

Narrative Medicine Basic Workshop

Participant Bios

October 11-13, 2019

Columbia University Irving Medical Center

Tasmia Ahmed

Listening to patient stories and trying to find ways to connect as a resident physician led me to narrative medicine.

Heather Allen

I practice as a Registered Massage Therapist in B.C. Canada. I work with people in chronic pain and often many comorbidities that can build complex histories. I listen to people's stories and am very interested in how to listen skillfully so that this benefits their health outcome.

Bariş Ata

I am a graduate of the Istanbul School of Medicine. Following residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology, I did Reproductive Gynecological Endocrinology and Infertility fellowship at McGill University, Canada. I am a trained clinical researcher with a Master's degree in Clinical Trials from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and more than 100 publications on clinical aspects of assisted reproduction and endometriosis. I currently serve as the Associate Dean for Educational Affairs and the Chairman of the Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Koç University School of Medicine. I also serve as the Vice President of the Turkish Society of Reproductive Medicine and an Executive Committee member of the European Society for Human Reproduction and Embryology.

Amy Bennett

I am a Licensed Massage Therapist, Board Certified Structural Integration Practitioner and Bodywork Educator located in Portland Oregon. In addition to the study of anatomy and functional movement, I am currently interested in the idea of "story" pertaining to the role of culture and beliefs and how we make sense of and contextualize our experiences. I am particularly interested in the intentional use of language to mold our sense of self and our shared realities. More information available at www.elementalbodywork.net

Merri Biechler

Merri Biechler is a playwright, actor, educator, and the Assistant Director of the School of Theater at Ohio University. She's the recipient of an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award and a Boomerang Fund for Artists award. For the last decade, she's been engaged in the places where theater and healthcare overlap; her play "Confessions of a Reluctant Caregiver" is used in medical school curriculums to explore issues of palliative and end-of-life care. In 2017, she attended the Race, Violence, Justice Narrative Medicine workshop with a faculty cohort from Ohio University and helped create the Open Book project at the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. She regularly leads "Responding to Racism in the Clinical Setting" Forum Theater-type workshops. She's excited to attend this workshop with another OU cohort.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Augusta Blackstone

I have been a registered nurse for over a decade and in the past two years I have been studying with a physician and nurse from German and Finland in the way of being with people through Open Dialogue. This has opened up new spaces within me for really thinking about how we hear people's stories and tell people's and our own stories and the careful use of language, as well as the power of words. I am also studying clinical herbalism and horticultural therapy. My interests in medicine is rooted in a deep love of psychiatry, especially emergency psychiatry, with experience working in the Emergency Department, Infection Control and Inpatient Psychiatry.

Christina Bluestein

I am currently a doctoral candidate at University of Hartford/Graduate Institute of Professional Psychology in Hartford, CT. My interests are in developmental psychology across the lifespan as well as health psychology. I am working on my dissertation proposal which encompasses the practice of narrative medicine within health psychology. My goal is to create a clinician guidebook to be used in Cystic Fibrosis Care Centers to increase self-efficacy and autonomy in youth with Cystic Fibrosis.

Elizabeth Campbell

I currently attend a Narrative Therapy group through NASW. I work for Kings County Hospital Center in a Partial Hospitalization Program. One of the groups I currently run is a Poetry group, another is a Narrative Therapy Group. I have found that clients are able to address painful experiences and feelings through writing that are difficult to express verbally.

Alana Carstens Yalom

I am Californian living in New Orleans who against many odds has fallen in the love with hot swampy south. I am in my 4th year of an MD/MPH program at Tulane University and am applying to residency in ObGyn. Before deciding to pursue medicine, I was a humanities student who always dabbled in writing. I have used writing throughout medical school as both a means of documenting my experiences as well as sorting through the complexities of emotions they often carry. I'm passionate about reproductive justice, reproductive psychiatry, the art of medicine, dancing, Mardi Gras costuming, and cookies. Looking forward to rekindling some writing inspiration and meeting lots of wonderful people.

Sophie Cassel

I am a clinical herbalist intern and educator living in Vermont. While I have a lot of experience working with plants and teaching folks, I am looking to deepen my existing experience with in-depth clinical techniques and reflection.

Dianne Clouet

Dianne Clouet is a community herbalist, and makes plant medicines for friends, family and community members. She is particularly interested in using plants with people with substance abuse disorder in her community, as a means of harm reduction. Dianne lives in Brattleboro Vermont in an old Victorian house with a fairly wild pollinator garden. She attends the Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism in Montpelier Vermont, and is partway through her training to become a registered clinical herbalist.

Fredda Cohen

I serve as the director of Pastoral Care and Education at White Plains Hospital. I am also an ordained rabbi. Inherent in ministering to the sick is the ability and willingness to invite patients to tell their stories. In doing so, the patient's dignity and individuality is affirmed. My goal is to partner with local clergy in order to raise awareness of the power of a person's story and how it can serve in the healing process.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Julie Cohen

I have been practicing Internal Medicine for 10 years in Colorado. I have participated in several narrative medicine workshops through CPMG and have found that it brings me back to the deeper meaning in my work. Because of this I would like to go deeper into this practice and expand my own experience, both for myself and to share with colleagues.

Justine Cohen

I am an oncologist at the University of Pennsylvania. My practice is focused on patients with melanoma, non-melanoma skin cancers and brain metastases. My research concentrates on expanding options for these patient populations while also maintaining quality of life. Every day, I am inspired by my patients and their stories. This has led me to explore narrative medicine.

Joy Cox

Joy Cox, PhD is a qualitative scholar with a background in Organizational Communication and social justice advocacy for marginalized populations. Using her skillset, she works alongside medical students at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School in Newark, NJ to assist in implementing community service learning initiatives, fostering community engagement through the power of stories, hope, and resources.

Julie Cristol

I'm a midwife and have always been impressed with the healing power of narrative during the pregnancy and birth process.

Dana Dieringer

I moved from my home, rural Wisconsin, to Seattle four years ago. Recently, I graduated from psychiatry residency, but remain at the University of Washington as a current palliative medicine fellow. My goal is to work with older adults facing both severe, persistent mental and medical illness. When not at work, I binge podcasts, books, and doughnuts. I am so excited to listen and learn with the hope of implementing and sharing new skills from this workshop back in the Pacific Northwest.

Sam Dodd

Sam Dodd is Founding Director of the Ohio Valley Center for Collaborative Arts at Ohio University. As a design scholar and educator, Dr. Dodd supports the study and practice of cross-sector collaborations addressing public health, community development, and spatial justice. Dr. Dodd received his PhD in Architectural History and Theory from the University of Texas at Austin, where he also worked at the Center for Sustainable Development. His writings have been published in the *Journal of Architectural Education*, *Art Journal*, *Journal of Design History*, and *Design Issues*, and his work has been supported by the Ohio Arts Council, Smithsonian, and National Endowment for the Arts.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Asif Doja

I completed my medical degree at the University of Western Ontario followed by post-graduate training in pediatric neurology at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. I then completed a Master's in Education at the University of Toronto. I am an Associate Professor and Chief of the Division of Neurology at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario in Ottawa, Canada. My research interests include pediatric movement disorders and medical education and I have authored over 50 peer reviewed articles. I find patient and health care provider stories provide a necessary, although often overlooked, component to the field of medicine. We use stories every day in medicine ("Let me tell you about a patient I saw last week...") although I feel most medical teachers, myself included, do not appreciate the full potential of storytelling. I am coming to the realization that these stories can have more of an impact than other forms of knowledge dissemination i.e. peer reviewed articles. As such, my goal is to learn more about the field of narrative medicine.

Elizabeth Duthie

My background is in nursing but I have been working in patient safety for 15 years. Patient Safety is poorly understood and I believe using stories to explain concepts is one of the most effective strategies available for advancing the science. I would like to develop better writing skills to engage clinicians in safety strategies.

