MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Faculty, Staff and Trainees,

What a beautiful, sunny, relatively warm day! Another thing to be grateful for!

I know many of you are still awaiting news about when you will be vaccinated. It is not easy and I am very sorry that the process is so complex and confusing. In my monthly meeting with Kevin Mahoney today, he explained that one of the things that makes the roll-out so confounding is that there are many entities with jurisdiction or expertise over the process. That is exactly right. Certainly, we want to follow what the CDC has to say. But we must follow PA and Philadelphia, too. This means that the rules change more than usual because new data comes in AND there are multiple bodies making decisions about the process. Please know that Patrick and I are committed to getting you vaccinated as soon as possible. Yet, we must follow the rules. We will keep you informed of any new guidance as soon as we hear about it. Needless to say, you should pursue vaccination through other means if that is a possibility for you.

As usual, I would like to thank you for your hard work. Your commitment and diligence are admirable and for that I am very grateful. We are blessed with meaningful work and the ability to help others. That will help us. Please take good care of yourself. Keep to your exercise routine, your sleeping and eating routine and take some time for yourself. Reach out to your loved ones by whatever method works for you. Staying connected is more important than ever. Please
know that what you do here at Penn Psychiatry is very important and we need all of you to fulfill our mission.

Warmly,
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A KNOCK AT MIDNIGHT: SUSTAINING ANTIRACISM IN MEDICINES

Please join the CPUP Committee on AntiRacism on February 24th at 5:30pm for our next speaker series: “A Knock at Midnight: Sustaining Antiracism in Medicine.” Click [here](#) to join the Blue Jeans session. This special Town Hall will feature Utibe R. Essien, MD, MPH, an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh and a general internist and health disparities researcher in the VA Pittsburgh Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion. Dr. Essien’s research focuses on racial and ethnic disparities and he has recently applied this research framework to the COVID-19 pandemic, rapidly becoming an expert in the health disparities that are disproportionately affecting minority communities with COVID-19. Dr. Essien is a fierce advocate for diversity and equity in medicine, speaking nationally on the topic and co-hosting an “Antiracism in Medicine” series for the [Clinical Problem Solvers](#) medical education podcast. The program for the evening will be as follows:

- 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.: “A Knock at Midnight: Sustaining Antiracism in Medicine” – presentation by Dr. Essien
- 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.: Sustaining Antiracism at Penn Medicine – breakout sessions facilitated by the Vice-Chairs of Inclusion, Diversity & Equity
- 6:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.: Wrap up

MARIAN ANDERSON: ARCHIVES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE

We invite you to join us on Wednesday, February 24th at 5:00 for a panel discussion exploring Marion Anderson’s profound impact and lasting legacy.
Click here to access the Penn Psychiatry website.
Click here to access the CPUP Committee on Anti-Racism