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ZOOM TRANSCRIPTION

Interviewer: Dr. Adela Grando

Interviewees: Dr. Christina Eldredge, Dr. Victoria Ngo, Lu He and Xiaoyu Liu

19:27:13 Welcome to another edition of for your informatics podcast where we explore the limitless world of medical informatics created and lead by the women in AMIA.

19:27:23 We offer insights into career paths leadership and education.

19:27:27 Thanks for joining us, as we highlight lives to inspire greatness inclusion and diversity in the field of informatics.

19:27:38 Hello, and welcome to for your informatics podcast. My name is Dr. Adela Grando, and I'll be your host today. This podcast is sponsored by the 2020 women in AMIA leadership seed grants.

19:27:53 Thank you so much to our sponsor, and thank you for joining us today. I have the pleasure of introducing an interview and four awesome guests. So let's start with Dr.

19:28:05 Christina Eldredge. She's a family physician who recently completed a doctoral degree in Biomedical and health informatics at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee.

19:28:16 Now she is holding a faculty position at the University of South Florida in the School of Information. Nice to meet you, Christina. Hello, it's great to be here.

19:28:26 We also have with us today, Dr Victoria Ngo. She's a postdoctoral scholar at the University of California Davis Health. She's using health informatics user centered design and participatory research to improve health equity community health and technology

19:28:43 delivery. Victoria, it's very nice to talk to you today.

19:28:48 We're so happy to be here, thank you so much for having us. I wanted to also say hi to our listeners today. Hello listeners.

Lu He is also joining today's podcast.

19:29:00 She's a PhD candidate in informatics at University of California, Irvine, she's interested in natural language processing social media mining and computer supported copyrighted work, all with a focus on health and healthcare.

19:29:14 Lu He nice to meet you. Thank you for inviting me Dr Grando oh it's my pleasure to be here.

19:29:21 Last but not least, Xiaoyu Liu is a PhD student at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, she's interested in the study of health informatics, and innovation in healthcare delivery. Xiaoyu it's a pleasure to talk to you today. Dr. Grando, thank you

19:29:41 Thank you so much for having me. I'm so glad to be here.

As you can see, today's interview is a very different backgrounds, training, and research interest in this podcast will be discussing about the power of networking and collaboration, especially the role of AMIA to support team science.

19:29:54 AMIA to support team science.

19:29:57 Shall we start with a brief synopsis of how this group came together. What was the role of AMIA, helping you to find each other.

19:30:09 Yes, of course. The AMIA working group played a really important role for us to get together as a team, as you can see that we all from different parts of the United States and we have very different backgrounds were at different stages

19:30:20 our career at the beginning the student working group chair, doctor Scott McGrath, send out information about recruiting students on a systematic review project, sponsored by those CPHI, which is consumer and pervasive health informatics working

19:30:36 Group.

19:30:38 Through this channel, we were able to form a group with people from diverse backgrounds but similar interests and goals, and our review aims to synthesize the challenges to successful implementation adoption and positive patient experience of using IoT

19:30:54 enabled consumer health technology such as wearables and text messages for home dwelling older adults.

19:31:01 It was actually a very challenging path to come up with refined research questions to know what we're actually doing. and each team member independently we came up with several research questions and through several rounds of discussions we merged refined

19:31:18 and came up with the final research questions, and very exciting that we also have to faculty members, Dr. Katherine Kim, and Dr. Spyros Kitsiou from the CPAHI consumer and pervasive health informatics working group who met with us, help us refine

19:31:37 narrow study scopes and form research questions. And we also came up with search strategies with them together. We have a Slack channel so that we can ask questions whenever we're unsure about how to move forward, and the faculty mentors are always there

19:31:52 to support us.

19:31:54 And finally, it was really exciting that we presented our in progress work at the CPHI working meeting at the AMIA symposium last year, we received a lots of comments from the group, and one of the faculty members Dr. Yong Choi from UC Davis also join us

19:32:10 later.

19:32:12 So in summary, AMIA and AMIA working groups, played a really important role for getting us together as a team and move forward on this project and we're really excited about was in the future.

19:32:25 So from what I'm hearing this is ongoing work and AMIA has played a major role in bringing you together to working groups, connecting you with mentors and giving you a platform to disseminate your research right and you're ready presented that AMIA.

19:32:41 Congratulations, that is a major achievement I still remember my presentation, long, long time ago.

19:32:48 And I want to know more about this so Victoria, what are the highlights of working together with others at AMIA. Thank you Dr. Grando we thought so welcome and supported by our working group.

19:32:57 When we shared our progress.

19:33:01 Some of the highlights working together with other AMIA student members included the following that I really want to share. One of them was being able to develop a genuine camaraderie amongst our group members.

19:33:14 We do thank Dr. Scott McGrath the chair of the AMIA student working group for bringing us together he gave a call out to students and trainees who were interested in working together and at the time I thought it'd be a great opportunity to meet people

19:33:32 that I didn't know.

