Student Opportunities

AMIA Annual Symposium Call for Volunteers
Apply to the AMIA Annual Symposium Student Volunteer Program to receive free registration to the 2022 Annual Symposium! Student volunteers get meeting and networking opportunities in exchange for monitoring 6 conference sessions. All current AMIA student members can apply here by August 22.

Call for mentors for the High School Scholars Program
13 high schoolers will be chosen to present their work at the AMIA Annual Symposium in November. Student submissions are due August 25. Please use this form to indicate your possible interest in serving as a mentor for 1 or more high school scholars!

Student Outreach Survey
Please fill out the brief survey to help us to better understand the needs of the student community.

Student Spotlight Recommendations
Do you know someone who you think should be featured in the student spotlight? If you have any recommendations based on experience in informatics, achievements, or interests, please let us know by emailing: dks2147@cumc.columbia.edu

Faculty Spotlight: Anita C. Murcko MD, MACP FAMIA

Student Spotlight: Haris Siddiqui

SAVE THE DATE:
Next STWG Monthly Meeting:
Aug 19, 4PM EST

AMIA Annual Symposium
Nov 5 - 9, 2022

AMIA Informatics Summit
March 13 - 16, 2023
Faculty Spotlight

Anita C. Murcko

MD, MACP, FAMIA
INTERNAL MEDICINE PHYSICIAN
MASTER, AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
FELLOW, AMERICAN MEDICAL INFORMATICS ASSOCIATION (AMIA)
Podcast Host, For Your Informatics

1. Briefly describe your background/research interests.

I am a clinical associate professor of biomedical informatics (BMI) at Arizona State University (ASU) College of Health Solutions where I teach and mentor graduate and undergraduate students and serve as adjunct faculty for Mayo Clinic and University of Arizona medical schools. My research area is clinical decision support and policy, with a focus on enabling electronic health record sharing for integrated care, substance use disorder modeling, and applied pharmacy informatics. Last year I joined the AMIA For Your Informatics Podcast team as a podcast host.

2. What is your role in the For Your Informatics Podcast and what led you to join the team?

The role of the podcast host is to coordinate with the Podcast committee on guests, topics, and content; research the topic and guest(s); schedule and conduct pre-recording meetings with guests; create interesting questions in collaboration with the guests; cover sound logistics; moderate and record the actual interview; work with the editor on the episode; share with guests for final approval and then summarize for social media and resource pages.

I answered the 2021 AMIA For Your Informatics “Call for Podcast Moderators” after ASU BMI colleague and podcast team member Dr. Adela Grando recommended it as a great match for my diverse informatics interests and performance skills.

3. What opportunities does the For Your Informatics (FYI) Podcast have for students?

For starters, students can listen to the For Your Informatics Podcast. We have recorded 30 exciting episodes with optional resources that showcase the diverse paths of people involved in informatics, including AMIA Working Group leaders, that “reveal the limitless opportunities of informatics.” We also encourage our listeners to suggest topics and/or guests for the Podcast. In fact, the next episode on “Teen Privacy and 21st Cures Act” was suggested by a listener.

For more involvement, students can join the team as a social media ambassador where they work with us to create and post content (Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, TikTok), monitor end-user feedback and brainstorm ideas for podcast topics and guests. Our student SM ambassadors receive a $250 scholarship and free AMIA membership.

4. What advice do you have for students involved in informatics?

Join and engage in AMIA, its workgroups, committees, meetings...and podcasts! Boldly and broadly explore the subdisciplines of informatics – bioinformatics, imaging, clinical and public health informatics – and the "interdisciplinariness" of this amazing field. Get involved in research and share your journey with a poster, paper, presentation...or podcast!
1. **How did you become interested in informatics?**

When I first enrolled for my undergraduate degree at Arizona State University, I initially chose to major in biomedical engineering. However, I felt it wasn't for me and I began searching for similar fields. I stumbled upon AMIA, and learned about Biomedical Informatics. Now, I am a Biomedical Informatics major and I couldn't be happier.

2. **What areas of informatics excite you about the future?**

I think all domains are really interesting from what I've learned in class and read up on in my free time, but at the moment I am most interested in health informatics and using the many tools at our disposal to benefit patients and clinicians.

3. **What opportunities would you recommend for undergraduate students interested in learning more about informatics?**

Joining clubs and/or organizations on-campus is a great way to get connected with people of similar interests and learn more about informatics. Additionally, I think volunteering at hospitals, clinics, and conferences is a great way to create awareness about what is happening in the real world and create solutions to problems that currently exist. Finally, internships and research are fantastic opportunities to enhance your skills and get your hands dirty.

4. **How did you get connected with AMIA?**

While looking for opportunities to get involved I came across the December edition of the STWG newsletter and saw an opening. I contacted the editors and joined the newsletter’s editorial team as a junior editor.

5. **What do you wish you would have known sooner in your undergrad about informatics?**

I wish I knew sooner that reaching out is not as daunting as you may think. While it may seem scary it can open a lot of doors that you would have never had if you had not done so. So, I would encourage you to try reaching out! Lastly, university passes you by in the blink of an eye so take a step back and try to enjoy it.