Katarine Egerssy

Narrative medicine given me the language of medicine that I always knew wanted to come out and found no way out. With this workshop I am hopeful to strengthen my skill and improve my practice.

Andrea Eisenberg

I am an OB/GYN in the Metro Detroit area for 26 years. I became interested in writing about humanities in medicine a few years ago, started a blog - www.secretlifeofobgyn.com - and have had a few pieces published in Intima, Pulse, and The Examined Life. I attended the narrative medicine workshop in the spring and was inspired to start a narrative medicine program at my hospital's residency program. I am back for another workshop to enhance my work with the residents.

Logan Elise LeBlanc

I was born and raised in South Louisiana and attended LSU for my undergraduate education before completing medical school in Nashville, TN. I then returned to LSU to complete my residency in Internal Medicine, and I hope to afterwards complete a fellowship in Palliative Care.

Anthony Errichetti

For the past 25 years I have worked with "simulated patients," i.e. coaching lay people to accurately simulate medical conditions to train medical students and physicians and assess their clinical skills. Currently I am Director of Doctor-Patient Communication Assessment at the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners in Philadelphia and Chicago. My interest in patient narrative started by reading the work of Arthur Kleinman (The Illness Narratives) and Howard Brody (Stories of Sickness) some years ago. Their ideas have guided me in developing realistic simulated patient scenarios, and also in educating physicians and healthcare professionals about the need to understand the patient narrative, which is the essence of empathy.

Kaitlyn Essig

I am currently pursuing an M.A. in Medical Humanities and Social Sciences at The Ohio State University where I have taken a particular interest in medical narratives in clinical settings.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Mari-Carmen Farmer

A first-generation Latinx midwife and educator, Mari-Carmen has been engaged in social justice work and maternal wellness for over 20 years. The inclusive approach and implicit trust in the birthing process provided by the midwives attending her own birth helped clarify her calling to midwifery. Prior to midwifery, Mari-Carmen completed a degree in Sociology & Anthropology and then began working in social justice and community organizing in Philadelphia. She is an Americorps alum, a seasoned doula and childbirth educator, and an experienced facilitator with a strong background in designing and leading trainings, retreats, workshops and healing circles. She has used these facilitation skills in the Centering Pregnancy model to care for diverse client populations in both English and Spanish. Since graduating from the Midwifery/Women's Health Program at the University of Pennsylvania in 2016, she has practiced as a midwife for Drexel University at Hahnemann University Hospital, a longtime Philadelphia institution that met its untimely end this summer. Given this turn of events, she recently transitioned into a new professional chapter, one in which she will be helping to start an inaugural midwifery practice at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. In her practice, Mari-Carmen provides full-scope care for families from a wide range of cultures in several Philadelphia communities. As a vocal advocate of health equity and reproductive justice, she is committed to centering the narratives of the individuals she serves, as she believes that stories create connections between people and communities that can catalyze powerful social change.

Nicole Farmer

My name is Nicole. I am an internist. Recently I embarked on a research career to explore psychosocial benefits of dietary behaviors. This research exploration represents my personal interest in the use of food as a social connector and analogy for societal concerns, coping and joys. In addition, in my practice I focus on patient's being the story teller and my role as the active listener. From my experience, this is when healing begins. I am interested in Narrative Medicine to help explore what I have previously used as a clinical tool (active listening) towards my research interests, research studies and writing books.

Federica Maria Francesca Federzoni

Military spouse recently graduated from Medical School. Currently Veterans Services student at SUNY Empire State College. Experienced in fast-paced environment and implementing knowledge into a team-oriented workplace. Proficient in Microsoft (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint), Mendeley, PubMed, UpToDate, and Embase. Fluent in English, Spanish, and Italian, and conversational in French.

John Fiddler

I'm an Irish-born Nurse Practitioner now working in the world of palliative Care. I like to see myself as working on the border between life and death. My other love is working 'without borders' as a Nurse in Central Africa. How can I not try to write, to share my passion and my stories?

Rachel Fleishman

Dr. Rachel Fleishman is a Neonatologist affiliated with St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and soon to be affiliated with Einstein Medical Center Philadelphia and Thomas Jefferson University. She plans to begin teaching pediatric residents the power of narrative medicine as a first step toward engaging pediatric and neonatal care providers with narrative medicine. She is a writer and has published a few narrative medicine essays. She is also a mother of two boys and a wife.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

T.J. Ford

T.J. Ford has been a massage therapist and educator for the last 25 years, specializing in orthopedic rehabilitation and trauma work. She is also an old-school journalist from the days before the Internet. She is currently living in New York and working towards her Master's degree in Bioethics at Montefiore-Einstein, and hopes to parlay this into a job teaching, writing, traveling, and making a difference in reproductive bioethics.

Tanvi Gandhi

Dr. Tanvi Gandhi is NCCAOM-certified & CT and NYS-Licensed Acupuncturist and has received her doctorate in Naturopathic Medicine from University of Bridgeport. She started her journey to help people stay healthy by studying Microbiology as an undergraduate student at UCLA and finished her Research Internship at National Institute of Health in Washington, D.C., where she was introduced to Alternative and Complementary Medicine. Through her own experiences and working with patients in various clinics and the community, she believes passionately in the ability of the body to heal itself and in the healing power of nature. She has done extensive research during her naturopathic thesis to explore the healing effects of Sound and Meditation. Her professional training includes Japanese Reiki, Craniosacral Therapy and Arvigo® Techniques of Mayan Abdominal Therapy, Ayurvedic Marma Therapy and Mudra, and Yoga Nidra Meditation. She integrates and unifies the above complementary holistic modalities during her healing sessions depending on what is best for the patients. She is founder of Shiva-Shakti Acupuncture and Ayurveda LLC, and the creator of Sri Wellness Space. She is passionate about empowering her patients with tools for self-healing, self-awareness and deep restoration through her group, community and corporate healing sessions, as well as educational and wellness workshops throughout Fairfield County, CT and the greater New York City areas. She is also part of the Chronic Pelvic Pain group at Stamford Health, and Wellness program at Silver Hill Mental Health Hospital. She will be beginning Professional Certification in Narrative Medicine at Columbia University in Spring 2020. Her publications below have more in depth connection between collective healing, story-telling and healing power of Nature.

<https://www.shewillthrive.com/conversations/storytelling-group-healing-the-power-of-nature>

<https://medium.com/authority-magazine/we-are-so-interconnected-in-the-web-of-life-with-dr-tanvi-gandhi-f4f8f1840e7f>

Please check out drtanvigandhi.com or email drtanvigandhi@gmail.com

Linda Garufi

As a family doctor I am grateful for the stories shared with me; the gift given to me when I am woven into others stories, as a collaborator, learner-facilitator, advocate, confidant, family/community member, witness, dancer, celebrant, a voice and a tender of wounds. I am also grateful for the opportunity to be in community that values that I share my story in its complexity, vulnerability and open to difference.

Mehmet Gökhan Gönenli

I was born in 1976 in İstanbul. After finishing Kadikoy Anatolian High School in 1994, I graduated from I.U. İstanbul Cerrahpasa Faculty of Medicine in 2000. I finished my residency training in Marmara University Internal Medicine Department in 2008. I completed my compulsory state service in Agri Patnos State Hospital between 2009 and 2010. After finishing military service as an internist in Canakkale Military Hospital I started to work in İstanbul Medeniyet University Goztepe Training and Research Hospital in 2011. Between 2012 and 2016, I founded and worked in the Internal Medicine Intensive Care Unit in the same hospital. I am working in Koç University since February 2016. I currently serve as a medical instructor in Koç University School of Medicine. I am the OSCE Coordinator of Internal Medicine and team member of Communication Skills Training Program in Koç University.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Emily Greenstein

I am a pediatric cardiologist, practicing at UMass Memorial Children's Medical Center and Boston Children's Hospital. My clinical focus is on the outpatient diagnosis and management of children with congenital heart disease. I especially enjoy building relationships with patients and their families over the long term -- through the difficult decision to move forward with surgery, the recovery, and those hopefully easy follow-up visits years later. While I have not yet been engaged in Narrative Medicine as a part of my practice, it has been a consistent personal interest. I would like to bring this personal interest into my professional world, by helping to build a Narrative Medicine Program for the UMass Pediatrics Residency. I attended Middlebury College in Vermont, and then moved to New York to attend NYU School of Medicine. NYU was my first introduction to Narrative Medicine. I completed my residency in pediatrics at the Children's Hospital of New York, at New York Presbyterian - Columbia University. I received my fellowship training in pediatric cardiology at Yale New Haven Hospital. I live in Sudbury Massachusetts with my husband and two boys.

