetime Research Award from the National Council on Problem Gambling. Dr. Shaffer’s research, writing, and teaching have influenced how the health care field conceptualizes and treats the full range of addictive behaviors. His Syndrome Model of Addiction has gained broad acceptance, influencing how we think about both behavioral and substance-related addiction.

**Dr. Shaffer will discuss:**

**Science, Gambling, and Addiction: What Do We Know?**

Science develops through three identifiable phases. Whether it is addiction or gambling, during the first phase, researchers debate models, theories, and methods. This period is characterized by conflicting ideas and considerable dissent among stakeholders. The second phase begins when a field starts to adopt a shared perspective. A shared view simultaneously focuses outlooks and blinds people to alternative viewpoints. This phase of “normal” science sets the stage for revolutionary moments. Where is the gambling field on this continuum and what do we know about it?

During this talk, Howard Shaffer will consider some of the misconceptions of conventional thinking about addiction in general and gambling disorder in particular. He will examine some of the contemporary challenges and opportunities for those who study gambling. What do we really know about gambling and gambling-related problems? Is gambling different from other expressions of addiction? Are gambling problems symptomatic of other mental disorders? What revolutionary moments lie ahead for the prevention and treatment of gambling disorders and gambling-related problems?





**Dawn Sauma, LICSW**  
 Co-Executive Director, Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK)  
 Afternoon Session, Track A: Gambling Addiction in the Asian Community, Part 1

Dawn Sauma has worked in social services for over 25 years as a provider, educator, manager, and administrator within the mental health, school, judicial, and academic systems. She earned her BA in Psychology and her Masters in Social Work from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Dawn is a Licensed Social Work Clinician (LICSW) in the state of Massachusetts.

Ms. Sauma has been working at ATASK for eight years, as the Clinical Director and for the past three years added the title of Co-Executive Director. In her role as a clinician, she oversees all direct service programs under ATASK's Asian Shelter and Advocacy Program (ASAP) providing supervision and management of Community Based Services (CBS), Emergency Shelter, Hotline, Language Access Program and Education and Outreach.

She has represented ATASK in meetings with key stakeholders, community inter-agencies, and a multitude of government and private funders. Ms. Sauma has also authored multiple foundation, state, and federal grants annually for ATASK, and provided supervision to direct service managers, staff, and MSW interns.

Ms. Sauma is bi-racial, Japanese and Caucasian, born in Alaska and raised in Hawaii; she has been living in Massachusetts for 15 years with her family.



**Harry P. Selker, MD, MSPH**  
 Dean and Principal Investigator, Tufts CTSI

As Dean of Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) and Principal Investigator of the Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA), Dr. Selker provides leadership for the programs and infrastructure that support clinical and translational research at Tufts University Schools, Tufts teaching hospitals, other CTSI academic partners, and community-based and industry CTSI partners. He is also the Executive Director of the Institute for Clinical Research and Health Policy Studies (ICRHPS) at Tufts Medical Center, and Director of its Center for Cardiovascular Health Services Research.

Nationally, he is an active member of the National CTSA Consortium (on the Steering, Executive, and Strategic Goal Committees), was a founder and was second President of the Society for Clinical and Translational Science, and a founder and President of the Association for Clinical Research Training. He also served as President of the Society of General Internal Medicine from 2011-2012.

His research has long focused on the development of treatment strategies, decision aids, methods, and systems aimed at improving medical care, especially emergency and cardiac care. He is particularly known for a series of studies of the factors influencing emergency cardiac care and for development of clinical predictive instruments as decision aids that provide emergency physicians and paramedics with predictions for their patients' likely cardiac diagnoses and outcomes for real-time use in clinical care. Concurrently, he is involved in research to advance clinical study design, data analysis, mathematical predictive modeling of medical outcomes, and comparative effectiveness research. These efforts have been continuously funded by RO1 and U awards for over 25 years.

As Executive Director of ICRHPS and Dean of Tufts CTSI, Dr. Selker continues to actively mentor junior and senior faculty at Tufts Medical Center and Tufts University and beyond. He has also previously mentored four fellows, including three K awardees. For over 20 years he was the PI on a disease-agnostic Clinical Care Research/Health Services Research T32 training grant. During this time, Dr. Selker also founded the Clinical and Translational Science (CTS) Program at Tufts University Sackler School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences, the nation's first MS/PhD program in clinical research at a biomedical graduate school and academic medical center.



**Hon Ho, MD, MPH**  
 Psychiatrist, Harvard Medical School and Tufts University School of Medicine;  
 McLean Hospital  
 Afternoon Session, Track A: Gambling Addiction in the Asian Community, Part 1

Dr. Ho completed his Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship training at Johns Hopkins University, and Adult Psychiatry Residency at University of Colorado. He obtained his medical degree and Master of Public Health from Oregon Health and Science University, and his three undergraduate degrees from University of Washington.



