



MONDAY, JULY 13

Outbreak: Epidemics in a Connected World

Monday, July 13 at 11 am CST (60 minutes)

Open Session

What is the relationship between human health and the environment? How has our approach to surveillance, containment, and treatment of pandemics changed over time? What have we learned from past outbreaks that can help us understand COVID-19 and future outbreaks? In this session we'll have a conversation with the curator of the Smithsonian's Outbreak exhibition about the science of pandemics and her experience with the project.

Speakers:

-Dr. Umair Shah, MD, MPH, Executive Director, Harris County Public Health

-Dr. Sabrina Sholts, PhD, Curator of Biological Anthropology, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

Emergent Disease/Emergent Tech Mini-Session:

Monday, July 13 at 12:30 pm CST (60 minutes)

Teens

Reports are coming in about an unusual number of gorilla deaths in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. Join staff from Smithsonian's Conservation Biology Institute in investigating the cause in this scenario. Along the way, you'll learn about the link between human and animal health, the challenges of dealing with animal outbreaks, and the ways in which tech might help in the future

Speakers:

-Dr. Dawn Zimmermann, DVM, MS, Associate Program Director, Director of Wildlife Health, Veterinary Medical Officer, Global Lead, USAID Emerging Pandemic Threats PREDICT – Kenya Global Health Program, Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute

-Dr. James Hassell, PhD, BVM, Kelly Family Secretarial Scholar, Global Health Program, Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute

Everything You Never Knew You Wanted to Know About Microbes and the Immune System

Monday, July 13 at 5 pm CST (60 minutes)

Teens

Why are some microbes helpful while others wreck havoc in the body? What's an antibody and why does it matter? How can infections cause mild symptoms in some people and life-threatening reactions in others? The body's immune response is an amazing and complex system that helps protect us against disease. In this session we'll explore the key features of the immune system as well as what we're learning about the immune system's response to COVID-19.

Speaker:

-Dr. Dat Tran, MD, Allergist-Immunologist

TUESDAY, JULY 14

Ethics in an Outbreak

Tuesday, July 14 at 11am CST (60 minutes)

Open Session

Who should have access to lifesaving technology when demand is higher than supply? Should people be required to wear face masks? Is it acceptable to fast-track human trials for new vaccines? Join bioethics scholars from UTMB in a discussion about how to approach decision-making during a pandemic using moral principles.

Speakers:

-Dr. Elise Smith, PhD, Assistant Professor, Preventative Medicine and Community Health, UTMB

-Dr. Jeff Farroni, PhD, JD, Assistant Professor, Preventative Medicine & Community Health, Institute for Translational Research, UTMB

Emergent Disease/Emergent Tech Mini-Session: Mapping Microbes

Tuesday, July 14 at 12:30 CST (30 minutes)

Teens

Until recently, contact tracing was an important but relatively unknown tool to manage the spread of outbreaks. In this session we'll talk about how contact tracing works and the role that technology plays in the success or failure of this effort.

Speaker:

Alana Staiti, Curator of History of Computers and Information Sciences, Smithsonian NMAH

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

Careers in Microbiology and Epidemiology Mini-Session: Critical Care Nurse

Wednesday, July 15 11am CST (30 minutes)

Nurses play a critical role on the front lines of hospital care. In this session we'll talk with museum educator Tarren Vielma about the process of becoming a critical care nurse.

Speaker:

Tarren Vielma, RN – Critical Care, Science Educator at The Health Museum

Emergent Disease/Emergent Tech Mini-Session: Makers Making a Difference

Wednesday, July 15 at 12:30pm CST (30 minutes)

Teens

Makerspaces are like playgrounds for the mind. They bring people together to create and innovate using high, low and no-tech tools. In this session we'll talk about projects at UTMB's MakerHealth Space, including efforts to fabricate emergency ventilators for COVID treatment.

Speaker:

Dr. Aisen Chacin, PhD, Lead Designer, Developer, UTMB Medical Fabrication Laboratory
MakerHealth

Careers in Microbiology and Epidemiology Mini-Session: Population Health Scientist

Wednesday, July 15 at 1:30pm CST (30 minutes)

Teens

Description: When people talk about health, they tend to think of it in terms of their own bodies. But for a growing number of health professionals, the focus is on the health of communities. Join Drs. Pennel and Prochaska in a conversation about their work as a population health scientists and how it relates to the current pandemic.

Speaker:

Cara Pennel, DrPH, MPH, Asst. Professor, Director of Public Health Program and Practice,
UTMB

John Prochaska, DrPH, MPH, Asst. Professor, Director of Population Health Graduate Program,
UTMB

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THURSDAY, JULY 16

To Vaccinate or Not to Vaccinate: Why Is This Still a Question?

Thursday, July 16 at 11am CST (30 minutes)

Open Session

It's widely accepted that an effective vaccination will be the key to long-term success against COVID-19. Despite the role that vaccinations have played in limiting the spread of many debilitating and lethal diseases, some people have begun to question whether vaccinations are necessary. Join Dr. Peter Hotez in a conversation about the science of vaccines and their critical importance for public health, their successes and limitations, and the current efforts to develop an effective vaccine against COVID-19.

Speaker:

- Dr. Peter Hotez, MD, PhD, Dean for the National School of Tropical Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine School of Tropical Medicine, Co-Director of the Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Development

Emergent Disease/Emergent Tech Mini-Session: AI in Healthcare

Thursday, July 16 at 12:30pm CST (30 minutes)

Teens

Artificial Intelligence has moved from the realm of sci-fi to mainstream. In this session we'll look at what A.I. is (and isn't), how it's being used in everyday life, and the role that it's played in the COVID-19 crisis.

Speaker:

-Jackie Coleman, Director of Product, InformAI

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FRIDAY, JULY 17

Educator Session

Friday, July 17 at 9am CST (60 minutes)

Educators

The Health Museum shares some of our favorite lessons for microbiology and epidemiology as well as some best practices for teaching online.

Speakers:

- Becky Seabrook, MS, Sr. Director of Guest Engagement, The Health Museum
- Andrea Strohmeyer, Science Educator, The Health Museum

COVID-19 Q&A

Friday, July 17 at 11am CST (60 minutes)

Open Session

COVID-19 is a new virus in the human population. Our understanding of the virus and how to combat it is evolving in real time, resulting in lots of new information, updated recommendations - and potential misinformation. Join Dr. Scott Weaver as he answers your questions about COVID-19.

Speaker:

- Dr. Scott Weaver, PHD, Director of the Institute for Human Infection & Immunity, Scientific Director of the Galveston National Lab, UTMB

