



## Director's Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to share with you the many achievements of The CHOICE Institute faculty, students and alumni for the Fall 2022 quarter. First, I congratulate Prof. Lou Garrison again for receiving the well-deserved Lifetime Achievement award from ISPOR. Lou has been a beacon of professionalism and HEOR expertise for decades and shows no signs of slowing down. This quarter we welcome our newest faculty, Assistant Professor Jing Li to CHOICE. We are so excited to have her as our colleague. We were thrilled to host and support the Society for Medical Decision Making (SMDM) Annual Meeting in our city. Kudos to Prof. Aasthaa Bansal for serving as the Scientific Co-chair for the meeting and our affiliate Faculty Davene Wright to Co-chair the meeting. And congratulations to our former PhD student Boshen Jiao for winning one of the Milt Weinstein Awards for Outstanding presentation in Applied Health Economics at the meeting.

We hosted our Annual Symposium focused on topics in health equity. Since its inception, our institute has identified

principles of diversity, inclusiveness, and respect as some of its core principles and has invoked them in almost every decision. One key aspect of building on and sustaining these principles is to have a clear notion about equity and equality of opportunities for all. As we learn to practice these principles, we have also started to incorporate these discussions in our training and research on topics that, traditionally, have not considered these issues as the primary objectives. Our symposium was a testament to us all learning to bridge these gaps. We are grateful that we have had three world-renowned speakers, each telling us how to approach, measure, and incorporate principles of health equity in our research.

Our stellar student scholarships continue too. Congrats to Rachel Wittenauer, Ben Nwogu, Samantha Clark, Sara Khor, and Sabra Zarea for doing outstanding research, which is highlighted here. Congrats to our alumni Lisa Bloudek for receiving the 2022 Value in Health Paper of the Year Award, along with UW faculty co-authors Sean Sullivan and Jens Grueger.

Wishing all a happy and safe holiday season!

Sincerely,  
*Anirban*

Anirban Basu, PhD  
Professor & Stergachis Family Endowed Director  
The CHOICE Institute

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## FALL QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

CHOICE Activities & Accomplishments



[Watch the recording of our 2022 Annual Symposium](#)



[Lou Garrison Receives ISPOR Lifetime Achievement Award](#)



[Recent PhD Alum Boshen Jiao wins SMDM Award](#)

Thank you to all who joined us at our symposium to hear from three fantastic speakers about how to incorporate health equity into our work in HEOR: Drs. Monica Garcia Perez, Susan Griffin, and Sherri Rose. The recording can be accessed on the CHOICE YouTube channel.

Congratulations to **Lou Garrison**, Professor Emeritus for The CHOICE Institute, who has been awarded the ISPOR 2022 Avedis Donabedian Lifetime Achievement Award recognizing his outstanding, life-long contribution to the improvement of health outcomes. He was formally recognized at ISPOR Europe in Vienna this November.

At the SMDM Meeting in October, CHOICE PhD Alum, **Boshen Jiao, PhD ('22)** was awarded the Milt Weinstein Award for Outstanding Presentation in Applied Health Economics for his dissertation research on Associating Health-Related Quality of Life with Time Use to Capture Productivity Impacts in Economic Evaluation. Congratulations, Boshen!



### Fall Quarter at The CHOICE Institute

- The UW ICER modeling team (PI: Professor **Josh Carlson**, lead modeler: **Kangho Suh, PhD '19**, UPITT subcontractor and alumni) presented the findings from their review of drugs to treat ALS in August. [Read the report.](#)
- Associate Professor **Jennifer Bacci** received grants from UCB Pharma to support the "Community Pharmacist Epilepsy Services Program" pilot study and from HRSA through the UW Center for Health Workforce Studies to support the "Envisioning New Career Pathways for Pharmacy Technicians" study. Dr. Bacci was also elected to serve as the 2022-2023 Chair of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Community-Based Practice and Research Network (PRN).
- The University of Washington ISPOR chapter held student board elections for the first time this year! Our student board for the 2022-23 school year will consist of **Tori Dayer** (President), **Ben Nwogu** (Vice President), **Ron Dickerson** (Treasurer), and Elizabeth Carnesi (Secretary). They organized a Social Fall Walk in the Park at the UW Arboretum in the first week of school, and then a collaborative Halloween social with the UW AMCP chapter. The new student board is looking forward to continuing their alumni seminar series on career paths this year, in addition to a few collaborative

events with other ISPOR student chapters.