**Chien-Chi Huang, MS**  
 Founder and Executive Director, Asian Women for Health  
 Afternoon Session, Track A: Gambling Addiction in the Asian Community, Part 1

Chien-Chi Huang is the founder of Asian Breast Cancer Project and is presently the Executive Director of Asian Women for Health. A skilled and passionate community advocate, she was the Asian Community Program Manager at the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling from 2006 to 2011 and she spearheaded several new health initiatives addressing the unique issues and challenges facing the Asian American community. These initiatives included Asian American Problem Gambling Outreach efforts, Asian American Women's Mental Health Symposium, Asian American Mental Health Forum, and Immigrants and Refugees Mental Health Network.

A deft community organizer and trainer, Ms. Huang has provided capacity building, technical guidance and network enhancement to community-based organizations and providers serving Asian Americans in the Commonwealth. She has participated in several CBPR trainings and received grants from several organizations such as the Institute for Community Health Program Planning at Dana Farber, the Saffron Circle, the American Psychological Association, and the Massachusetts Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Both mainstream and Asian media outlets have featured Ms. Huang's efforts and highlighted her dedication to reducing health disparities related to gambling addiction, mental health, and breast cancer. She also serves on: the National Advisory Panel on Addressing Disparities for PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcome Research Institute), the National Advisory Council for Asian & Pacific Islander National Cancer Survivors Network, the Dana Farber Community Benefits External Advisory Committee, the Steering committee for the AIM for Equity Network, Tufts CTSI Community Advisory Committee, the Somerville Commission for Women, and participates fully in the Disparities and Health Equity Workgroup of Massachusetts Comprehensive Cancer Prevention and Control Program.

Ms. Huang is the recipient for the Cheryl Kramer Passion Award in 2011, the Trail Blazer award in 2012, and the Janice McGrath Survivor of the Year Award in 2013. Under her leadership, Asian Women for Health is one of six recipients of the Peter Lee Healthy Communities Awards in 2013, with 12 nominations from partners and funders.



**Jennifer José Lo, MD**  
 Medical Director, Boston Public Health Commission  
 Faculty, Boston University School of Medicine  
 Afternoon Session, Track B: The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs)  
 in the Community, Part 2

Dr. Jennifer José Lo is the Medical Director at the Boston Public Health Commission, where she works to advance the mission to protect, preserve, and promote the health and well-being of all Boston residents, particularly the most vulnerable. She previously served as Medical Director at the Greater Roslindale Medical and Dental Center, where she implemented programs such as behavioral health integration and complex care management in order to position the health center as an NCQA-certified Patient-Centered Medical Home. In addition, she facilitated the expansion of services such as family planning, community health worker outreach, and residency training clinics offered at the health center. Prior to that role, she served as Family Team Medical Director at Boston Health Care for the Homeless Programs, where she led a multidisciplinary team to increase access to health care for homeless families and children in Boston.

Dr. Lo is also a faculty member in the Department of Family Medicine at Boston University's School of Medicine.



**Andrew Kolodny, MD, MSPH**

Senior Scientist, The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University

**Morning Session, Scientific Talks: Addiction Research Across the Translational Spectrum**

Prior to his work at Brandeis University, Dr. Kolodny served as Chief Medical Officer for Phoenix House, a national nonprofit addiction treatment agency and Chair of Psychiatry at Maimonides Medical Center in New York City. Dr. Kolodny has a long-standing interest in public health. He began his career working for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in the Office of the Executive Deputy Commissioner. For New York City, he helped develop and implement multiple programs to improve the health of New Yorkers and save lives, including city-wide buprenorphine programs, naloxone overdose prevention programs and emergency room-based screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) programs for drug and alcohol misuse.

**Dr. Kolodny will discuss:**

Dr. Kolodny will provide an overview of the current state of the opioid crisis, including the role of prescription opioids, heroin and fentanyl on opioid-related morbidity and mortality. He will discuss factors that led to the crisis and strategies for bringing it under control.



**Giles Li, MPA**

Executive Director, Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center

**Session: Breakfast and Opening**

Giles Li is the Executive Director of Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC), a family-centered social service agency located in Boston and Quincy. Mr. Li received the 2017 Massachusetts Nonprofit Network Excellence in Leadership award, and the prestigious Barr Fellowship in 2018, which celebrates exceptional nonprofit leaders in Greater Boston. He serves on the board of directors for Philanthropy Massachusetts and has been on advisory committees for the Attorney General, State Treasurer, and Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement. He holds a Master's in Public Affairs from UMass Boston and is an alumnus of the Institute for Nonprofit Practice.



**Victor Ortiz, MSW**

Director of Problem Gambling Services, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

**Afternoon Session, Track A: Gambling Addiction in the Asian Community, Part 2**

Victor Ortiz, MSW, is the Director of Problem Gambling Services at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Prior to that, he served as Senior Director of Programs and Services at the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling. Mr. Ortiz worked as a Latino programming consultant to the Council for many years before being appointed as Intervention and Treatment Support Director. His professional expertise is in the areas of health and racial equity, child welfare, and behavioral health. Mr. Ortiz earned his MSW from Simmons School of Social Work and his BA from Anna Maria College.



