



US Association for
the Study of Pain

Members Newsletter

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Volume 6

[Register for the 2022 USASP Annual Scientific Meeting \(May 18-21\)](#)



Centering the Perspectives of People Living with Pain in Research, Clinical Care, and Policy

Written by

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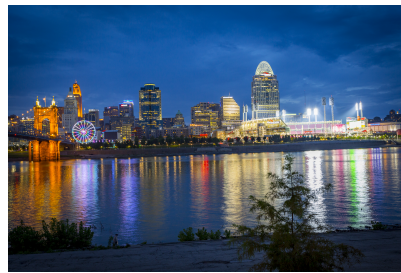
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On March 21, 2022, the USASP Education and Professional Development Committee held a webinar on “Centering the Perspectives of People Living with Pain in Research, Clinical Care, and Policy”. Three expert panelists who live with pain discussed their perspectives and answered attendees’ questions. Panelists included: [1] Jolitta Belton, Co-Chair of IASP’s Global Alliance of Partners for Pain Advocacy (GAPPA) and the first Patient and Public Partnerships Editor at the Journal of Orthopedic & Sports Physical Therapy, [2] Lauren Kornegay, Founder and Executive Director of Endo Black, Inc., and [3] Michael Falcon, the Capstone Coordinator of an Occupational Therapy Doctorate program in Oregon and one of the founding members of GAPPA.

The panelists started the webinar by sharing their experiences navigating the pain healthcare system and getting involved in advocacy work. Then, they provided their insights about what researchers, clinicians, and policymakers can do to improve the impact of their work for people living with pain, particularly related to questions such as: [a] what are questions of great urgency for people living with pain?, [b] what are your suggestions to make pain research more equitable and inclusive?, and [c] what are examples of language that your find stigmatizing to

people living with pain and what alternatives can be used. Members can review a recording of the event [here](#). Further, a list of resources to encourage person-centered and public-engaged research across the translational spectrum can be found [here](#).



2022 USASP Annual Scientific Meeting

The 2022 Annual Scientific Meeting for the United States Association for the Study of Pain (USASP) aims to provide a platform for scientists, clinicians and healthcare professionals, and trainees from basic science, translational, behavioral, clinical, and other settings to share and discuss current information related to pain mechanisms, pain prevention and pain intervention, and other relevant topics.

We have an exciting program in place and hope you will plan to join us either in-person in Cincinnati, Ohio or online as a virtual participant. (**Note:** Not all conference activities will be available in the virtual format. You will get the MOST out of the conference by attending in person, but we also wanted to offer a virtual component for those who are unable to join us in Cincinnati.) The conference venue is large enough to support our group, yet small enough to feel a sense of community among conference participants and is being hosted by the Dept. of Anesthesiology at the College of Medicine, University of Cincinnati.

Plenary Speakers

COVID Statement

Hybrid Format

Conference Program

Registration

Venue and Hotels

WEBINAR

USASP TODAY A CALLING OF A PAIN SCIENTIST

WEDNESDAY | TIME
27 APRIL | 3PM CT

SPEAKER
EMINE BAYMAN, PHD
PAIN RESEARCHER

REGISTER NOW

www.usasp.org

USASP
US Association for
the Study of Pain



You are invited to join us on April 27th to learn about Dr. Emine Bayman's career journey as a pain researcher.

Emine O. Bayman, PhD is an Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Anesthesia and the Deputy Director of the Clinical Trials Statistical and Data Management Center at the University of Iowa. Dr. Bayman served as a PI, a co-I, or a primary statistician for multiple NIH and/or industry-funded studies in pain research including Acute to Chronic Pain Signatures Program (A2CPS), and Fibromyalgia TENS in Physical Therapy Study (FM-TIPS). Dr. Bayman has combined expertise in leading both small and large multicenter clinical trials, biomarker studies, extensively published on pain after thoracic surgery and has methodological publications on identifying center-to-center differences on outcomes in multi-center trials using a Bayesian approach. She is on the editorial board of Neurosurgery, Anesthesia & Analgesia, European Journal of Pain, and Journal of Pain.

Registration is required.

[Register here!](#)

From the National Institutes of Health

Funding Opportunity

NIH Health Care Systems Research Collaboratory - Pragmatic and Implementation Trials of Embedded Interventions (UG3/UH3, Clinical Trials Optional)

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has an upcoming June receipt date (June 17th) for a funding opportunity announcement to solicit phased cooperative research applications to conduct efficient large-scale pragmatic or implementation trials embedded within health care systems. View RFA-AT-22-001 [here](#).

Contact [scientific program staff at NCCIH or the other participating Institutes and Centers](#) to share your research aims and determine whether you have a good match before developing an application.

Sincerely,
Wendy J. Weber, N.D., Ph.D., M.P.H.

Branch Chief, Clinical Research in Complementary and Integrative Health Branch
Division of Extramural Research
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health



Call for Applications: Journal of Pain Social Media Chair

The Journal of Pain seeks a social media chair to assist with social media communications for the journal. The Chair will generate social media content based on journal articles, activities, and events, and will serve on the USASP Communications Committee. The ideal candidate is a motivated student or early career leader with knowledge of and facility with social media platforms and a passion for pain science. Candidates should be available beginning July 1, 2022, for a minimum of a 1-year term. Time commitment estimated at 1-2 hours/week.