Dustin Grinnell

Dustin Grinnell is a writer based in Boston. His science writing has appeared in such publications as *New Scientist*, *VICE*, and *The LA Review of Books*. He is also the author of two sci-fi thrillers and a full-time writer for Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. He has a BA in psychobiology from Wheaton College (MA), an MS in physiology from Penn State, and will earn his MFA in fiction writing in January from the Solstice program in Chestnut Hill, MA.

Daisy Gumin

Hello! My name is Daisy Gumin and I'm a fourth-year undergraduate student in the School of General Studies, majoring in creative writing. I am also a recovery technician in an all-women sober living facility in Tribeca. Throughout the years, I've been fortunate enough to garner experience developing and teaching an expressionistic writing workshop for at-risk youth in a therapeutic/vocational school, to have given a keynote speech for middle and high school aged girls in Bozeman, Montana, with Girls For a Change, to have written for Susan Cain's *Quiet Revolution* about high sensitivity and introversion, and have ultimately discovered the incredible power in the marriage of narrative and health care. Primarily inspired by my own journey in recovery during my adolescence, I believe that my core values and ideologies are completely aligned with the pedagogy of the School of Narrative Medicine. The opportunity to learn and connect with others on this path is an exciting, beautiful prospect -- for my academic, career, and personal goals.

Deborah Gutman

I am a practicing emergency physician, as well as an educational consultant. I work with students trying to create their narratives of why they would like to practice medicine and would love to turn that lens to why I am still practicing medicine.

Marc Halperin

My name is Marc Halperin, and I am a second-year child and adolescent psychiatry fellow at NYU Langone Health. I completed my adult psychiatry residency at Brown University, where I took a narrative medicine seminar with Christine Montross (and loved it!). This year, I am teaching an undergrad narrative medicine course at NYU entitled "Speaking Our Minds," and I am very excited to have the opportunity to learn more about narrative medicine via this workshop at Columbia.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnkd.in/narrativemedicine

Bianca Harris

As a pulmonary/critical care specialist with a specialty in pulmonary complications of bone marrow transplantation, I have had the privilege of bearing witness to extremes of life, loss, expectation, disappointment and many other nuances on an extraordinary journey towards prolonging health and prosperity in patients with hematological malignancies, in particular. During my training at Columbia University and formative years as junior faculty at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, I have experienced many of my own health setbacks, including a miscarriage, breast cancer, and watching my father, a physician himself, rapidly deteriorate under the unrelenting grip of Alzheimer's dementia. All of these experiences have informed, and likely improved, my approach to both patients and to myself as a caregiver. My capacity for compassion and empathy has deepened, but it has also required turning the same lens on my own narrative so that I may be fully present and available to patients, my family and, importantly but not intuitively, myself. Having walked away from academic medicine nearly two years ago on the road to improving my health and unearthing more balance in life, I am more attuned to patient and personal stories, notably through the written word, that inform my approach to caregiving, and that I plan to weave back into my clinical repertoire as edge ever closer to my return to clinical medicine. Participation in this Narrative Medicine conference is a natural transition to achieving this goal.

John Horton

I have had a private practice of general medicine and psychotherapy for almost the past 50 years. The bio-psycho-social model has been my inspiration to know as much about my patients as they would like to tell me. The narratives that emerge energize and guide my diagnosis and treatment options and the empathy and kindness allows healing. I wrote a book with Tim Galloway and Edd Hanzelik, MD called *The INNer Game Of Stress*. The book has patient stories about the impact of stress on health and ways to shift from stress to wisdom. I am now retired from my general practice and looking forward to writing a few more books on wisdom in medicine. Most of this writing will be about learning from the stories and my interactions with patient. I think that this field of narrative medicine is a good fit for my experiences in a lifetime of general medical practice.

Fahmida Hossain

Fahmida Hossain is a Ph.D. candidate in the Center for Healthcare Ethics, and a graduate assistant at the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center at Duquesne University. Her vision is to place narrative and storytelling as a lived and practical means to understand and shape organizational culture, change efforts, best practices improvements, and every day, routine, person-to-person encounters through an innovative approach she calls Narrative Authority. Fahmida also serves as a training facilitator and content developer for the narrative-focused, coaching and organizational change firm, Naridus, LLC. She has co-facilitated development classes for the Mandela Washington Fellowship, part of President Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative; the Johnson Institute for Public Leadership; and the Health Career Scholars Academy. She held two research fellowships at the Jewish Healthcare Foundation in the areas Patient Safety Fellowship and Death & Dying. She holds a Master's Degree in Leadership, Professional Administration from Duquesne University. She is originally from Dhaka, Bangladesh. Fahmida is based in Pittsburgh, Pa. with her husband and their young son.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Emily Hyde

Emily Hyde is an assistant professor of English at Rowan University where she specializes in comparative modernisms and postcolonial literature and theory. She also teaches interdisciplinary classes in the Thomas N. Bantivoglio Honors College at Rowan. Her undergraduate Honors course on literature and medicine, which explores the intersection of literary studies and narrative medicine, focuses on how literary works can and cannot represent structural inequalities in health care. Her work has appeared in *PMLA*, *Literature Compass*, *Post45: Peer Reviewed*, and *Public Books*, and in the collections *Around 1945* (McGill-Queen's University Press), *Auden at Work* (Palgrave Macmillan), and *The Pocket Instructor: Literature* (Princeton University Press).

Shannon Ivey

Shannon Ivey MFA, AEA, is the founder of the #whatshesaidproject. Shannon is a recovering theatre professor, professional actor, Theatre of the Oppressed facilitator, Tedx speaker, storyteller, and social intervention innovator. Shannon uses her storytelling training in a variety of community building and engagement ways: first person storytelling events (Story Slams), 36 Question events, Story Circles and interactive solo shows. Her work as the Training and Outreach Coordinator for a national not for profit, Provide, Inc brings her back to Columbia for her second weekend workshop (yay!). Shannon lives in Columbia, SC with her 9 year old daughter, Zoe. More info: .shannon-ivey.com and providecare.org

Melissa Jacques

I teach English and Cultural Studies at the University of British Columbia's Okanagan campus. My research and teaching interests include critical and cultural theory, popular culture, trauma studies, Holocaust studies, crime fiction, and the function of narrative in relation to selfhood and wellness. I have designed a course in narrative medicine for first-year nursing students and will be developing an interdisciplinary curriculum in narrative medicine at my own campus. I also write creative non-fiction (with trauma and literary form as central concerns). I see narrative medicine as an exciting research field that will allow me to bring together my interests in theory, literature, nonfiction prose, and experiential learning.

Claire Jeantils

I am a PhD student in medical humanities working for CNRS and Sorbonne Nouvelle (France). I'm currently doing research on literary representations and perception of epilepsy. Before that, I studied the narratives of epilepsy. I became interested in narrative medicine when I studied the narrative turn's history in human sciences and read *The Shaking Woman* by Siri Hustvedt.

Yuhong Jiang

I am a teacher of School of Humanities and Social Sciences of Peking Union Medical College. I am responsible for English writing course of our MD students. I have been working on engaging more medical humanities in the curriculum of our medical students in the past couple of years, which narrative medicine is very important part.

