

# **HEALTH COVERAGE FELLOWSHIP 2011**

## **Schedule of Events**

**April 29—May 7**

Friday, April 29: **Opening reception and dinner**

5:30-6:30: Orientation meeting for fellows.

6:30-7:15 p.m.: Cocktail reception.

7:30-9:30 p.m.: Dinner and program.

Introduction of the Fellowship: **Sarah Iselin**, Blue Cross of MA Foundation President

Introduction of Fellows and Keynote Speaker: **Larry Tye**, Fellowship Director

Keynote: **Paul Steiger** is editor-in-chief and CEO of ProPublica, a non-profit newsroom specializing in investigative journalism and one of America's boldest ventures in bringing old-journalism ideals to the new-journalism landscape. Before joining ProPublica, Paul was managing editor of the *Wall Street Journal*, business editor at the *Los Angeles Times*, and a reporter at the *Journal* and *Times*. He is chairman of the Committee to Protect Journalists and was chairman of the Pulitzer Prize Board.

Paul's topic: **Possibilities.**

He looks at how journalism can reinvent itself as it searches for ways to cover the news, deliver it, and stay profitable in this difficult era.

Saturday, April 30: **Health Care: Clarifying the Crisis**

9:15-10:30 a.m. *The wounds of war*

**Michael Lawson** is CEO of the three VA hospitals in Boston and a Vietnam veteran. **Terry Keane** oversees national PTSD research. **Erin Day** runs VA-Boston's Center for Returning Veterans. **Rachel Caesar** was wounded while serving in Afghanistan.

10:45-noon *Re-earning the public's trust*

**Arthur Brisbane**, the *New York Times*' public editor, was an editor at the *Washington Post* and publisher of the *Kansas City Star*.

12:15-1:30 p.m. *Educating doctors and the nation*

**Jeffrey Flier**, an endocrinologist, is dean of the Harvard Medical School and an authority on the molecular causes of obesity and diabetes.

1:45-3 p.m. *Forging an electronic future*

Dr. **David Blumenthal** runs the White House initiative to build a national health IT network.

3-5:30 p.m. *Relax*

Exercise at the fitness center. Walk around Wellesley. Ride your bike. Play pool. Or rest.

6 p.m.-whenever *Let loose*

Dinner at the Acton Jazz Café, with jazz singer-songwriter Rachel Borovik fronting an up-tempo band.

Sunday, May 1:

**Putting the Public Back in Health**

8:45 a.m.

**We head to *Lemuel Shattuck Hospital in Jamaica Plain***

9:45-10:30 a.m.

***Birds, people, and other ways of spreading disease***

**Dr. Al DeMaria**, Massachusetts' director of Communicable Disease Control, helps us understand threats from SARS to avian flu.

10:45 a.m.- 1 p.m

***Challenging wards***

Shattuck CEO **Paul Romary** tells us about the hospital's mission in providing medical and psychiatric services to patients from prisons, jails and the community. Then he takes us on a tour and introduces us to staff and clients.

1-2:30 p.m.

***Views from the top***

We meet over lunch with New Hampshire's state epidemiologist, Dr. **Sharon Alroy-Preis**, and our host, **Lauren Smith**, medical director at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

4-7 p.m.

***Rest up***

7 p.m.-whenever

***Med errors and mea culpas***

Over dinner, we focus on medical errors and patient safety. Dr. **Rick van Pelt**, an anesthesiologist, is head of global programs at Partners Harvard Medical International. **Linda Kenney** set up and runs Medically Induced Trauma Support Services. **Frank Federico** designs patient safety programs at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

Monday, May 2:

**Gains and Gaps in Mental Health**

8:15 a.m.

***We head out for a Hard Day's Night***

9:30-11:30 a.m.

