



2023 Schedule of Events

September 29 – October 7

Friday, September 29: **The kickoff**

4:45-6 p.m.: Orientation meeting for fellows

6-8:30 p.m.: Evening program

Introduction of the fellowship: **Audrey Shelto**, President, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation

Introduction of the fellows and keynote speaker: **Larry Tye**, Fellowship Director

2023 Fellows: Jessica Bartlett of the *Boston Globe*, Selena Simmons-Duffin of NPR, Sara Willa Ernst of Houston Public Media, Sruthi Gopalakrishnan of the *Concord (NH) Monitor*, Mark Herz of Boston's GBH, Keren Landman of Vox, Deidre McPhillips of CNN, Alaa Mostafa of PRX's *This American Life*, David Ovalle of the *Washington Post*, Emily Wagster Pettus of the Associated Press in Mississippi, Laura Santhanam of PBS NewsHour, Sujata Srinivasan of WNPR in Connecticut, and Sarah Toy of the *Wall Street Journal*.

Keynote: ***Healing Journalism***

Dean Baquet was an investigative reporter, special projects editor, national editor, Washington bureau chief, managing editor, and executive editor at the *New York Times*, where he now is launching a fellowship program for local investigative journalism. He won a Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting at the *Chicago Tribune*, was managing editor, then editor, at the *Los Angeles Times*, and began his reporting career at his hometown *New Orleans States-Item*.

Saturday, September 30: **Looking for ways in and out**

8:30-9:45 a.m.

Pointing the ways

Over breakfast, we discuss post-pandemic coverage with STAT Executive Editor **Rick Berke**, NPR Domestic Health Editor **Scott Hensley**, and CNN Vice President of Domestic Beats **Ben Tinker**.

10-11:15 a.m.

Can the public's health survive climate change?

Not unless we act fast, say **Mustafa Santiago Ali**, Dr. **Aaron Bernstein**, and **Alejandra Borunda**. Borunda is NPR's new climate and health reporter. Bernstein heads the CDC's National Center for Environmental Health. Ali is executive vice president of the National Wildlife Federation and founder of Revitalization Strategies.

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Old killers, new hopes

Heart disease and cancer remain the leading causes of death in America, but with both there's growing hope. Nobody knows that promise better than Drs. **Daniel Haber**, director of the Cancer Center at Mass. General Hospital; **Paul Ridker**, head of the Center for Cardiovascular Disease Prevention at Brigham and Women's Hospital; and **Griffin Rodgers**, who runs the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

3-5 p.m.

Getting to know Boston

We take a duck-boat tour with guides including former Boston Mayor **Ray Flynn**, GBH CEO **Susan Goldberg**, and WBUR CEO **Margaret Low**.

Sunday, October 1: **Worrying about forgetting – and about medical mistakes**

9:30-11:30 a.m. *Care for the long-term*

We look at creative long-term care with these hosts: Dr. **Allison Bryant** at Mass General Brigham's maternal and fetal medicine program, **Erin Youhas** and Dr. **John Maina** at the Higashi School, **Tom Grape** at Benchmark Senior Living, Dr. **Ipsit Vahia** at McLean Hospital's Technology and Aging Lab, and **Mark Hinderlie** of the Hearth community for at-risk seniors.

noon-1:30 p.m. *Alzheimer's and other aging challenges*

Over lunch, we discuss challenges of aging with **Toby Edelman**, senior attorney at the Center for Medicare Advocacy; **Ellen Goodman**, co-founder of the Conversation Project and a Pulitzer-Prize winning columnist; and **Dorene Rentz**, co-director of the Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

1:30-4 p.m. *Down time*

We catch our breaths – exercising, napping or whatever we want.

4-5 p.m. *Debrief*

We talk amongst ourselves about what we've seen and heard, and start thinking about how to translate that into stories.

5-7 p.m. *Med errors and mea culpas*

Over dinner, we and our speakers focus on medical errors and patient safety. Dr. **Amy Boutwell** is president of Collaborative Healthcare Strategies. **Linda Kenney** directs the peer support program at the Betsy Lehman Center for Patient Safety. Dr. **Rick van Pelt** is vice president of clinical practice transformation at the University of Alabama-Birmingham Health System.

