Student/Resident/Fellow Pre-Couse:

The NEGEA Student/Resident/Fellow Pre-Course is a special offering designed for medical students, residents, and fellows with an interest in medical education. It is a great opportunity to exchange ideas with peers, connect with leaders in medical education, and think critically about how we learn and teach medicine. The Student/Resident/Fellow Pre-Course is a free offering, open to all learners.

2026 NEGEA Annual Meeting: Wednesday, March 11th-Friday, March 13, 2026

-Student/Resident Registration Fee: **$100**

-Registration will open soon!

FREE Student/Resident/Fellow Track Pre-Course open for all
(even students, residents, fellows unable to attend the full Annual Meeting)
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:00-3:15pm at the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, Scranton, PA

Free Registration link coming soon!

Lunch and Panel Discussion: "How to Develop a Career in Medical Education" 12:00-12:50pm

Capitalize on the wisdom of those who have journeyed before you! During this student-facilitated panel, we will explore the breadth of possibilities for a career in medical education and discuss how to get started on your own journey, with specific strategies for exploring your interests in your current and next stage of training. The panel is composed of medical educators across specialties and career stages in medical education.

Karen A. Friedman MD MS-HPPL FACP
Vice President Education Medicine Service Line
Vice Chair for Education
Donald and Barbara Zucker SOM at Hofstra/Northwell
Lawrence Scherr MD Professor of Medical Education
Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine Alumni
Department of Medicine

Dr. Karen Friedman MD MS-HPPL FACP is the Lawrence Scherr MD Endowed Professor of Medicine, Vice President for Education for the Medicine Service Line at Northwell and the Vice Chair for Education in Medicine at the Zucker School of Medicine. Previously she was the Internal Medicine Residency Program Director for the Zucker School of Medicine program in Internal Medicine at North Shore University Hospital and Long Island Jewish Hospital from 2015-2025. She received her MD degree from SUNY Downstate and her master's in Health Professions Pedagogy and Leadership from Hofstra University. She is a graduate of the Hedwig van Amerigen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine fellowship. She has been faculty in the Department of Medicine at North Shore Hospital as a Hospitalist since 2005. Dr. Friedman's career and research has been dedicated to medical education. She has published in and presents nationally on novel residency curricula, assessment methods in competency based medical

education and the transition from UME to GME. She is the author of The Informed Patient- published in 2017 by Cornell University Press.

Lisa V. Holtz MD
Assistant Professor in Pediatrics
Regional Associate Dean Northeast Campus
Pediatric Hospitalist
Geisinger Wyoming Valley Hospital

Dr. Lisa Holtz earned her medical degree from the University of the West Indies and completed her pediatric residency at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pennsylvania. She pursued fellowship training in Pediatric Critical Care Medicine and Pharmacology at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and is double board-certified in Pediatric Critical Care and General Pediatrics.
She previously served as a Pediatric Clerkship Director for seven years and is currently the Regional Dean for the Northeast Campus. Her professional interests include community hospital–based medical education, preceptor development, and community engagement.

Raquel Belforti, DO, M.S.
Associate Dean of Education, UMass Chan Medical School-Baystate
Director, Medicine Clerkship and Acting Internship, UMass Chan Medical School-Baystate
Associate Professor of Medicine, UMass Chan Medical School-Baystate
Academic Hospitalist, Baystate Medical Center

Dr. Raquel Belforti graduated from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her internal medicine residency and chief residency year at UMass Chan Medical School-Baystate. She stayed on at Baystate Health as an Academic Hospitalist. Over the course of her career, Dr. Belforti has a Master's in Medical Education and Leadership and is currently working towards a Master's in Research Methods, Measurement, and Evaluation. She has developed a career as a medical education leader across the continuum. Dr. Belforti is currently the Associate Dean of Education and the Director for the UMass Chan Medical School-Baystate 3rd year Clerkship and 4th year Acting Internship in Internal Medicine. Dr. Belforti also has a passion for professional vitality and professional development. She co-directs a longitudinal peer mentorship program and several leadership programs at UMass Chan-Baystate.

Dr. Megan Esch, MD
Assistant Professor of Neurology at the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine
Director of Clinical Neurology for Undergraduate Medical Education at GCSOM.

Dr. Esch is an Assistant Professor of Neurology at the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine. She serves as the director of clinical neurology for undergraduate medical education at GCSOM. She is interested in innovations in curricular development, with a focus on telemedicine in rural-medical education, and incorporating simulation and novel uses of AI in practical clinical skill development.