***Old disorders and new ways of looking at them***

We visit McLean Hospital where we meet with Partners HealthCare CEO Dr. **Gary Gottlieb** and McLean Chief Medical Officer **Joe Gold**, then divide up. One group visits the Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders Institute with Dr. **Jason Elias**. Others are at the Brain Bank with Dr. **Francine Benes**, the Pathways Academy for children with autism and Asperger's with **Roya Ostavar**, an adolescent borderline personality disorder unit with Dr. **Blaise Aguirre**, and the eating disorders program with **Patricia Tarbox**.

12:30- 2:30 p.m.

***Shock: old questions, new answers***

**Kitty Dukakis** has battled disabling depression for 20 years. She tried drugs and therapy, but only electroconvulsive therapy gave her back her life. She talks over lunch about her illness and treatment. Joining her are her husband, former Governor **Michael Dukakis**; **Marylou Sudders**, former commissioner of mental health in Massachusetts; and Dr. **Charles Welch**, head of the ECT program at Mass. General Hospital and Kitty's doctor.

2:30-5 p.m.

***Rest up***

We have a long night ahead, so take time to chill.

6-8 p.m.

***Eating and listening***

To set a context for what we'll see on Boston's streets, we head to Health Care for the Homeless for dinner and discussion with its co-founder, Dr. **Jim O'Connell**; **Lyndia Downie**, president of the Pine Street Inn shelter; **Jim Greene**, head of Boston's Emergency Shelter Commission; and **Paul Sullivan** and **Windsor Marcus**, who were homeless but now live in Pine Street housing.

9 p.m.-midnight

***Street stories***

We divide into groups. One rides the streets with Pine Street vans. Another visits the Inn's housing program, then spends the evening at Health Care for the Homeless' medical respite facility. The third joins Greene on his Walk of Shame.

Tuesday, May 3: **Insuring the Uninsured and Paying for it**

8:15-9:15 a.m. *Debriefing ourselves*

Each group reports in on last night, as we slowly wake up.

10-11:45 a.m. *Sign posts and starting points*

**Sarah Iselin**, former Bay State commissioner of health care finance, is president of the Blue Cross of Massachusetts Foundation. **Nancy Turnbull** is associate dean at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Noon-1:30 p.m. *The health care debate: public druthers*

**Robert Blendon** is head of Harvard's Opinion Research Program and professor of health policy at the School of Public Health and Kennedy School of Government.

1:30-3 p.m. *States on the edge*

**Susan Besio** is Commissioner of Health Access in Vermont. **Trish Riley** was Maine's longtime health policy chief. **Jonathan Gruber**, an economics professor at MIT and architect of the Massachusetts health reform law.

3:15-5:30 *Catch your breath*

Catch up on sleep. Take a long walk. Check in on the kids, or parents. Go shopping. You need a break.

5:30-whenever *Cooling down*

We get a hands-on look at complementary medicine with **Sally Connolly** (reflexology), **Pat Roberson** (reiki and chi gong), **Pat Iyer** (reiki), **Keith Buckley** (shiatsu), **Stephanie Meyers-Roche** (massage), **Judy Rego** (reiki), and **Nancy Conroy** (reiki) At dinner, we are joined by **Elissa Ely**, a psychiatrist at the Massachusetts Mental Health Center and regular contributor to the *New York Times*, *Boston Globe* and WBUR.

Wednesday, May 4: **Virtual Quality, Getting Real, and a Sporting Chance**

8:30 a.m.                    **We head into *the city and ballpark.***

10 a.m.-1:45                ***Unraveling the code***

Director **Eric Lander** tells us about progress in applying genetics to medicine at the Broad Institute. After a tour with **Ellen Clegg** we split into groups to hear about cancer research from **Jesse Boehm**, diabetes from **Bridget Wagner**, proteomics from **Jake Jaffe**, and psychiatry from **Ed Holson**. Then we reconvene for lunch with the break-out leaders.

