

Social and Behavioural Health Sciences *Division Seminar Series*

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

12pm – 1pm, Room HS 650

Health Sciences Building, 155 College Street, Toronto

Dr. Carol Strike, Professor, DLSPH:

Applied research to improve the health of people who use drugs

Abstract: In this presentation, I will highlight past projects with the greatest impact on practice/policy and discuss ongoing projects and findings. I will focus in particular on some of the factors that led to impact/uptake in the field and ongoing challenges.

Carol Strike is a Professor and Division Head of Social and Behavioural Health Sciences within DLSPH and an Affiliate Scientist at the Centre for Urban Health Solutions, St. Michael's Hospital. Her research program aims to improve health services for people who use drugs and other marginalized populations.

Faraz Vahid Shahidi, PhD Candidate, DLSPH:

Unemployment and health in the neoliberal era: insights from the Canadian context

Abstract: There is an extensive literature on the topic of health inequalities, by which we mean systematic differences in the health status of populations that are deemed to be unjust and avoidable. A key insight to emerge from this body of social epidemiologic research is the finding that inequalities in major indicators of population health are widening in most, if not all, advanced capitalist countries. At present, we know little about why health inequalities are worsening over time. In response to this gap in the health inequalities literature, my doctoral research investigates the socioeconomic dynamics underlying recent trends in the health status of unemployed Canadians. In this talk, I will present the results of my first two doctoral research objectives, which are (1) to examine the direction, degree, and determinants of change over time in the health status of unemployed Canadians; and (2) to evaluate the impact of employment insurance — as a mechanism of social protection — on the health status of unemployed Canadians. Throughout the talk, I will situate my discussion of these results within the broader neoliberal context of increasing social and economic insecurity in Canada and other advanced capitalist societies.

Faraz Vahid Shahidi is a doctoral candidate in the Division of Social and Behavioural Health Sciences at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health.