



Northeastern University School of Nursing
Presents:

COVID-19 Masks as PPE: Stories from hospitals and communities

5.14.2020

Bio Sketches

Laurie Bishop, MBA, BSN - Presenter

Laurie graduated from Northeastern University with a Mechanical Engineering degree and then earned an MBA from Babson College, focusing on Economics and Entrepreneurship. Laurie worked in Engineering, Project Management and Enterprise Sales at Verizon Communications. After leaving Verizon, she had key roles in startups, small businesses, and non-profits. Laurie comes to us from UMass Lowell, where she worked in New Venture Development on both workforce development projects and the NSF funded I-Corps program as a coordinator and a Mentor.



Loretta Fernandez, PhD, SM – Presenter

Dr. Fernandez is Assistant Professor in the College of Engineering at Northeastern University. Her research focus is on: Environmental organic chemistry; passive sampling methods for organic contaminants in water and sediments; transport, transformation, and biological exchange of organic contaminants in the environment. Dr. Fernandez' recent work was featured in a National Public Radio segment, [Adding a Nylon Stocking Could Boost Protection from Cloth Masks, Study Finds](#). Dr. Fernandez is collaborating with Dr. Mueller on testing mask materials.



Jenny Gormley, DNP, MSN, BA, RN, NCSN – Planner

Dr. Gormley is Director of the Northeastern University School Health Academy (NEUSHA). She has worked in the School Health specialty in Massachusetts (MA) since 2000 as a direct service school nurse, school nurse administrator, and for the past 5 years as a school nurse educator within the NU School of Nursing. Dr. Gormley is nationally certified as a school nurse and the current President of the MA School Nurse Organization. She teaches part-time in the Cambridge College MEd program for School Nurses. Dr. Gormley enjoys focusing on quality life-long learning with a scholarly focus on increasing school nurse advocacy for student health and safety.



Kathy Hassey, DNP, MEd, BSN, BA, RN – Planner

Dr. Hassey has devoted the last 19 of her 38 years as a Registered Nurse to the specialty of School Health, in roles that included direct care, administration, education and program development. She has been actively engaged with her state and national professional organizations (MSNO and NASN) since 2005, serving as President of MSNO



from 2007-2009 and serving on the Board of Directors as the Massachusetts representative 2014-2016. From 2005-2015, Dr. Hassey was Director of the NEU School Health Institute. She continues to teach in hybrid classroom and online programs for school nurses at Cambridge College in Boston, MA, and Canisius College in Buffalo, NY. In May 2018, Kathy received her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) at Northeastern University, demonstrating her commitment to life-long learning!

Stan Helinski, Esq – Presenter

I'm a trial and appellate lawyer and extreme hobbyist. Woodworking, artist, archer, 3rd degree blackbelt, write computer code, construction, gardening, living coral reef aquarist (maintain a living coral reef), scuba diver, etc. So, when all of this happened, I wanted to help. I have been involved with 3D printing and laser engraving recently-- I love to create, and this is pretty amazing technology. I had heard about the shortage of PPE once lockdown began. I guess my research skills combined with the people I knew in healthcare (my sister is in healthcare), I am making a mask design that is now being used by many, many hospitals, nursing homes, police, fire and EMS (all donated). Probably a trilogy of being a lawyer, hobbyist and ordained rabbi that ended me up here. I reached out to some people to help me assemble PPE--and before you knew it, I had high schools lending me printers. So, I now have over thirty 3D printers going now around the clock and a whole team of volunteers. There is over 100 lbs. of plastic just delivered yesterday-- I'm going through incredible amounts. Been a pretty wild ride-- I'm barely sleeping. My 11-year-old daughter (father being my most coveted role) has been amazing with helping me. Stan's volunteer work printing masks was featured in a [Boston Patch recent article](#).