**Vivek Philip, PhD**

Associate Director, Computational Sciences, The Jackson Laboratory

**Afternoon Session, Track C: Biostatistics, Computation, and Spatial Epidemiology for Addiction Data Analysis**

Dr. Philip holds a PhD in Life Sciences from University of Tennessee/Oak Ridge National Laboratory Genome Science and Technology Program, with a focus in statistical and quantitative trait genetics of behavioral traits in genetic reference populations and integrative functional genomics of behavior across species and experimental platforms. During his PhD program, he investigated the increased precision and resolution in Quantitative Trait Locus (QTL) mapping using mouse reference populations including the expanded BXD recombinant inbred (RI) strain panel and the Collaborative Cross (CC) reference population. The BXD RI study highlighted the increase in statistical power obtained in using the expanded BXD RI strain panel. The CC study highlighted the increased allelic variation and QTL mapping precision achieved. Upon completion of his PhD, Dr. Philip joined the Computational Sciences - Statistics and Analysis group at The Jackson Laboratory in 2012 as a biostatistician, with responsibilities including QTL analysis, expression QTL analysis, gene expression analysis, statistical modeling of diverse biological datasets, and statistical consulting. In addition to his contributions towards the field of quantitative trait genetics and statistical genetics, he has undertaken several other data analysis tasks involving differential gene expression analysis using next generation sequencing technologies, leading to the generation of new or validation of existing hypotheses.



**Sharon Reif, PhD**

Senior Scientist and Lecturer, Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University

**Afternoon Session, Track B: The Impact of Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) in the Community, Part 2**

Dr. Reif is a Senior Scientist at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University, Deputy Director of its Institute for Behavioral Health, and Deputy Director of its National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) doctoral training program. Dr. Reif has over 25 years of experience conducting health services research to address treatment and quality issues for people with substance use disorders (SUDs) and to better understand the SUD treatment system, its organization, workforce, service delivery, financing, quality and access to care. Dr. Reif has been PI or co-investigator on numerous health services research studies, including medications for treating addiction, treatment of opioid use disorders, implementation of SBIRT in a community organization serving low-income young adults, the role of incentives in driving quality, the impact of health reform and parity on behavioral health service delivery, quality of care, clinician characteristics, behavioral health services within private health plans, and financing and access to care. Her work has included collaborations with community organizations, communities more broadly and states. She has prepared a white paper on the opioid crisis and published systematic reviews in the areas of peer support, residential treatment, and housing for people with SUDs. Her research interests extend to wellness and to the intersection of chronic medical problems, including pain, with alcohol and drug use and misuse. She is the Deputy Director for the NIDA-funded Brandeis/Harvard Center to Improve System Performance of SUD Treatment, a national center for excellence. Dr. Reif teaches Perspectives on Behavioral Health in the Brandeis HSSP undergraduate program and Research Ethics in the Heller School PhD program, and is a member of the Brandeis IRB. Dr. Reif has a PhD in social policy from the Heller School, where she was also the recipient of a training grant in alcohol health services research from NIAAA. She received the Heller School Mentoring Award in 2017.



**Carolyn Rubin, EdD, MA**

Director, Addressing Disparities in Asian Populations through Translational Research (ADAPT)

Assistant Professor, Tufts University School of Medicine

**Afternoon Session, Track A: Gambling Addiction in the Asian Community, Facilitator**

Dr. Rubin is a social scientist trained in theories of racial and ethnic inequality, immigration, community development and qualitative methods. Her research agenda focuses on using collaborative community research partnerships to address health disparities in underserved communities in Boston. She has led community-based participatory research projects related to Asian women's health and also developed research capacity-building programs for community partners. Currently, she is co-investigator on two community-engaged projects, one with the Asian Community Development Corporation that looks at the impact of stable housing on health outcomes, and the second with the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood that looks at the role of arts and culture in promoting social cohesion and social networks. Dr. Rubin also directs the Addressing Disparities in Asian Populations through Translational Research (ADAPT) Coalition, a project of Tufts CTSI. The ADAPT Coalition focuses on strengthening the capacity of Tufts researchers and Chinatown community partners to use community engaged research approaches to address Asian American health disparities. Her work as a researcher and teacher is informed by 20 years of experience working as a community builder with the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in various cities around the US. She grew up in San Francisco, California.



**Alice Rushforth, PhD**

Executive Director, Tufts CTSI

Master of Ceremonies

**Plenary: Report-out and Next Steps**

Dr. Rushforth has nearly two decades of experience in industry and academia. Prior to joining Tufts CTSI in February 2014, she served as the Director of Biotechnology Education Programs at the Massachusetts Biotechnology Education Foundation. She also consulted for, and managed, Emergent Behaviors of Integrated Cellular Systems at MIT, which focused on bringing engineers and biologists together to build biological machines. In those roles, she managed a multi-institutional National Science Foundation-funded Science and Technology Center, coordinated diverse teams, and led strategic planning efforts and day-to-day operations.