

FEATURE

Interview with Dr. Moira Stewart

Dr. Moira Stewart is Chair of OSSU's Working Group on Training and Capacity Building – a subcommittee of the Operational Management Team focused on building capacity for patient-oriented research in Ontario. She is also the recipient of the 2017 Maurice Wood Award for Lifetime Contribution to Primary Care Research and will be recognized and celebrated at the 45th North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) Annual Meeting in Montreal on November 17-21.



Moira was kind enough to take a few moments from her busy schedule to share her views on building patient oriented research capacity and the important role of her Working Group.

What is your vision for patient-oriented research in Ontario? I envision applied researchers collaborating, accessing key patient-oriented research resources and expertise, and seeking patient insights and experience to tackle critical issues in health services research. In response to this shift, large groups of knowledgeable patients will emerge interested in being partners in research at a variety of levels – from providing occasional advice through to being full members of a research team. The Working Group and I are working hard to provide structures to support the education and the availability of patient-researcher partnership opportunities to see this vision become reality.

What Working Group activities most excite you about capacity building in Ontario? I am excited about the pan-Ontario nature of OSSU's capacity building programs that include patients as leaders and educators for researchers and other stakeholders. These programs now exist across the province. The strengthening workshops have had a large impact on knowledge, comfort and attitudes of patients and researchers, as have the on-line workshops and the Masterclasses

What is the future for patient oriented research in Ontario? As patient oriented research becomes the norm for applied health research, new evidence to support decision making and care will become more relevant to patients' day-to-day concerns - resulting in improved health of Ontarians. There will be accessible ways for patients and researchers to become true partners in research.

Dr. Stewart is a Distinguished University Professor Emeritus at the Centre for Studies in Family Medicine and the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry, The University of Western Ontario. Her interests include patient-centred communication and primary care health service research.

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NEWS

Dr. Dean Fergusson, OSSU's Co-Scientific Lead and Ottawa Method Centre lead, will be attending the upcoming INVOLVE at 21 Conference and working with other research and administrative leads to develop an international collaborative network of patient-partnering research systems in a project being led by Simon Denegri, Chair at the UK's INVOLVE.

Dr. Sharon Straus with Dr. France Légaré (QC) and a research group in Oregon has been awarded an \$8M USD grant from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) for a patient-oriented study to compare impacts of clinician-focused and team-based approaches to advance care planning.

Dr. Walter Wodchis, OSSU Centre lead at the Health System Performance Research Network, has been appointed as the inaugural Research Chair of Implementation and Evaluation Science and a Senior Scientist at Trillium Health Partners Institute for Better Health.

UPDATES

OSSU at Waterloo

In September 2017, OSSU was invited to the University of Waterloo's Faculty of Health Sciences. This visit began with a roundtable discussion with the Dean of the Faculty and several lead academics covering the roles and activities of OSSU across the province, the research being undertaken in the Faculty, and opportunities for closer alignment, support and collaboration. In the afternoon, the Faculty hosted an information and feedback session on OSSU that included graduate students and faculty members, in order to ensure that Waterloo's researchers can take full advantage of the supports available to them through OSSU.

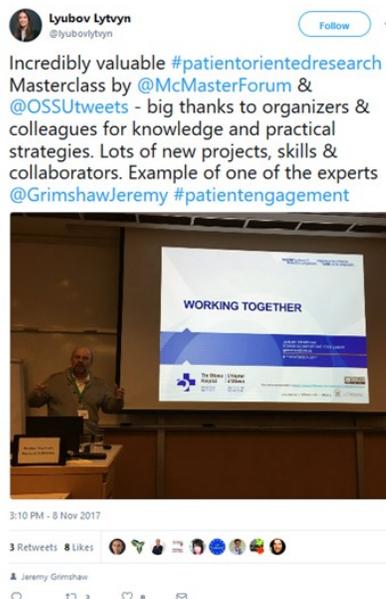
EQUATOR Canada Publication School

In October 2017, OSSU sponsored the first EQUATOR Canada Publication School. The school, designed for all health researchers, introduced participants to the principles of publication science (or journalology) - including a focus on publishing in a patient-oriented research system. Participants gained an understanding of the factors that can impact the integrity of the scientific record as well as accessing strategies to deal with those factors. The next program will be offered April 30 – May 1, 2018. For more information, visit: <http://www.sickkids.ca/Research/EnRICH/Publication-School/EQUATOR-Canada-Publication-School.html>



Masterclass

OSSU sponsored another highly successful Masterclass on the Use and Conduct of Patient-Oriented Research on November 6-8 at the Ivey School of Business in Toronto. Over 50 participants representing researchers, patients and caregivers, policy and decision makers, and providers attended the intense 3-day workshop. Participants were impressed with the course content and energized to continue promoting patient-oriented research. Now, over 150 graduates of the Masterclass are in the community championing patient-oriented research. More information on Masterclass is available at: www.ossu.ca/training



UPCOMING EVENTS

2018

- Mar 22 Patient Partner Workshop
- Mar 27 - 28 Clinical Trials Ontario Conference, Toronto, ON
- May 29 - 31 CAHSPR Annual Conference, Montreal, QC
- Apr 30 - May 1 EQUATOR Canada Publication School, Toronto, ON
- Oct 4 - 5 Canadian Health Workforce, Gatineau, Québec

TUTOR-PHC

The Transdisciplinary Understanding and Training on Research in Primary Health Care (TUTOR-PHC) is a one-year, pan-Canadian, interdisciplinary research capacity building program that has been training primary and integrated health care researchers and decision-makers from family medicine, nursing, psychology, epidemiology, social work, occupational therapy, education, policy and many other disciplines since 2003. OSSU has helped to update the innovative curriculum of this certificate program to include valuable training in patient-oriented primary health care research. To learn more about the program, visit: <http://www.uwo.ca/fammed/csfm/tutor-phc/>



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