Monday, October 2: **Gains and gaps in mental health**

8:30-10:30 a.m. ***Suicide: An epidemic and an enigma***

Michael Lindsey, dean of the NYU School of Social Work, focuses on preventing suicides among Black youths. **Matthew Nock**, a psychologist at Harvard and MacArthur fellow, is researching ways to predict and prevent suicides. **Dr. Jordan Smoller**, head of psychiatric genetics at Mass General, is studying how big data and genomics can identify suicide risks.

11 a.m.-1:15 p.m. ***The big picture on mental illness***

Ellen Barry covers mental health at the *New York Times*. **Elissa Ely** is a community psychiatrist and journalist. Dr. **Joshua Gordon** is director of the National Institute of Mental Health. Dr. **Tom Insel** ran NIMH before Gordon, and since has written a book, launched mental health start-ups and a news site, and advised Google and the California governor.

1:15-4 p.m. ***Rest up***

Take a nap, head to the fitness center, or get ready any way you choose for the long night ahead.

5:30-7:30 p.m. ***Homelessness: Who, why and what to do***

Setting a context for what we'll see on Boston's streets are Boston Health Care for the Homeless Medical Director **Denise De Las Nueces**, President **Jim O'Connell**, and CEO **Stephanie Sullivan**; Pine Street Inn Director **Lyndia Downie**; Massachusetts Commissioner of Public Health **Robert Goldstein**; and Boston Emergency Medical Chief **Jim Hooley**.

8:30 p.m.-midnight ***Street stories***

We ride with the Pine Street vans or EMS ambulances, or divide into groups to visit the McInnis House respite center or the streets of Boston.

Tuesday, October 3: **Ending addictions and preventing pandemics**

7:45-9 a.m. ***Waking up slowly or not at all***

After a late night, sleep in or join us over breakfast to talk about what you saw on the streets.

9:15-11 a.m. ***Fresh eyes on the opioid epidemic***

Phillip Reason, who is 11 years into his own recovery, runs Daily Living, a Black-focused, Boston-based recovery home. **Sam Rivera**, director of OnPoint, oversees New York City's first-in-the-nation supervised injection sites. Dr. **Nora Volkow** heads the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Dr. **Roger Weiss** is McLean Hospital's chief of the division of alcohol, drugs, and addiction.

11:15 a.m.-1 p.m. ***Looking ahead to the next pandemic and learning from the last***

Ex-CDC Director **Rochelle Walensky** and former Mayor of Chicago **Lori Lightfoot** reflect on what it was like leading the nation and its third largest city through COVID, and challenges ahead in protecting public health.

4-5:45 p.m. ***Meditations***

We get a hands-on look at complementary medicine with Reiki practitioner **Ann Muchowski**, **Chris Householder** and **Rachel Jenkins** from Perfect Postures, **Lisa Keyes** from Dedham Acupuncture, Dr. **Shalu Ramchandani** from the Benson-Henry Mind-Body Institute, **David Sholemson** of 3 Body Healing Arts, psychologist and sleep specialist **Lisa Strauss**, and neuromuscular therapist **Stewart Wild**.

6-8 p.m. ***The art of the interview***

Dave Davies, a host of NPR's *Fresh Air*, is a longtime reporter, first at the *Philadelphia Daily News*, and now at WHYY.

Wednesday, October 4: **Facing unfairness and other ongoing challenges**

8:45-10:45 a.m. ***Equalizing life-saving care***

Mary Travis Bassett is director of the Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. **Ricardo Nuila** is a hospitalist at Ben Taub in Houston and author of *The People's Hospital: The Real Cost of Life in an Uncaring Health System*. **Linda Villarosa** is a writer at the *New York Times Magazine* and author of *Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of Our Nation*.

10:45-11 a.m. ***Treating Long COVID***

We get an update on NIH's RECOVER program from its co-leader, Dr. **Walter Koroshetz**, director of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.

