

# 14<sup>TH</sup> DISPARITIES IN HEALTH IN AMERICA

## Working Towards Social Justice

Program Chair

### LOVELL A. JONES, PHD

Executive Director, HDEART, Professor of Research, PVAMU College of Nursing

Co-Chairs

### E. LISAKO J. MCKYER, PHD, MPH

Associate Dean, Office of Cultural Competency, Diversity & Equity  
Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences  
Director of Research Development, Center for Community Health Development  
Texas A&M School of Public Health

### HEATHER HONOR'E GOLTZ, PHD, LMSW, MED

Assistant Professor of Social Work, College of Public Service  
University of Houston-Downtown



Health Disparities, Education,  
Awareness, Research & Training  
(HDEART) Consortium

## June 20-25, 2016

The Wilhelmina Cullen Robertson Auditorium  
University of Houston-Downtown  
1 Main Street • Houston, Texas 77002

The goal of the Annual Disparities in Health Summer Workshop is to provide a comprehensive understanding of health disparities, to investigate approaches to enhancing health equity, and to provide participants with a broad base of knowledge related to a bio-psychosocial approach in addressing health disparities in a minority and the medically underserved populations.



**PUBLIC HEALTH**  
TEXAS A&M HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER



Health Disparities, Education,  
Awareness, Research & Training  
(HDEART) Consortium



University of Houston  
DOWNTOWN

# 14th Annual

## DISPARITIES IN HEALTH IN AMERICA WORKSHOP:

Working Towards Social Justice

From Health Policy to Precision Medicine: Addressing Health Inequities Across the Broad

June 20-25, 2016

In 1999, Congress appropriated funds for the creation of the mandated Center for Research on Minority Health (CRMH), the first of its kind in the nation. In 2011, the name of the center was changed to the Dorothy I. Height Center for Health Equity and Evaluation Research (DH-CHEER). The uniqueness of CRMH and DH-CHEER laid partly in their guiding principles, which emphasized advancement of the scientific research base pertaining to health disparities, involvement of the affected populations in determining research priorities, and communication of research findings to all stakeholders. The broad array of DH-CHEER research studies reflected the multi-faceted nature of health disparities and included such topics as childhood obesity, environmental and lifestyle influences on disease, and cancer survivorship. The goal of the CRMH/CHEER was to create a model for other health disparities center across the nation to replicate. CRMH/DH-CHEER was also devoted to training high school, undergraduate, and graduate students and postdoctoral fellows with career interests in science and medicine; and to provide support to faculty members whose research involved health disparities issues.

In 2002, the CRMH and the Texas Program for Society & Health at Rice University joined forces to create the Health Disparities Education, Awareness, Research, and Training (HDEART) Consortium, at that time numbering 7 institutions in the Texas Medical Center. Today, HDEART numbers 44 institutions, both nationally and internationally. In addition, to the workshop and other endeavors, since 2004, fellows who have trained with the CRMH/DH-CHEER or who have been impacted by the center have returned to present and mentor future generations at the annual workshop. Today, the efforts of CRMH/DH-CHEER enfolded into the goals and objectives of HDEART Consortium. HDEART's Academic Home is now Texas A&M School of Public Health.

With Dr. Jones' retirement, HDEART still continues its efforts to eliminate health disparities, as illustrated by the holding of the 14th Annual Disparities in Health in America: Working toward Social Justice Course and Workshop

## DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

The following are some of the distinguished speakers who have volunteered their time to teach in this workshop. It is a list of persons whom you will rarely see on the same program.

## WELCOME

### Chair

#### **Lovell A. Jones, PhD**

*Founder, Health Disparities, Awareness, Research & Training (HDEART) Consortium; Professor, Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing; Research Professor, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi; Professor Emeritus, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; Professor Emeritus, University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Houston, TX*

### Co-Chairs

#### **E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH**

*Associate Dean, Office of Cultural Competency, Diversity & Equity Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences Director of Research Development, Center for Community Health Development | School of Public Health*

#### **Heather H. Goltz, PhD, LMSW,**

**MEd** *Assistant Professor of Social Work in the College of Public Service at the University of Houston-Downtown, Adjunct Assistant Professor at Baylor College of Medicine, and Research Investigator (WOC) at the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC*

*Greetings from University of Houston  
Downtown*

#### **Leigh Van Horn, PhD,**

*Interim Dean of College of Public Service*

*Greetings from Texas A&M Health  
Science Center School of Public Health*

#### **Jay Maddock, PhD, FAAHB,**

*Dean of the Texas A&M School of Public Health*

*Greetings from the City of Houston  
Department of Health*

#### **Stephen L. Williams, MEd, MPA,**

*Director*

*Greetings from Harris County Public  
Health & Environmental Services*

#### **Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH,**

*Executive Director*

*Greetings from the HDEART Consortium  
and the Introduction of our Special Guest*

#### **Kirk Calhoun, MD,**

*President of the UTHealth Northeast*

*Special Guest*

#### **The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, JD**

*18th Congressional District, Texas, Houston, TX*



## Opening Keynote Speaker



### **Maureen Y. Lichtveld, MD, MPH**

*President, Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools*

*Professor and Chair*

*Department of Global Environmental Health Sciences*

*Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine*

### ***Keynote***

### **Crushing Borders to Conquer Health Inequality**

**Maureen Lichtveld, MD, MPH** is Professor and Chair, Department of Global Environmental Health Sciences, Tulane University, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Her research focuses on environmentally-induced disease: asthma and cancer, health disparities, environmental health policy, and disaster preparedness. Dr. Lichtveld has a track record in community-based participatory research emphasizing persistent environmental health threats affecting health disparate communities living in disaster prone areas.