Jenn Johnson

I am a registered massage therapist working in a clinic that serves a population mostly dealing with pelvic pain and persistent pain. I want to deepen my ability to be present with the whole person who comes to see me so that together we can unpack all the pieces that are contributing to their concerns with their body and then put that back together into a coherent picture of their whole person. I want to be able to meet my patients with more authenticity, while maintaining my professional boundaries. I feel like narrative medicine offers all of that. I am also a writer, and so the idea of listening deeply to the words is so appealing to me, and I love the idea that I can bring both of these aspects of myself together so that I, too, can access my whole person.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Kate Johnson

I might have been a doctor who loves to write, but in the end I became a journalist in 1987 and have written about medicine ever since. I believe effective communication is vital in medicine, not just to ensure patients are properly treated but also to maintain medicine's link with the outside world. Too often I've seen lack of effective communication kill momentum and snuff the spark that could make a difference.

Irene Jong

I am an internist in private practice in Westchester County. I happened to take a narrative medicine online workshop. It wasn't what I thought it was. It was more. I identified skills that I hope to improve, and that will in turn enhance my partnership with patients and my personal development.

Sandra Kesh

I am the Deputy Medical Director for a 500-provider medical practice in Westchester County, and am interested in how narrative medicine can be integrated into our practice as a way to (1) improve the care we provide our high-risk/high-cost patients, and (2) explore the emotional barriers our providers face in providing more attentive care to these patients, and (3) enhancing the professionalism of our practice.

Paul Kim

I graduated college in 2017 and then join a L'Arche community in Tacoma, WA. There I learned about and experienced the power of relationships and stories in people's lives. I then spent a summer doing a hospital chaplaincy internship where I engaged with many total strangers about their stories. I am now applying to medical school and want to make narrative medicine part of my practice and view of life.

Warren Kluber

I am a PhD Candidate in Theatre in Columbia's Department of English and Comparative Literature. My research centers on medicine-in-theatre, and theatre-as-medicine. I.e., I'm interested in how ways of regarding ill and injured bodies are negotiated in theatrical performance, and in the medicinal and therapeutic potential of applied theatre exercises.

Lucia Knoles

Lucia Knoles is a Professor of English at Assumption College, where she is currently in the process of developing two courses: Literature and Healthcare, and Writing and Healing. Professor Knoles' interest in the medical humanities was sparked ten years ago, when her experiences as a long-term care ombudsman led her to offer short literature workshops for the residents of skilled nursing facilities as a way of improving quality of life. For the past eight years, she has been directing life story reading and writing workshops for assisted living residents and concluding those workshops by hosting public readings for the authors and self-publishing anthologies of their work. Professor Knoles has also helped establish a dignity therapy program at a local hospice in order to relieve the psychological distress of people at the end of life by preserving and pass on their stories. These experiences have led Professor Knoles to believe that by sharing stories, people connect with one another, preserve joy, make peace with pain, find meaning, and feel a sense of purpose from passing on a legacy.

Radek Krasinski

Took an interest in placebo research and radical enactivism in late 2017; this discipline offers another modality of healthcare delivery that will definitely contribute to that initial attempt at synthesis. More current interests include interpersonal neurobiology, informatics, and to a lesser extent, mindfulness.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnkd.in/narrativemedicine

Jamie Krug

Upon originally hearing about the Narrative Medicine field, I was truly blown away by how pointedly it seemed to encapsulate the two most prominent themes of the past decade for me. While writing has always been my passion (I chose to become a middle school English teacher in an attempt to pass that on to others), the medical side came when my son was born having had a stroke in utero and that aspect has continued ever since, up to and including my daughter's diagnosis with a mood disorder two years ago when she was eight years old. It is a steep learning curve to be a layman in a professional industry where terms like "ischemia" and "arcuate fasciculus" are thrown around. As a parent, you quickly realize that in order to advocate you need to be part of the discussion and not merely in the room. Beyond that, my children have stories to tell and the need to understand, too. And deserve to be spoken to, and heard. The topic I chose for my Master's thesis speaks to exactly why the field of Narrative Medicine and its potential resonates with me. It was called, "Voices From the Edge: Counternarratives and Interdependence in Young Adult Disability Literature". I hope to continue exploring my work within this field and I am confident that this workshop is the right place to do just that.

Suresh Lakshminarayanan

When I sat down to introduce myself, I was immediately confronted with the problem of naming names, namely myself. That resulted in this procrastination. I am Dr. Suresh Lakshminarayanan, or am I? Born in a place where one has only a given name, without the concept of a first and last name, after several iterations, I have finally adopted my father's given name as my last name. My birth certificate has me as Ramnath alias Suresh and I like to be called Suresh. Now that I have cleared that up, I will tell you I am a physician with lots of stories to tell; I am also a storyteller who likes play the healer. Part of the reason for my opting for this workshop is to work this all out and clear up this crisis of identity. The practice of Modern Clinical medicine has increasingly become a production line product and the drama and excitement of the human experience has been increasingly marginalized. I am looking to express the humanity at the heart of these otherwise sterile interactions and maybe capture some of the magic that comes out of caring for another being. Narrative medicine may help me do that...

Rebecca LaMont

I am compelled to learn more about Narrative Medicine as I have always been keenly aware of the value and impact of how one narrates their experiences (whether it is in relation to their health or otherwise). Personally, I have heavily leaned on the arts, in written and visual format, to make sense of certain experiences pertaining to my personal health. I have led small writing classes with children with a similar objective, and have participated in storytelling groups for veterans that held a component of reshaping one's experience to soften the level of suffering and incorporate a sense of meaning and healing (in the ways we can control). While becoming more involved in social work, I'd like to hold close a Narrative Medicine piece and approach my work and service to others leaning on this focus, as it can be applied to every possible interaction we have and promote a greater sense of connection and well-being without discrimination.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Allison Lastinger

Dr. Allison Lastinger is Assistant Professor of Medicine. She received her undergraduate degrees in Biology and Philosophy and her MD degree from West Virginia University. She completed both her Internal Medicine and Pediatric residency and her fellowship in Infectious Diseases at West Virginia University. She has received awards for patient care, and she is a member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society. She has a special interest in Bioethics and serves on the Ethics Committee for WVU Medicine. She is the co-director for the second year medical student Health Care Ethics course. Dr. Lastinger has also won awards in research including the Margaret J Albrink Research Award in 2017. She is currently involved in research involving prosthetic joint infections as well as narrative medicine. She started the Orthopedic Infectious Disease Clinic at WVU where patients are seen by both Orthopedics and Infectious Diseases in a team-based approach.

Frances Levine

I am a Psychotherapist/Psychoanalyst working with individuals ages 1 through 80. I am involved in working with very young children and would like to write about my experience in working with a diagnosed PDD 2 and one half year old child in a different play therapy modality which I utilized.

Amy Mackelden

Amy Mackelden is the weekend editor at Harper's BAZAAR US, and has bylines at Cosmopolitan, ELLE, Marie Claire, New Statesman, and The Independent. She was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 2013, and regularly writes about the condition.

Gemma Mangione

Gemma Mangione is a Lecturer in the Arts Administration Program and a Consulting Analyst with RK&A, a planning, evaluation, and strategy firm serving museums across the United States. She previously worked as a member of the Whitney Museum of American Art's Education Department, coordinating a community outreach initiative for older adults in the New York metropolitan area. Mangione's research connects practices illuminated through organizational ethnography with mechanisms of broader institutional and policy change. She has a particular interest in legitimization processes in the cultural sector, and how these shape innovation, interpretation, and inequalities. Her current book manuscript, *Living Well: The Politics of Pleasure in American Museums*, compares programs for visitors with disabilities across art museums and botanical gardens. As museums' "health turn" gains traction in cultural policy, she examines how museum staff and visitors embrace, contest, and define the therapeutic value of art and nature and how this process impacts opportunities for access and inclusion. In recognition of this project in its dissertation stage, she received a 2015-2016 American Fellowship from the American Association of University Women. Mangione's research has appeared in peer-reviewed journals including *Poetics*, *Museum & Society*, *Sociology of Health & Illness*, and *Qualitative Sociology*. She holds undergraduate degrees in journalism and art history and a M.A. and Ph.D. in sociology from Northwestern University.