11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. ***The long (and short) of COVID recovery***

Our guides are epidemiologist Dr. **Francesca L. Beaudoin** of Brown University; Dr. **Nahid Bhadelia**, founding director of the Boston University Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases Policy and Research; and **Jennifer Nuzzo**, head of Brown's Pandemic Center.

1:30-2:30 p.m. ***Controlling disease***

Dr. **Mandy Cohen** talks about her challenges and dreams as she takes over at the CDC.

2:30-5:30 ***Walk, run, bike, talk, sleep***

Your call, and if you want, join at a fellows-only spinning class at 2:30.

6-7:30 p.m. ***Dinner with the fellows***

Quiet conversations and an early night.

Thursday, October 5: **Stories that need telling inside medicine and out**

8:45-10:15 a.m. *Quietly keeping us safe*

We look behind the curtain at vital health agencies with **Chiquita Brooks-LaSure**, head of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; USDA Undersecretary **José Emilio Esteban**, who directs America's food safety programs; and Joint Commission President and CEO **Jonathan Perlin**, who oversees safety reviews at 22,000 U.S. hospitals and health care organizations.

10:30-11:45 a.m. *Debrief*

We talk amongst ourselves about what we've seen and heard, and continue thinking about how to translate that into stories.

Noon-1:45 p.m. *Corporate medicine and its side effects*

Andrew Dreyfus is former CEO of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts and an architect of the MA health reform plan that became the model for Obamacare. Dr. **Ashish Jha** recently served as White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator and is dean of Brown's School of Public Health. Dr. **Zirui Song** teaches at Harvard Medical School and is an expert on health care spending.

1:45-5:45 p.m. *An afternoon off*

Weather allowing, a van will take anyone who wants to Thoreau's Walden Pond to swim, walk, meditate, or sit on one of its beaches.

6-8 p.m. *Long-form storytelling*

Deb Brody is editorial director at the Harvest imprint of HarperCollins. **Susan Canavan** is a Boston-based literary agent. **Margaret Engel** directs the Alicia Patterson Journalism Foundation. Pulitzer-prize winner **Tracy Kidder**'s latest book is *Rough Sleepers*.

Friday, October 6: **New stories to tell and new money to help**

10-11:30 a.m. ***Cutting-edge health challenges***

Harvard Medical School Dean **George Daley** shows and tells us how his stem cell lab works. **Diane Davey**, director of McLean Hospital's Obsessive Compulsive Disorders Unit, introduces us to her program and residents. At Fenway Health, Chief Compliance Officer **Amy Whitcomb Slemmer** explains their push for health equity and social justice. Dr. **Eric Rubin**, editor-in-chief of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, gives us a tutorial on getting the most out of his and other medical journals. At the Ragon Institute, we learn about the wars against HIV, COVID, and other diseases from Director **Bruce Walker**.

12:30-2 p.m. ***Raising the money to make your journalism happen***

Author and journalist **Deborah Blum** directs the Knight Science Journalism Program at MIT. **Jim Brady** is vice president/journalism at the Knight Foundation. **Kathryn Santoro** is director of programming at the National Institute for Health Care Management Foundation.

2:30-5:45 p.m. ***Take a break.*** One option is a low-impact cardio boot camp at 3:30.

6-9:30 p.m. ***Toasting our time together***

With a surprise guest(s).

Saturday, October 7: **Wrapping up**

9:00-11:30 a.m. *Translating your lists into stories*

We break into three groups, with each journalist presenting her or his list of stories while the rest of us suggest sources, storytelling strategies, and other ways to make those ideas resonate with readers, listeners, and editors. Group leaders are **John Lauerman**, **Tom Melville**, and **Larry Tye**.

Melville, who now works for MIT, was news director at WBUR and New England Cable News.

Lauerman is a Boston-based reporter-at-large for Bloomberg News, focusing on health and higher education.

Noon-1:00 p.m. *Goodbyes*

Lunch with our group, then you can head home or anywhere.