2:30-4:15 p.m.              ***Divide and conquer cutting-edge health challenges***

Mass. General's Dr. **Florencia Pereyra** explains her research on controlling HIV, Beth Israel Deaconess' **Darren Tavernelli** offers a hands-on look at his Surgical Simulation Lab, BIDMC's Dr. **John Halamka** demonstrates how computers can make health care safer, Boston Medical Center's Dr. **Daniel Remick** brings to life his autopsy program, and Tufts Medical Center's Dr. **Carolyn D'Ambrosio** shows us around her Center for Sleep Medicine.

4:45-6 p.m.                 ***Sidelined***

We consider medical journalists' role in covering sports injuries with **Ted Lepcio**, veteran Sox third baseman/second baseman/shortstop; **Larry Ronan**, internist for the Red Sox; and **Sam Kennedy**, chief operating officer of the Sox.

6-10 p.m.                    ***1918, 2004, 2007, and 2010!***

We tour Fenway, then watch the Sox crush the Angels, with *New England Journal of Medicine* Editor-in-Chief Dr. **Jeffrey Drazen** Nieman Fellowship Curator **Bob Giles**, Richmond, Ronan, Lepcio, and others.

Thursday, May 5: **It's All in the Delivery**

9 a.m. ***We head in town***

***Paying the bills***

10 a.m.-noon We check in at Mount Auburn Hospital for an open-ended talk about global payments and other ways to tamp down health costs with Mt. Auburn CEO **Jeanette Clough**, Mt. Auburn Physicians Association President Dr. **Barbara Spivak**, Blue Cross of MA CEO **Andrew Dreyfus**, and Dr. **Gene Lindsey**, CEO of Atrius Health, the state's largest medical practice with 800 doctors.

12:30-2:30 ***Inside the journal***

For anyone who wants, sit in with *New England Journal of Medicine* Editor-in-Chief **Jeffrey Drazen** and his team at their weekly editorial meeting. Or hang out with Massachusetts Commissioner of Public Health **John Auerbach** and see, up-close, what he and his agency do.

12:30-4:30 p.m. ***Catching your breath***

For anyone not at the *New England Journal* or the Department of Public Health, check out Cambridge or Boston. Head back to Wellesley and work out or veg out. Your call.

5-6 p.m. ***News from the NCI***

We hear about the latest anti-cancer campaigns from Nobel Prize winner Dr. **Harold Varmus**, head of the National Cancer Institute.

7:15 p.m. til... ***A low-key dinner on campus, sharing notes***

We report back on our experiences from the afternoon and relish being by ourselves, at dinner and afterwards in the pub.

Friday, May 6: **Logjams in the ER, Confronting the Crises**

8:15 a.m. **We head out**

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. ***What's the rush: a diverting problem***

We look at the crunch in emergency medicine from three vantage points. A third of us ride with crews of Boston EMS chief **Jim Hooley**. Another third go to Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where Dr. **Richard Wolfe** shows us how his ER works. The rest head to Hanscom Field, and fly with Dr. **Suzanne Wedel's** Medflight teams.

1-1:30 p.m. ***Show and tell***

We reconnoiter for lunch at the Blue Cross Foundation office at Landmark Center, sharing experiences from the morning.

1:30-3 p.m. ***The global view***

Dr. **Julio Frenk**, former minister of health in Mexico, is dean of the Harvard School of Public Health.

4-6 ***Unwind.***

6:15-9:30 ***What's next?***

We have dinner at Blue Ginger with **Drew Altman**, president of the Kaiser Family Foundation, a leading think tank on US health care issues and, more recently, a leading source of health news

Saturday, May 7: **Wrapping it Up.**

9-11:30 a.m. ***Our story lists***

We break into three groups, with each fellow presenting her or his list of stories while others suggest sources, storytelling strategies, and other ways to make those ideas appeal to readers, listeners, and editors. Group leaders are **Rhonda Mann, Tom Gagen** and **Larry Tye**.

**Mann** was a medical producer at Boston's WCVB-Channel 5. She is director of marketing at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

**Gagen** was a longtime editorial writer at the *Boston Globe*, specializing in health. He now teaches high school in Boston.

Noon-1 p.m. Lunch with our group, then you can head home.