Dina McKelvy

I have been working in medical libraries for over 20 years and have been the liaison and facilitator for the Literature in Medicine program during that time. We recently launched the Center for Medical Humanities as a way to bring together various humanities programs at Maine Medical Center. I have known many people who have done the narrative medicine weekend, and am looking forward to doing it this year.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



Inked.in/narrativemedicine

Joanne McLeod

Although trained as a Family Physician I have worked as a Hospitalist Physician since 2007. The first several years were devoted to Oncology and Palliative Care, and the past six years as a Hospitalist in Family Medicine/Medicine. I have always loved to read and write, and become more interested in Narrative Medicine over the past years since attending the annual Narrative Medicine Workshop in Portland, Oregon in 2016. I am always looking for ways to promote my writing and communication skills.

Amy McNeil

I am a PhD student in the Nutrition program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. The focus of my research is on the patient-practitioner communication, patient centered care, and education of healthcare practitioners. However, prior to applying to the PhD program in Nutrition, I was a high school English teacher, a grant writer and editor, and an instructor in the English Department at UIC. I have also taught a course on writing in the Nutrition program for the last 10 years. However, it was my own personal experience as a patient and a care-giver for my mother when she battled cancer that encouraged me to begin exploring the intersection between the Humanities and the Health Sciences as a means to improve patient and practitioner ability to think critically and listen actively to close the communication gap between the two.

Kate Medina

As a book editor and publisher, I am interested in how reading or listening to narratives affects the person. At NYU, I am engaged in a study of narrative and Cognition.

Devorah Medwin

Devorah Medwin studies and teaches Emotional Fitness and Flexibility. Similar to physical fitness, where *reading or talking about exercise* is not the same as actually *exercising*, Emotional Fitness encourages a consistent program of exercise and practice, to enrich our lives, and increase our resilience. Using her background in theatre and her education as practitioner, caregiver and patient, Devorah develops personal fitness programs for individuals and in group classes. Her work and workshops have been produced live, on stage, radio, television and in virtual and mixed reality for both entertainment and education purposes. Devorah is a Masters Degree Candidate at the Spirituality Mind Body Institute at Teachers College, Columbia University, has her Masters Degree in Playwriting from The Actors Studio Drama School, and holds a certificate in Thanatology Counseling on Death and Dying. She is a member of the National Association of Drama Therapists and The Dramatist Guild. She hosts the Exit Interview on bevival.com and The Long Before the End Book Group at the New York Open Center.

Jeffrey Millstein

I am a general internist educator at Penn Medicine, and have embraced narrative reflection as a way to grow closer to my patients and find greater joy in practice. View patient history as story has opened my eyes to a richer experience as a clinician.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Elizabeth Mitchell

Liz Mitchell is an Emergency Physician at Boston Medical Center (BMC), where she has worked for over 20 years. She attended Case Western Reserve Medical School followed by residency in Emergency Medicine at Denver General Hospital. She returned to Boston after working at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, in part to pursue her interests in music. She has recorded 2 CD's of original songs which can be found on iTunes, among other places, was a founding member of the ACEP section of humanities, has published poetry, essays, book chapters, and a textbook and was a first responder at the Boston Marathon bombing, which she also wrote about. Her most fearless accomplishment to date has been singing the national anthem at Fenway Park in front of 40,000 people. She currently works full time in the BMC ED and is Clinical Associate Professor at the Boston University School of Medicine where she actively promotes the study of medical humanities with EM residents and students.

Roschanak Mossabeb

Born in Tehran, grew up in Austria/Vienna. Graduated from University of Vienna in 1999 and came to the US in 2002 for residency. Mother of three (Jasmin 12, Ella 8 and Darius 7 years), married for 13 years. I work as a neonatal practitioner at Temple Hospital in North Philadelphia. One of my main interest in our practice is to take care of infants suffering from Neonatal Abstinence syndrome and their mothers. I hope that narrative medicine will enable me to become a more attentive and empathetic listener. There is also the intention to potentially introduce narrative medicine to our infants' mothers. I view this as a journey and am excited to learn more about myself in the process. (I am not a gifted writer as you may have noticed)

Zeina Moukarzel

My name is Zeina Assaf (married Moukarzel). I was born in Beirut, Lebanon, where I am still living. I am a wife to an ENT surgeon and a mom to three (Born in Canada) who live in Montreal, Canada. I am an anesthesiologist, critical care physician, trained in the 1990s in Paris, France. I also hold a Master in Public Health and Health and Hospital Management, and a diploma in addiction medicine. I stopped practicing medicine in 2013, for familial (health issue) and personal reasons (pre-burnout). One year later, I founded a nonprofit, LAMSA Lebanon, for advocacy, awareness and youth education about the most common drugs consumed by youth (tobacco, cannabis, alcohol), and their interconnection with mental health. I am as well an advocate for women physician wellbeing, inspired from my own experience in medicine. That is my main activity right now, mainly through social media platforms and LAMSA blog <http://www.lamsaleb.org>. Outside of that, I swim, hike, love reading, drawing, painting and travel. Plus, I am an adept of Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction since 2016 (I was initiated to it at McGill University, Montreal). I am attending today the workshop because I have a dream: writing a novel inspired from my story in English. I am expecting from this workshop, to acquire the appropriate skills for that.

Sara Gilbert Nadler

My scope of practice in Social Work has been in the Medical Field spanning from acute care to skilled nursing facility. I was involved in Case Management, Social Work Discharge Planning, and Cost Containment and Length of Stay. I also had my own experience of being a patient at Columbia Presbyterian for the past fifteen years, and have had many surgeries at Columbia. During this time, I did a lot of writing which consisted of blogs as well as various publications, which can be viewed on line.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

May Nasr

I am a scientist and a writer, leading the Flow Cytometry section at a hematopathology lab in New Jersey and seeking to enter medical school. As I have dissected books since I was a little girl, out of a love for and desire to understand the world and the people in it, I read stories as a medical technologist, stories of patients' lives and windows into frailty and death, and I think we're beautiful because we are dying. I don't write stories so much as read them, recall them, putting words down on the paper not as an act of creation, but as an act of recognition, of acceptance. My interest in Narrative Medicine stems from a philosophical belief in the art of storytelling and of listening as a tool of healing, and I am so eager to learn and share at the workshop with the pioneers in the field and all the colleagues that walk congruent and beautifully diverse paths.

Kathryn Nelson

I live in Michigan and work as a nurse practitioner for a pediatric hospitalist service at a community hospital. I am also the program director for an acute care pediatric nurse practitioner program at the University of Michigan. I am interested in learning more about narrative medicine and would like to explore opportunities to incorporate new practices into my clinical work and teaching.

Nico Nortje

Nico Nortjé is an assistant professor and medical ethicist at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. He holds a PhD in Clinical Ethics from the University of Stellenbosch (South Africa) and also a Master Degree in Psychology. His focus area is End-of-Life conversations in the ICU. Nico is father to three wonderful children and husband to a wonderful wife.

Josh Oppenheimer

Writing used to be a major part of my life. In college, I spent hundreds of hours working as a news writer, and later as Managing Editor, of our daily newspaper. Since starting medical school, I have occasionally journaled, but overall my writing has dropped off considerably. In my final year of residency, one of my major goals is to reintroduce writing into my life, and specifically to write about my experience in the medical system that provides insight to lay people. I am hoping to use this workshop as an opportunity to kick-start this project.

Jacob LeBlanc Peoples

Jacob Peoples is a 27-year-old Internal Medicine Resident from Houma, LA who hopes to one day go into academic Hematology-Oncology. His most important professional areas of interest are clinical education and maintaining humanity in medicine, and his non-professional areas of interest include LSU Football and good Bourbon. His co-attendees Logan and Dillon are two of his best friends. He has been married for just over a year to his wife Sarah and has a small cocker spaniel-poodle mix named Franklin.