- Third year PhD Student, **Rachel Wittenauer**, along with her collaborators Drs. **Jennifer Bacci**, **Parth Shah**, and **Andy Stergachis**, published an exploratory study on pharmacy deserts in Washington State, and they look forward to building on this during Rachel's dissertation research this academic year. In her research assistant role in the Department of Global Health, her team contributed to a technical brief for WHO regarding the use of HIV self-testing to initiate use of oral PrEP for HIV prevention. Lastly, after two rewarding years in the role, Rachel is handing the reins over to the new generation of student representatives, and she thanks all the faculty and students for making the past couple of years so great!
- Monisha Sharma, ScM, PhD, Assistant Professor of Global Health has worked with several CHOICE students on a Gates-funded project to model the impact of PrEP scale up on HIV drug resistance in sub-Saharan Africa. The project results were cited in the recently released WHO technical brief. Congratulations to CHOICE PhD students, **Rachel Wittenauer**, **Ben Nwogu**, and **Samantha Clark** who have all contributed to this important work. [Read the technical brief.](#)
- Assistant Professor **Jing Li's** co-first authored publication on [Social Determinants of Health and Geographic Variation in Medicare per Beneficiary Spending](#) has been cited in several issues of the [Federal Register by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services](#). Two of Dr. Li's ongoing work, one on dementia and wealth, and the other on advance care planning and end-of-life care, were presented at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Summer Institute 2022 Aging Meeting.
- Professor **Andy Stergachis** and fifth year PhD student **Sabra Zaraa** are collaborators for the newly released living systematic review and meta-analysis of COVID-19 vaccines for pregnant persons, covering vaccine safety, efficacy, effectiveness, and immunogenicity. This project,

supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, is a collaboration between Tulane University, the Institute for Clinical Effectiveness & Health Policy (ICES, Buenos Aires, Argentina), London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, World Health Organization, and the University of Washington.

[Access the site here.](#)

- **Andy Stergachis** presented at the 80th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Seville, Spain in September. The poster was titled: Stergachis A, Yirenkyiwaa Esseku Y, Bawa J, Odegard P, Bonsu G, Sullivan C, Downing D, Zlott D, Simpson E. Development of a Training Program for Community Pharmacists as Vaccinators in Ghana, and based on work conducted in partnership with PATH, Ghana College of Pharmacy and the Ghana Ministry of Health. The project is supported by the Twilio Foundation and PATH.
- Research Assistant Professor **Douglas Barthold** presented his research, titled "The association of cognitive impairment with the utilization of high and low value healthcare" at the Department of Family Medicine Research Seminar in November.
- Affiliate Assistant Professor **Lisa Bloudek**, PharmD, MS '09, '10, was recognized as one of the Seattle 40 Under 40 by Puget Sound Business Journal. [Read more.](#)
- Additionally, **Lisa Bloudek**, Professor **Sean Sullivan** and Affiliate Professor **Jens Grueger** were recipients of the 2022 Value in Health Paper of the Year Award. [Read more.](#)
- Fourth year PhD student **Sara Khor** and co-authors **Zizi Elsis** (third year PhD student) and Professor **Josh Carlson** published results from a systematic review that examined how much the US public values health equity in Value in Health.

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### SMDM 2022 Activities & Presentations

- Professor Emeritus **Lou Garrison** organized a short course titled, Building on Cost-Effectiveness Analysis to Improve the Economic Evaluation of New Medical Interventions: Theory and Practice.

Professor **Anirban Basu** participated in a panel discussion titled, Striving for a Societal Perspective for Economic Evaluation: How to Capture Wider Benefits, Costs Falling on Different Payers and Account for Impacts on Inequality.

#### **Poster Presentations:**

- 4th year PhD student **Yilin Chen**: Evaluating Heterogeneity and Treatment Outcomes of Tumor-Agnostic Drug using Bayesian Hierarchical Models
- 3rd year PhD student **Zizi Elsisi**: A framework supporting treatment decision-making in the era of novel diagnostics: The case of Prostate-specific membrane antigen imaging
- 4th year PhD student **Sara Khor**: Understanding the Interaction of Multiple Mechanisms of Racial Bias in Clinical Risk Prediction Models: Case Study in Colorectal Cancer Recurrence
- Upcoming Assistant Professor **Kyu Eun Lee**: Outcomes and Experiences of the Inaugural Cohort of Participants in a Medical Decision Making Fellowship
- 2nd year PhD student **Felipe Montano-Campos**: 1) Argentine Valuation of the EQ-5D-3L Health States: An Experienced Utility Approach; 2) Preferences on Diversity in the Selection of Radiology Residents in the Post-Step 1 World: A Discrete Choice Experiment

#### **Oral Presentations:**

- Associate Professor **Aastha Bansal**: Addressing challenges in the development of clinical risk prediction algorithms due to intermittent patient follow-up in electronic health record data
- Research Assistant Professor & CHOICE Faculty Fellow **Douglas Barthold**: Reluctance to switch from daily oral to long-acting antiretroviral therapy among people living with HIV: results from a discrete choice experiment
- Former CHOICE Postdoc **Noah Hammarlund**: Isolating the Drivers of Racial Disparities in Prostate Cancer Treatment