Workshops Session I
1:00-2:00pm

Title: Educational Technology for Teaching and Learning

Presenters:
Gregory Titman, M.Ed. Assistant Director, Educational Technology for the Center for Faculty and Professional Development, Geisinger College of Health Sciences

Julianna Scappaticci, MSIDT, Senior Education Specialist, Education Technology for the Center for Faculty and Professional Development, Geisinger College of Health Sciences

Workshop Description: This interactive workshop, grounded in educational theories such as constructivism and social learning theory, explores educational technology tools that enhance engagement through real-time audience interaction, collaboration, and game-based learning. Participants will also examine practical, responsible ways to integrate generative AI into studying, clinical learning, and practicing skills through agents that simulate real-world clinical encounters. Through hands-on demonstrations and guided exploration, attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of how to leverage these tools to support meaningful learning.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe educational technology tools and strategies that promote engagement and enhance learning outcomes; and
2. Explain how generative artificial intelligence can be leveraged in health professions education.

Presenters Bios:
Gregory Titman, MEd is the Assistant Director, Educational Technology for the Center for Faculty and Professional Development. He graduated from Penn State University with degrees in Economics and International Politics and earned his Master of Education degree from the University of Pennsylvania while serving as a Teach for America Corps Member in Philadelphia, PA where he cultivated a passion for education and technology. Greg taught secondary math and social studies for twelve years. During his tenure at Danville Area High School, he served as the building's Technology Lead, championing technology initiatives designed to improve the quality of teaching and learning and adapt to the ever-evolving educational landscape.

Greg joined Geisinger in May 2022. In his current
role, Greg leverages his expertise to assist educators across the system and continuum of health professions education in effectively integrating educational technology for both synchronous and asynchronous content delivery, learner assessment, and feedback. He also supports data-driven decision-making to enhance the quality and impact of educational initiatives by collecting, synthesizing, and analyzing data to assess the effectiveness of educational programming and curricula.

Julianna Scappaticci, MSIDT is the Senior Education Specialist, Education Technology, for the Center for Faculty and Professional Development. Julianna graduated from Bloomsburg University in 2019 with a degree in early childhood education and then spent four years in the classroom as a first-grade teacher. After completing Leadership Northeast's Impact program, Julianna was driven to pursue a master's degree in instructional design and technology, graduating again from Bloomsburg University in August 2024.

Julianna joined Geisinger in January of 2025. In her current role, Julianna supports educators across the health professions education continuum by leveraging her expertise in instructional design, curriculum development, and educational technology. She collaborates with faculty and staff to design and implement engaging learning experiences, including microlearning modules and multimedia content. Julianna also provides end-to-end support for video production, from recording to editing, ensuring high-quality educational materials for both synchronous and asynchronous delivery. Her work enhances learner engagement and supports the integration of innovative teaching strategies across the system.

Workshops Session 2
2:15-3:15pm

"The Importance of Professional Vitality and Mentorship throughout Medical Training"
Presenters:
Raquel Belforti, DO, M.S. Associate Dean of Education, UMass Chan-Baystate
Liz Irvin, MS 4, UMass Chan Medical School

Workshop Description: Vitality in one's career can be defined as a "vigorous commitment to ongoing professional, intellectual, and personal growth, full engagement, enthusiasm, energy, and a positive feeling of purpose." Join this educational session to learn more about how students, residents and fellows can start thinking about their career trajectories to promote professional vitality. This mini-workshop will engage learners in 3 valuable tools to promote vitality, including a discussion on the importance of mentorship throughout one's career.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe the factors that influence vitality in one's career
2. Discuss ways to enhance one's career vitality
3. Discuss strategies to enhance mentorship, coaching, and sponsoring in one's career

Presenters Bios:
Dr. Raquel Belforti graduated from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her internal medicine residency and chief residency year at UMass Chan Medical School-Baystate. She stayed on at Baystate Health as an Academic Hospitalist. Over the course of her career, Dr. Belforti has a Master's in Medical Education and Leadership and is currently working towards a Master's in Research Methods, Measurement, and Evaluation. She has developed a career as a medical education leader across the continuum. Dr. Belforti is currently the Associate Dean of Education and the Director for the UMass Chan Medical School-Baystate 3rd year Clerkship and 4th year Acting Internship in Internal Medicine.

Dr. Belforti also has a passion for professional vitality and professional development. She co-directs a longitudinal peer mentorship program and several leadership programs at UMass Chan-Baystate.

Liz Irvin, MS-4
Liz Irvin is a 4th year medical student at UMass Chan Medical School on the Population-Based Urban and Rural Community Health (PURCH) track. She is passionate about caring for underserved populations, addiction medicine, and medical humanities. In her free time, she enjoys writing poetry.