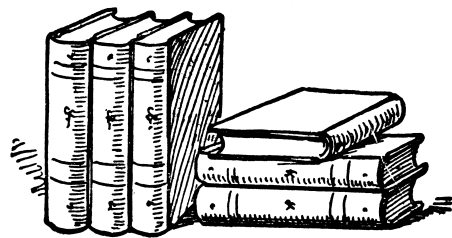
Interested candidates should send a cover letter outlining their experience with social media and why they are interested in this role and a current CV to Tonya Palermo at tonya.palermo@seattlechildrens.org.

Applications are due by April 15th. Inquiries welcomed.



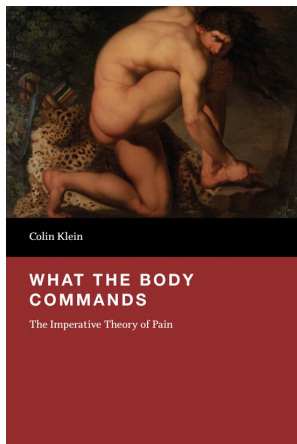
Acute (to Chronic) Pain SIG Seminar Series

Mollie K. Meffert, MD, PhD, Associate Professor in the Departments of Biological Chemistry and Neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine will be giving the next Acute to Chronic SIG presentation "Post-transcriptional Mechanisms in the Development of Neuropathic Pain" on **April 20 from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm (eastern)**. Email admin@usasp.org for a link to join the meeting.



BOOK CORNER

EDITED BY JOHN LOESER &
DAVID TAUBEN



What the Body Commands: the imperative theory of pain

In What the Body Commands: the imperative theory of pain, Colin Klein argues that pain does not exist to inform us about tissue damage; it exists to command protective action.

Colin Klein, MIT Press, Hardcover, \$45.00
ISBN: 9780262029704
224 pp. | 6 in x 9 in
July 2015

A review of What the Body Commands: the imperative theory of pain

In recent years, pain professionals have been thinking of pain less as providing information about tissue damage and more as providing guidance for survival of the organism. In *What the body commands: the imperative theory of pain*, philosopher Colin Klein takes this trend to its logical conclusion, arguing that “All pains have imperative content, and that imperative content is what distinguishes them as pains.” An imperative is a command, not a representation or a description. Klein argues that the primary function of pain is to command protective behavior rather than to inform us of tissue damage. His book can help us understand more clearly the current anti-Cartesian revolution underway in pain research.

Most sensory experiences, such as visual or auditory, inform us of the outside world, but pain does not. “Ordinary sensations inform but don’t necessarily motivate. Pains motivate without informing. That is why pain is unusual....” Visual and auditory sensory experience provides us information about the world that can be determined to be either true or false. Was that really a ghost or just a sheet flapping in the breeze? Is that my mother calling my name or someone else? But pains are not true or false in the usual sense of correspondence with reality. Commands are not true and false in this usual sense. “What is commanded is to be made true.” A patient or clinician can investigate the cause of pain, but this does not prove the experience of pain to be a true or false representation. Primary care clinicians often consider pains without clear association with tissue damage to be unreal, exaggerated, or non-medical pain. But this assumes that real pain is caused by tissue damage. Modern pain research has revealed the relationship between pain and tissue damage to be loose, variable and continuously modified to promote survival. If pain arises from danger detection, its truth or falsity is more complicated. Danger is not an objective property of the body.

The core message for us from Klein’s book is that pain is more about action than information. Pain commands protective action. It is informative only insofar as that is necessary for effective

protective action. Pain not only prompts protective movement, it can itself be understood as a form of protective action. Pain is not imposed on the body, it is something the body does to protect itself. Injury may happen to an animal, but pain is something the animal produces to survive.

Mark Sullivan, MD, PhD
University of Washington
Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

New Sleep & Pain SIG Logo



Upcoming Events

April 12: Pain, Movement, & Rehab SIG Meeting 12pm ET

April 15: Journal of Pain Social Media Chair *APPLICATION DEADLINE*

April 20: Acute to Chronic Pain SIG Meeting 2pm ET

April 27: Spotlight a Pain Researcher with Dr. Emine Bayman 3pm CT/4pm ET

April 29: Pediatric Pain SIG Meeting 11amPT/2pmET

May 18: Early Career Forum, Cincinnati Ohio

May 19-21: USASP Annual Scientific Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio

[Click to Sign-up for a SIG](#)

[Click to view full calendar](#)

Missed An Event? USASP
members can watch
recordings of seminars.

[Click to watch recordings](#)



Submit Tweet Here!

Let's Stay Connected

Remember to keep your member profile up to date as well as to renew your membership conveniently using your USASP website login. You can opt-in to autorenewal by using the [membership form](#). Members in their grace period (30-60 days following one-year membership without renewal) will receive contact from the USASP Membership Committee.

Here are some of resources you will gain as a member of the USASP:

- Members' directory
- Networking and Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
- Professional Development Seminars and workshops
- Jobs and Training Opportunities
- Monthly Newsletter
- The Journal of Pain
- Leadership Opportunities
- Discounts on meeting fees



If your SIG or committee has updates or events you would like shared with USASP membership please email them using the contact below.

Contact Info:

US Association for the Study of Pain
admin@usasp.org

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