19:33:34 And, and, you know, what was unique about our group was that it was formed during the pandemic.

19:33:42 And during that uncertain time, we were able to get to know each other but also gain support from each other, especially when we're working from home and we weren't able to go out very much right so I know Lu mentioned that we have different backgrounds.

19:33:59 But did you know that we also lived in different cities across three time zones. So I'm in Northern California, Lu is in Southern California. Xiaoyu is all the way in Milwaukee Christina's in Florida, and I know this episode is highlighting women in AMIA

19:34:16 but we had an integral member in our group.

19:34:21 His name is Maciej Kos, and he happens to be in Boston.

19:34:26 What I enjoyed most in addition to the research was that we were able to celebrate and support each other during this journey. I really valued that so every week when we talked on the phone, we got to hear about what was going on in each other's lives.

19:34:40 And I really looked forward to our calls. So let me give you some examples of that we were able to celebrate virtually some of their grant successes, you know, so Xiaoyu, Maciej and I had put in separate grant proposals and we were able to get success

19:35:01 from that, you know, Lu became a doctoral candidate during the time we were working together, Christina graduated from her PhD program.

19:35:15 And you know, a while ago Xiaoyu was just moving across different states.

19:35:21 During that time when she was in school.

19:35:24 And that was just really interesting to hear you know during that time you know we live because we lived in different parts of our nation. We also dealt with natural disasters.

19:35:35 Some people got sick along the way other people were dealing with some, some regionally specific issues. And you know, different things like that and during COVID you know we're all working on different projects related to our pandemic.

19:35:51 So we were able to learn so much from each other as well so this was like more than just a work group for, for me, And I think our other group members felt the same way.

19:36:02 What I can't wait to see what's going to come out of this. So Xiaoyu, what are the future plans of this project.

19:36:10 Yeah, sure.

19:36:11 The first thing for us to do is to finish up this project. We are currently at a stage of full test review, and hopefully we can swim up on to the extraction stage for the journal publication, we're aiming for JAMIA. As a research team

19:36:28 we hope we could keep on discovering insights and findings, as we review more papers, and finally get to contribute something to the area of study.

19:36:39 Well, the next plan is solely based on my personal thought, but I do believe my teammates, will we will agree with me on this.

19:36:48 I treat this team as a group of virtual friends who share similar interests, and the passion with me. So I really hope this team will continue to be active for future collaboration and support, and hope one day we will have the opportunity to have an

19:37:03 offline meetup.

19:37:06 Well, you are on a roll you presented that AMIA, and now you're prepared a journal publications so it seems that this collaboration is going very well.

19:37:15 And as explained, AMIA play a major role on that success.

19:37:19 And on that note, Christina. Can you tell us more about how he is helping you and your career.

19:37:25 Oh yes, sure.

19:37:27 Well, the first part of this project it was last year, and we were just beginning with the, the pandemic. So it was a great opportunity to stay involved with research virtually because AMIA provided the platform and the mentoring.

19:37:44 So we were able to continue with this project, even though, basically that entire country was on shut down. So it was a great opportunity. And in the middle of it I was actually completing my PhD degree.

19:37:58 And, which is my second doctoral degree and I needed a little bit of encouragement at that point because it was in the middle of the pandemic I was finishing up and these colleagues were just amazing.

19:38:10 Both the mentors and the students that I was involved with. And so I think it really played a huge role in me, finishing up the degree. In May of last year during the, in the middle of a pandemic.

19:38:22 That's very nice to hear. And thank you so much for sharing your time and your stories with us. It's been wonderful to hear about your research, and how AMIA has supported you on, on this journey.

19:38:34 So before we let you go, Victoria, do you have any last words for those who are thinking about joining me, as thinking about joining a media groups or in general looking for opportunities to work with others.

19:38:47 I can't recommend joining a group more as a member you get to join working groups that focus on topics that may interest you. So for example, Dr. Scott McGrath oversees the student working group of AMIA where trainees get to meet and chat with each other virtually,

19:39:03 virtually and join these groups on just log on to the members website and head over to AMIA Connect section and select a working group specifically signing up online is easy and you'll get invites and announcements to participate and opportunities

19:39:20 to collaborate on projects like this systematic review are available in these groups, and I'm thankful for the consumer and pervasive health informatics work group that got me connected to people with common interests and new friends.

19:39:34 So I encourage you to join a group because it's a benefit of your AMIA membership.

19:39:39 Well that's very nice way to finish this podcast.

19:39:42 So thank you so much to our interviewees Christina, Victoria, Lu and Xiaoyu. We appreciate all you share with us. This is Dr. Adela Grando, concluding the for your informatics podcast.

19:39:55 Thank you to our interviewees who discuss today the role of a media as a catalyst for collaboration. See you next time, bye bye.