- PhD Alumni **Boshen Jiao**: Associating Health-Related Quality of Life with Time Use to Capture Productivity Impacts in Economic Evaluation
- Upcoming Assistant Professor **Kyu Eun Lee**: Streamlining Markov process modeling to avoid bias in simulating continuous-time Markov models in discrete-time
  - PhD Alumni **Enrique M Saldarriaga**: Cost-Effectiveness Analysis using zip-code-level data on HIV diagnoses to inform resource allocation for HIV-related services: Case study in Atlanta
  - 4th year PhD student **Jacinda Nguyen Tran**: Cost-effectiveness of single-visit cervical cancer screening in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa: Model-based analysis accounting for the HIV epidemic

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### Alumni Updates

- Following his experience as head of Market Access & Public Affairs of Bayer Portugal, **Jean Malacan, PharmD, MS '16**, was appointed Global HEOR Sr. Project Leader for Bayer Innovative Women Health division.
- **Ashley Cha, PharmD, MS '20**, and David Silva got married on November 12th, 2022. Congratulations to the newlyweds! [View their wedding photo.](#) Ashley also recently started a new position as Director of Value & Evidence, COVID Antiviral at Pfizer.
- In the field of machine learning, **Blythe Adamson, MPH, PhD '18** coauthored a new Report from the ISPOR Task Force on Machine Learning Methods in HEOR and [published in Nature Digital Medicine](#) the Flatiron Health prospective validation of a clinical decision tool powered by ML and deployed at cancer clinics across the country. The New York Times and other press featured Adamson and her company, Infectious Economics, in the guidance of COVID vaccination policies and cost-effective testing deployed for private businesses including Broadway theaters and retail stores across the country. [Read the article.](#)
- **Nathorn (Nui) Chaikunapruk, PharmD, PhD '01**, and his research team have investigated

situation of snakebite problems and antivenom access in Southeast Asia in ASEAN countries. They found that a number of reasons contributing to the problem including antivenom availability and affordability, procurement and supply chain, treatment seeking behavior, lack of snakebite-related informatics system, and health system and policy. They also estimated the economic burden and projected the potential implications of improving access to snake antivenom. These works were supported by Wellcome Trust. They were published in BMJ Glob Health and Plos Negl Trop Disease.

- **Jonathan Watanabe, PharmD, PhD, '98, '08, '12**, was appointed to the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy-sponsored Committee Methadone Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder: Improving Access Through Regulatory Change by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. He was also interviewed in [this Pharmacy Times video interview](#) with Alanna Hippensteele. Expert: Pharmacies Serving as Extenders for Opioid Treatment Programs May Help Significantly Decrease Deaths From Opioid Use Disorder.

CHOICE BLOG: INCREMENTAL THOUGHTS



## **KUDOS & PUBLICATIONS**

### **CHOICE Kudos**

- *Kudos to Doug for helping organize the CHOICE Presentations at the SMDM meeting. Kudos to Felipe and Yilin for volunteering for the curriculum and admissions committees, respectively.* -Josh Carlson
- *Kudos to Marina Gano and Alyssa Camp for going above and beyond to make the transition of new faculty to UW CHOICE as smooth as possible!* -Jing Li
- *Shout out to Rachel Wittenauer for the recent acceptance of her paper on pharmacy deserts in Vaccine!* -Jennifer Bacci
- *Kudos to Sam for an iconic reign as happy hour chair,*



*and kudos to Ashley for taking over this year! It's a highlight of each week to have this fun time to catch up with folks, thank you both! Kudos to Ashley and Emily for stepping up as the new student representatives- you will both be awesome! -Rachel Wittenauer*

- *I sincerely appreciate the effort that Marina Gano, Carson Nibe and others put into the well-attended Welcome Back Reception for the School of Pharmacy Graduate Programs held in October. - Andy Stergachis*
- *Thank you to Sam who has been an excellent resource and wealth of information to the first year PhD students. Together with Rachel and Ashley, she has been extremely helpful in navigating various resources at CHOICE. -Shiven Bhardwaj*
- *Kudos to Tori for doing an amazing job leading the ISPOR-UW student chapter! Thank you, Marina and CHOICE faculty, for organizing an awesome CHOICE Annual Symposium! -Sara Khor!*

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## Publications

- Antimicrobial Resistance Collaborators (**Stergachis**, co-author). [Global burden of bacterial antimicrobial resistance in 2019: a systematic analysis](#). Lancet. 2022 Feb 12;399(10325):629-655. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(21)02724-0. Epub 2022 Jan 19.
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- **Jiao B**, Nyame YA, **Carlson JJ**, **Garrison LP**, **Basu A**. [Does Clinical Evidence of Heterogeneity Impact Treatment Selection? A Case Study of Abiraterone for Metastatic Prostate Cancer](#). J Natl Compr Canc Netw. 2022 Oct;20(10):1107-1115.e12. doi: 10.6004/jnccn.2022.7044. PMID: 36240855.
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