Brid Phillips

Dr. Bríd Phillips is a lecturer in health humanities in the discipline of Health Professions Education. She has a background in emergency nursing and a doctorate in the History of Emotions and English Literary Studies. She has published widely on the subject of Shakespeare and Emotions and her current research interest is in the synergies between health and literature. Developing a deeper understanding of narrative medicine will support her current teaching and research interests.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Alyson Porter

Alyson Porter lives in a village on the Rio Grande outside her hometown of Albuquerque, NM, with her husband, two children, and various furred and feathered animals. She is a preventive medicine/public health physician by training, with an undergraduate degree in English from Williams College and longstanding interests in reading, writing, and mindfulness practices. Most recently she has worked in opioid addiction treatment. In late 2016 she left her job to deal with a health problem and the ensuing kaleidoscopic upheaval and shifting of priorities; at present these include spending time with family, obtaining additional instruction in mindfulness-based interventions, reading, journaling and other writing (poetry, flash fiction, creative nonfiction), making soups, and taking many long walks. (During the summer of 2018, she and her then-12-year-old daughter walked the 100-mile Cotswold Way in England together—highly recommended!) Currently she is exploring the possibility of pursuing a fellowship in Hospice and Palliative Medicine. For now, she hopes to implement a medical storytelling project at a local hospital and looks forward to learning more about narrative medicine and narrative ethics and ways to incorporate them into work and life.

Michael Preziosi

I am an infectious disease physician and associate program director for an internal medicine residency. One of my goals as APD is to integrate humanism in medicine into all aspects of our curriculum, and to train our residents to be empathetic. Narrative medicine keeps coming up in literature searches as a way to do it. I have read one of Dr. Charon's books, and I have started implementing some principles of narrative medicine into our curriculum in a small group discussion format. I have loved it so far, but I want to get better at it.

Rebecca Quiñones

My name is Rebecca Quiñones and currently I reside in Jacksonville, Florida where I am currently working on a memoir. I became interested in narrative medicine and narrative therapy while working on my masters at Harvard Divinity School. I myself fought cancer twice while a high school student and it was through writing about my experience and exploring it through various academic lenses that I realized how cathartic and healing the very process of writing was. Realizing how healing the writing process can be, I hope to work with adolescents and young adults with cancer and hope to incorporate narrative therapy into their treatment as a means of grappling with their illnesses. Having a background in religious studies I would like to include a spiritual component in their treatment options as well. Facing a life threatening illness strips the patient of power and it is my hope that by sharing narrative tools with this patient population I may offer them the chance to regain control of their lives and position themselves as the true authors of their own life stories.

Mary Ready

I have the honor and privilege of working as a palliative care and hospice doctor in the most rural and economically stressed part of Vermont, known as the Northeast Kingdom. I moved here from the greater Burlington area 14 years ago to repay my National Health Service Corps loan, working until 2018 as a full-spectrum rural family medicine, delivering babies, seeing primary care patients in the office, caring for them in the hospital. As time passed, I found I was needed more in helping people with serious illnesses, many needing end-of-life care. As of 18 months ago, I only see people living with life-altering illnesses, no matter their age or disease. I have always understood medicine as a narrative process. Telling stories, being heard, sharing insights, heals. Stories connect and empower us. I knew this as a child, a young mother, a grieving daughter, a non-traditional medical student, and now as a middle-aged doctor. I feel it is time to return to my roots, as an English major once intent on earning her PhD 30 years ago. I am looking forward to being part of a new community of attentive readers.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnkd.in/narrativemedicine

Patricia Reider

20 years of socio-economic development and healthcare in Brazil; writing and filming on bettering healthcare quality on issues of Healthcare Fragmentation; Patient Advocacy and Facilitation, medical errors in immunotherapy trial evaluation; training caregivers as patient facilitators; working with political campaign on healthcare issues.

Patricia Roberts

Patricia Roberts is currently taking a gap year and is traveling, writing, taking classes and doing a number of things she did not have time to do as a practicing surgeon. She is Chair Emeritus of the Department of Surgery at Lahey Hospital and Medical Center in Burlington, MA and is Professor of Surgery at Tufts University School of Medicine.

Dillon Howard Robin

I am from Lafayette, LA which is also where I attended college at University of Louisiana at Lafayette. I went to medical school in New Orleans which is where I first became involved in working and teaching in small group settings (a very early precursor to narrative medicine). I am a second-year resident in Internal Medicine with LSU located in Baton Rouge. I am interested in pursuing a career in academic medicine after residency.

Diane Rode

A licensed Creative Arts Therapist, Diane Rode directs The Mount Sinai Kravis Children's Hospital's Child Life and Creative Arts Therapy and the Child Life Zone, a therapeutic and educational play and arts environment which features "KidZone TV", a live in-house broadcast studio for hospitalized children and families. In her 33 years at Mount Sinai, Ms. Rode has evolved Child Life and Creative Arts Therapy services from a one-person program to a nationally recognized interdisciplinary department with a full staff of Child Life Specialists, art and music therapists, creative writing specialists and media and technology artists. Ms. Rode has created dynamic and innovative programming and partnerships for children of all ages and their families throughout the Kravis Children's Hospital, the Pediatric ED and Adult Palliative Care, and she has published and lectured widely on art, imagination and illness, and reflective practice.

Olivia Rogo

I am an undergraduate journalism and English literature student at NYU. I have recently gone through some difficult medical circumstances, as well as some close family members'. A good friend and psychiatrist suggested this workshop to me and introduced me to narrative medicine.

Mischa Ronick

I am a family physician in Portland, OR and originally pursued this discipline because I wanted to help promote individual and community health and alleviate suffering. I am interested in this workshop because I believe it will help support my personal and professional interests.

Nelly Rosario

Nelly Rosario is author of "Song of the Water Saints: A Novel," winner of a PEN/Open Book Award, and holds an MFA from Columbia University. She is an Associate Professor at Williams College and currently at work on a speculative novel about community medicine.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Antoinette Rose

During the last three years, I have been the Medical Director of the Office of Communication at Palo Alto Foundation Medical Group (in addition to being a practicing internist for more than 25 years), a role created for me, based on my informal work in this area during the preceding years. To my knowledge, I am the only such leader in the country (my research has found that other medical groups have non-physicians in this role). In this role I have created new communication methods for the group, fostered effective multi-directional communication among leaders and front-line physicians, and have introduced new community-building activities that have spanned the considerable geography of our group. One activity I was particularly proud of was the "One Clinic, One Book" series I created, based on similar book groups that occur across whole cities. We started with "Being Mortal," by Atul Gawande MD, and ultimately carried the conversation to the clinic's patients as well. My ambitious goal now – for which I have the support of our top leadership - is to create a Narrative Medicine program at PAFMG. I think this is a natural next step. My colleagues tell me frequently I help preserve the soul of the group, just with what I am doing already, but I don't think it is right that I do this singlehandedly and I would like to bring the tools of "soul preservation" to all of them. And I see Narrative Medicine as being a great way to do that. In my reading about Narrative Medicine, it has seemed to me that its students thus far are most often medical students and residents; I think the time is ripe for bringing it to mature clinicians outside of a university setting.

Ellen Rosenberg

Ellen Rosenberg is a Professor at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. A seasoned college professional, scholar and author, she teaches courses in theater, humanities, creativity and creative writing. A member of Actors Equity with Off-Broadway performance experience, she has run workshops for educational, community, and theater groups centered on devised performance and the use of ritual in theater. In 2018, she became involved in the intensive study and teaching of Narrative Medicine as Performance. In March 2019, she was invited to be a presenter as one of two featured workshops at the annual Narrative Medicine symposia at Wake Forest University Humanities Institute in partnership with the WFU School of Medicine.