Amy Mueller, PhD, MEng - Presenter

Dr. Mueller is Assistant Professor in the College of Engineering at Northeastern University. Her research focus is: biogeochemistry of natural and engineered systems; in-situ sensors and instrumentation for high-resolution process characterization; remediation and sustainability in natural and built coastal environments; sensor-driven closed-loop controls for resource optimization in engineered systems; signal processing and machine learning, embedded systems, and sensor networks. Dr. Mueller is collaborating with Dr. Fernandez on testing mask materials.



Ben Podsiadlo, EMT-P - Presenter

Benjamin Podsiadlo, EMT-P, is the director of clinical integration for Armstrong Ambulance Service in Arlington, Massachusetts. He has been a paramedic for 30 years. He was interviewed recently by MA [WBUR News](#) for the steps EMS are taking to reduce COVID-19 transmission.



Lynn Reede, DNP, MBA, CRNA, FNAP – Planner & Facilitator

Dr. Reede joined the Northeastern University, Bouvé School of Nursing, Nurse Anesthesia Program as an associate clinical professor in May 2019. Dr. Reede's practice, leadership and professional experience has shaped her focus on optimal patient experience and outcomes and care process safety through a comprehensive interprofessional systems approach. By influencing policy formation and implementation at the national, state and local level, healthcare providers and leaders create, implement and continuously improve the patient's engagement to optimize their own safety. Dr. Reede is a Fellow of the National Academies of Practice to learn and network with 14 professions to promote interprofessional learning and practice that improves patient outcomes. She currently serves



with the Boards of Directors of the Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation, American Society for Enhanced Recovery and the Massachusetts Association of Nurse Anesthetists. She is a member of the National Quality Forum standing Surgery Committee and Emergency Manual Implementation Collaborative Steering Committee.

Karen Rufo, MS, PPCNP-BC - Presenter

Karen is the Director of Health Services for the Lexington Public Schools in Lexington, Massachusetts. She has worked in the School Health specialty for the past 32 years and continues her practice of 20 years in the hospital setting as a clinical nurse supervisor. She currently serves as the representative for the MA School Nurse Organization on the MA state-wide Advisory Group for planning school reopening. Karen is an avid golfer!



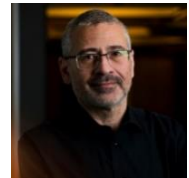
Josh Trautwein - Presenter

Josh is CEO and co-founder of About Fresh. About Fresh designs programs that make food an integrated part of community health care systems. The first About Fresh program, Fresh Truck, was developed in 2012 when Josh was working as a health educator at the MGH Charlestown Healthcare Center. The only grocery store in the neighborhood shut down and his patients had no way of accessing the food they needed to be healthy. It was this experience that inspired the About Fresh mission: to improve the health outcomes of low-income communities by getting healthy food to those who need it most. Fresh Connect was the second distinct program developed. The Fresh Connect platform enables a health care provider to administer a card with funds that a patient can use to shop for healthy food when they screen positive for food insecurity or diet related disease. Trautwein received his Bachelor of Science in Sociology from Northeastern University.



Alessandro Vespignani, PhD - Presenter

Alessandro Vespignani is the Sternberg Distinguished University Professor at Northeastern University. He holds interdisciplinary appointments in the Khoury College of Computer Sciences, College of Science and Bouvé College of Health Sciences. Dr. Vespignani's research activity focuses on the interdisciplinary application of statistical and numerical simulation methods in the study of biological, social and technological networks. For several years, he has been working on the characterization and modeling of complex networks. He now focuses his research activity on modeling the spatial spread of epidemics, including the realistic and data-driven computational modeling of emerging infectious diseases, the resilience of complex networks, and the collective behavior of techno-social systems. His work to map the social networks for the coronavirus was recently featured in the [New York Times Science section](#).



Steve Wood, MS, ACNP-BC - Presenter

Stephen Wood is a nurse practitioner working in the Emergency Department and Intensive Care Units at the Carney Hospital in Dorchester, Massachusetts. He received his MS in toxicology from Northeastern University and his MS in nursing from the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professionals. He has collaboration with NU School of Nursing on continuing education on topics within his specialty including human trafficking, gun safety as a public health issue, and opioid addiction.