John Ruff

I am a Professor of English at Valparaiso University where I teach American literatures and writing in the health professions. I have been including texts on narrative medicine and narrative humility for a couple years now, and have a desire to immerse myself more deeply in the theory and practice.

Leslie Ruster

Hi! My name is Leslie and I'm a chaplain intern at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in New Hampshire, a student of clinical herbal medicine at the Vermont Center for Integrative Herbalism and a storyteller/performer. I live in Vermont and I'm passionate about narrative, myth, dreams, the numinous, the ancestors, disempowering systems of oppression and tracing them into the past and back, Carl Jung and wondering whether stories have psyches of their own and if they own us rather than the other way around? I'm also wondering... how western civilization and western medicine got it all so wrong? Some of my most seminal life moments include feeding a wild black bear by hand in the Adirondacks as a child of neglectful parents, finding innovative ways (think menstrual pads and duct tape) to deal with a teenager's pus spewing armpit cyst while leading a wilderness therapy program in the dead of winter and pulling a breached calf out of my favorite heifer on a farm in Vermont. Since graduating from Oberlin College in 2008 I've worked on conservation backcountry trail crews, at an abortion clinic, as an herbalist at a medical marijuana dispensary, for various wilderness therapy programs, on farms, in warehouses, as a public school teacher and am now putting it all together in my work as a chaplain. I look forward to meeting ya'll and learning more about narrative medicine and how I can continue to incorporate it in my work.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnkd.in/narrativemedicine

Anja Rydén Gramner

I have a background as an upper secondary high school teacher in English and Swedish, where my passion for fiction as a didactic tool started. Currently a Phd student in pedagogy, my research interest lies in medical students discussing fiction, primarily how they through interaction co-construct concepts such as emotion and empathy in relation to their future occupation as physicians, and also how they co-construct affect and emotional displays in discussions about fiction.

Mary Sackley

Mary views healing as deeply rooted in relationship, and believes that we are each at our most creative, joyful, and powerful when our autonomy and interdependence are in balance. She has seen plant medicine support profound healing in a clinical setting when offered without judgement and with an anti-oppressive, trauma-informed lens. Drawing on an understanding of conventional medical treatments as well as constitutional assessment techniques, Mary uses herbs, food, ritual, and humor to support health autonomy and community resilience.

Amy Sacks

I'm a former newspaper reporter (NY Daily News) and journalist. I earned a master's in public health with the intention of writing about the field. For the last several years I've worked as a writer at Einstein Montefiore, where I report and write stories that help promote the work of clinicians and basic science researchers. I'm interested in learning how to work with clinicians to help them better tell their stories; this workshop sounds like a perfect introduction.

Karen Schabot

I am a nurse midwife who listens to the stories of women every day and I am witness to the rest of the story as they give birth.

Karen Schelling

I've been a certified nurse midwife since 1990. My path to midwifery was not a straight line. I studied anthropology in college, with a focus on women's ability and need to make adaptations to traditional textile techniques. This work got me out of the country, in the mid-1980s and living in small villages in Indonesia studying indigo ikat textile dying techniques with village elders. This work was both practical and spiritual. One of the sacred clothes that I worked on was to be worn by women while in labor. This was the first time I thought about childbirth. My travels led me to "receive" a prophecy & upon returning to the states, I entered nursing school, moving rapidly towards midwifery. I've practiced in a variety of settings including private practice, family planning clinics, and homebirth. I have been at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical center since 2002, in full-scope practice. I continue to be an avid and adventurous traveler. I live in southern Vermont with my husband, we have one son. When not working I can be found knitting, sewing, cooking, hiking or just bent down in the woods harvesting something wild.

Insa Marie Schmidt

I am an MD trained in internal medicine and psychiatry and recent graduate from an MPH program. I am deeply interested in improving our understanding of care and caregiving. Taking courses in Medical Anthropology as part of the MPH program inspired me to explore medicine as a cultural system. Most of my research focuses on patients with different forms of kidney disease. I am currently planning a project investigating stigma, treatment and disease beliefs of patients who receive dialysis or kidney transplantation.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnkd.in/narrativemedicine

Ruby T Senie

After completing a second BS in Nursing I chose to continue my education by earning a PhD in epidemiology. The focus of my research is women's health: Epidemiology of Women's Health was published in 2014. Now working on the history of prenatal DES exposure.

Delaram Shirazian

Dr. Delaram Shirazian is an assistant clinical professor responsible for supervision of third- and fourth-year students in primary care and low vision rehabilitation clinics at SUNY College of Optometry. She earned her Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 2016 and completed a residency in ocular disease and low vision rehabilitation at the Kansas City VA Medical Center in 2017. Dr. Shirazian's academic interests include teaching on the art of effective patient-doctor communication.

Sarah Shrader

I am interested in the power of narrative medicine and the humanities in general as a method to get deeper meaning from our work, engage interprofessional teams and students, and overall enhance wellness.

Kristina Smith

I am a PhD candidate of Physical Cultural Studies in the Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education, and I am completing a joint degree with the Joint Centre for Bioethics at the University of Toronto. My research focus pertains to the dimensions of human pain, suffering, illness, bioethics and narrative ethnography. My doctoral work focuses on the analysis of narratives in palliative care settings involving child organ and bone marrow transplants.

Tammy Smith

Tammy Smith is licensed social worker providing counseling and support services to adults at Bergen New Bridge Medical Center in Paramus, NJ, previously called Bergen Regional Medical Center. She has worked in the emergency department, in acute medicine, and most recently as a social worker on the inpatient psychiatric unit. She strives to cultivate a therapeutic presence by providing a safe and nurturing environment to promote healing and influence patient recovery. Her goal of attending this workshop is to find more meaningful ways to incorporate narrative medicine into her daily work. She hopes to encourage her patients as well as her colleagues to find alternative ways to conceptualize illness trajectories to decrease the stigma associated with psychiatric diagnoses. Tammy also works a psychotherapist at Care Plus NJ, an outpatient mental agency also located in Paramus, NJ. She uses her personal and professional experience navigating the complex behavioral health care system to provide community education and advocacy about mental illness to empower individuals and families to share stories that identify unmet needs and gaps in service delivery. Tammy wants to further her narrative interviewing techniques to explore the ways social determinants impact health and undermine discharge-planning efforts of vulnerable, marginalized, and underserved adults living in her community. She draws upon her graduate training in integrated primary and behavioral health to examine the intersection between poverty, homelessness, substance use, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and mental illness. Tammy received her bachelor's degree in social work from Ramapo College of New Jersey and her master's degree in social work from New York University. She has completed primary training courses in Rational-Emotive & Cognitive Behavioral Therapy at the Albert Institute in New York City, dialectical behavioral therapy (DBT), and is now a first-year candidate at the New Jersey Institute for Training in Psychoanalysis in Teaneck, NJ.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine

Sabrina Smith-Sweeney

I am a mother of three children, two who have significant disabilities and one who has a significant medical history. I have had to tell my children's/family's story to so many medical practitioners and have used our story to support other parents facing similar challenges. I am interested in expanding my skills in this area, particularly in ways to support other parents/families in informal ways and potentially in a professional capacity.

Janet Snoyer

Janet Snoyer is a medical school admissions consultant to people aiming for careers as physicians, physician scientists, and dentists. Upon her retirement as the director of the pre-health advising office at Cornell University, Janet launched The Mentoring Alliance, an enterprise devoted to creating a culture of mentorship in medicine. She is particularly interested in promoting mental health and wellness through narrative development. This interest grew out of her observations of the medical school application process. Medical school admissions committees require authentic—and voluminous—narrative generation on the part of applicants, who often feel quite rusty at storytelling. This includes both relating how their observations in clinical settings has touched them, and in sharing their own human path to medicine. Janet has referred many applicants to the Narrative Medicine workshop, who emerged feeling truly transformed, and is now eager to experience it herself.

Angela Sprunger

I am the Assistant Director of the Ohio Valley Center for Collaborative Arts and I teach in the School of Art + Design at Ohio University. I am new to narrative medicine as a field. I am interested in the pedagogy of it as it intersects with the growing field of Arts in Health and in its potential framework for my studio practice.

Tyler Tate

My name's Tyler Tate and I live in Portland Oregon. I'm a pediatric palliative care doctor and ethicist at Oregon Health and Science University where I am also the director of professionalism and comfort care and an associate director of the Center for Ethics in Health Care. Although originally from St. Louis Missouri (Go Cardinals!) I have spent most of last decade either in the Southeast (UAB for medical school, Duke for palliative care fellowship) and Pacific Northwest (University of Washington for pediatric residency, clinical ethics fellowship, and MA in philosophy and bioethics). I love literature, especially 20th century southern writers, and talking about Modernism with my brother, who is a PhD student in English Lit at Rutgers and focusing on British Modernism. Otherwise, I'm a huge runner, snowboarder, and lover of life. Oh, and my own scholarly work focuses primarily on understanding how suffering, language, and love can form the bedrock of the patient-clinician relationship and enhance flourishing for medical providers and healthcare systems. Excited to meet all of you!

Katrina Thorstensen

I am a certified nurse midwife and have been providing ob/gyn care to women and families for many years. I work at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, NH. In providing care, I have always listened to women as they tell me about themselves, their lives and relationships. This is something I do naturally at times, and other times I have to work at it. I know that women appreciate it. It can be challenging to do this with the demands and time constraints of a busy clinic day. I also find that some women/couples are difficult to talk with, do not easily open up (probably for good reason). These are some things I hope to learn about in this workshop. I am also an artist (painter, primarily landscapes in pastels) and am hoping to find ways to integrate my passion for doing art with my professional work.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnkd.in/narrativemedicine

Robert Tozzi

I am exploring the value of narrative medicine in conjunction with my wife, Lynn Tozzi. Together, we are collaborating disciplines to provide enhanced patient care.

Lynn Tozzi

I am exploring the value of narrative medicine in conjunction with my husband, Robert Tozzi. Together, we are collaborating disciplines to provide enhanced patient care.

Yanick M. Vibert

My name is Yanick M. Vibert and I am a first generation American of Haitian descent, and an Attending Neonatologist at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia, PA. I earned my B.S. in Natural Sciences from Spelman College and Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. I completed my pediatric residency in the 'sweetest place on earth; Hershey Children's Hospital in Hershey, PA, and neonatology fellowship at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia. My passion and involvement with global health spans nearly two decades. Having missed the Haiti earthquakes by 48 hours, I chose to have a better understanding of global public health and subsequently earned my Masters of Public Health (MPH) with a Mother Child Health concentration from the Harvard School of Public Health. Being a Master Trainer with the Helping Babies Breathe (HBB) program, an educational initiative of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) that teaches newborn resuscitation techniques to birth attendants in resource-limited settings, I have trained over 200 health care providers in three continents over the past decade. Since 2002, I have been involved with and have worked to support community based Maternal & Child Health capacity building projects in Haiti, Guyana, Uganda, The Gambia, and Cuba. I am an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics with Drexel University College of Medicine and on faculty with the Dornsife School of Public Health Global Health Program. I have had the privilege of witnessing first hand women and children's 'daily life stories' from around the world. My hope for this workshop is to begin to learn how I can begin to honor these stories by putting them to paper...

Jaylon Von Mertens

Jaylon A. Von Mertens is a nurse-midwife practicing at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Having initially trained as a home birth midwife I have attended births in all settings, and witnessed the power of birth to transform women. The birth story is a key identity story for women and has the power to create deep meaning in a woman's life. I'm hoping narrative medicine holds promise to help women harness their stories and the meaning embedded in the story.

Tzitel Voss

Tzitel Voss is a Speech Communications and Theater teacher and consultant with 20 years of experience in a broad range of fields. She recently earned an MA in Professional Communications and Storytelling from East Tennessee State University, the only oral storytelling program in the country. Her area of research included the examination of how storytelling can be used to discuss issues of race, culture, and social justice.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnkd.in/narrativemedicine

Elizabeth Walmsley

ELIZABETH WALMSLEY was awarded the Master of Social Service degree in May 2015 from Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. She is now in her fifth year of in-patient palliative care social work, having recently moved from Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia to St. Elizabeth Hospital in Edgewood, Kentucky. Prior to social work, Elizabeth also worked as a high school English teacher in Esperance, Western Australia after obtaining her first master's degree in European Literature and Education from the University of Western Australia. Elizabeth is a member of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), has spent significant time over the past ten years amongst the Bhutanese-Nepali refugee population, and has lived in Perth, Australia; Kathmandu, Nepal; and Philadelphia, USA. In her free time she loves to write poetry and watch Netflix.

Sally Wasmuth

Dr. Wasmuth's background is in African-American Studies, Philosophical Studies of Biology, and Occupational Therapy. Her research focuses on translational and implementation science, particularly in the areas of occupation-based intervention for addictive disorders and dual-diagnosis. She is involved in several arts-based recovery initiatives, including the use of theatre as both a therapeutic intervention and a means of stimulating community conversations on critical topics including the opioid crisis and healthcare inequities related to race.

Lenna Wertenbaker

Lenna is inspired by the body as a landscape, our beings as complex and interconnected, and our experiences as living forces that shape who we are. She believes our stories are worth finding and telling. Lenna has been studying what it means to live in a body for over a decade, by way of western herbal medicine, human anatomy and physiology, yoga philosophy and practice, five phase theory, and trauma and resilience studies. The great love of Lenna's life is the wild natural world; she seeks a human-ness that belongs to the earth.

Eva Wolfsohn

I have been a clinical social worker for over 30 years with clients of diverse backgrounds as well as psychiatric diagnoses. I am a holocaust survivor;

Erika Wright

Erika Wright holds a PhD in English from the University of Southern California. She has appointments as a Lecturer in the English Department (University Park Campus) and as an Associate Professor of Medical Education at KSOM. She is the Associate Director of the humanities, ethics/economics, arts and law (HEAL) program at USC. She co-teaches the professional identity formation workshop for the Family Medicine clerkship and the Medical Arts and Humanities selective at USC and introduced Narrative Medicine methods to undergraduates in the English Department. Her book, *Reading for Health: Medical Narratives and the Nineteenth-Century Novel* (2016), examines the intersection between medicine and narrative in Victorian novels. She has published on medicine and literature, health and disease, graduate education, and medical professionalism.

Lorin Young

Hi - my name is Lorin Young. I am a general psychiatrist in private practice in northern Ontario. I am particularly interested in trauma, mindfulness, and working with refugees and immigrants. I am interested in learning more about narrative medicine to incorporate it into my own practice and, as an associate professor at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, to potentially incorporate aspects of narrative medicine into my teaching with medical students, psychiatry residents, and students of other health disciplines. I'm looking forward to the workshop!

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnkd.in/narrativemedicine

Corinne Zimmermann

Corinne Zimmermann is an experienced museum educator who has worked at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Boston, MA as the Director of Interpretation; the Harvard Art Museums, Harvard University; and the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA among others. From 2008-2010, she served as New England Regional Director for Visual Understanding in Education, home of the Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS). In 2019, Corinne founded Corinne Zimmermann Consultancy and has an active practice designing and leading museum-based workshops for healthcare professionals, including Brigham and Women's Hospital, Cambridge Health Alliance, Mount Auburn Hospital, and Boston University. She also serves as a facilitator and coach for the Hailey Group, which uses art experiences to foster workplace skills for clients such as Fidelity, PTC and Phillips. Professional interests include multidisciplinary teamwork and communication, observation and critical thinking skills, facilitative leadership, professional reflection, mindfulness and self-care.

#fallNMworkshop



@NarrativeMed



/ColumbiaNarrativeMedicine



@narrative_medicine



lnked.in/narrativemedicine