She is nationally recognized for the development of competencies addressing a wide-ranging set of interdisciplinary health-related fields including cancer, cultural competence, disaster preparedness, and public health.

As Director, Center for Gulf Coast Environmental Health Research, Leadership, and Strategic Initiatives, Dr. Lichtveld is Principal Investigator of several Gulf Coast- associated environmental health research and capacity building projects ascertaining the potential impact of the Gulf of Mexico Oil spill: the NIH-funded Transdisciplinary Research Consortium for Gulf Resilience On Women's Health, addressing potential post-oil spill effects on vulnerable pregnant- and non-pregnant women; "Risk and Resilience in Environmental Health", a project designed to implement rapidly deployable community-based research, outreach and education; and the Gulf Region Health Outreach Program's Environmental Health Capacity and Literacy Project, aimed at strengthening individual and community resilience. Dr. Lichtveld was elected President of the Hispanic Serving Health Professions Schools. Prior to joining Tulane University, she completed a successful 18 year career at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in several leadership capacities. She was honored as CDC's Environmental Health Scientist and twice named Woman of the Year by the City of New Orleans.

## Chair



### **Lovell A. Jones, PhD, FHDR**

*Founder, Health Disparities, Awareness, Research and Training (HDEART) Consortium, Professor, Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing; Research Professor, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi; Professor Emeritus, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; Professor Emeritus, University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Houston, TX*

## Co-Chairs



### **E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH**

*Associate Dean, Office of Cultural Competency, Diversity and Equity Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences Director of Research Development, Center for Community Health Development | School of Public Health*



### **Heather H. Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd**

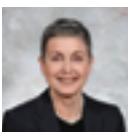
*Assistant Professor of Social Work in the College of Public Service at the University of Houston-Downtown, Adjunct Assistant Professor at Baylor College of Medicine, and Research Investigator (WOC) at the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC*

## Welcome and Opening Speakers



### **Lovell A. Jones, PhD, FHDR**

*Founder, Health Disparities, Awareness, Research and Training (HDEART) Consortium, Professor, Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing; Research Professor, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi; Professor Emeritus, UTMD Anderson Cancer Center; Professor Emeritus, UT Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Houston, TX*



**Leigh Van Horn, EdD**, *Interim Dean of the College of Public Service at the University of Houston – Downtown*



**Kirk Calhoun, MD**, *President of the University of Texas Health Northeast, Chair of the Presidents Council of HDEART Medicine UTHHealth Northeast*



### **The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, JD**, *(invited)*

*18th Congressional District, Texas, Houston, TX*



### **Jay Maddock, PhD**

**FAAHB**, *Dean of the Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Public Health*



### **Stephen L. Williams, MEd, MPA**

*Director, City of Houston Health Department*



### **Umair A. Shah, MD**

**MPH**, *Executive Director, Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services*



### **E. Lisako Jones McKyer, PhD, MPH**

*Associate Dean of Climate and Diversity, and Associate Professor, Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences, Texas A&M School of Public Health; Associate Professor (joint), College of Medicine, and College of Education and Human Development, Texas A&M University; Director of Research, Center for Community Health Development; Associate Director, Transdisciplinary Center for Health Equity Research*



### **Heather H. Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd**

*Assistant Professor of Social Work in the College of Public Service at the University of Houston- Downtown, Adjunct Assistant Professor at Baylor College of Medicine, and Research Investigator (WOC) at the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC. University; Director of Research, Center for Community Health Development; Associate Director, Transdisciplinary Center for Health Equity Research*

# Educational Goals and Objectives

## Goal

The goal of the Disparities in Health Summer Workshop is to provide a comprehensive understanding of health disparities, to investigate approaches to enhancing health equity, and to provide participants with a broad base of knowledge related to a bio-psychosocial approach in addressing health disparities in a minority and the medically underserved populations.

## Educational Objectives

At the conclusion of the Annual Disparities in Health Summer Workshop, participants should be able to:

- Acquire introductory knowledge and experience related to various determinants of health,
- Examine and understand the latest research findings about unequal treatment and control of chronic disease among US populations,
- Demonstrate awareness of current and historical factors that contribute to the prevention and control of chronic disease leading to disparities in health among certain populations,
- Identify the role of health professionals and advocates in managing chronic diseases and enhancing population-based health equity,
- Introduce community and state-level resources and available funding to reduce chronic disease and health disparities, and
- Gain a better understanding of resources available for planning, policy development, program interpretation and funding to reduce health disparities.

## Target Audience

- Physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals
- Students and fellows
- Social workers and health care advocates
- Health educators and community health workers
- Community-based organizations
- Civic and governmental leaders

## Educational Methods

Educational methods include lectures, slide show presentations, technical and educational programs, panel discussions, question and answer sessions, and networking activities.

## Academic Credit

Academic credit will be provided to Health Disparities Education, Awareness, Research and Training (HDEART) Consortium member students (TSU, UH, UHD, Rice, etc.) who register for a “Special Topic Elective” at their institution and obtain prior approval from their departmental faculty advisor. Upon completion of the six-day Summer Workshop, a “Certificate of Attendance” will be given to each student, and upon satisfying individual institutional requirements, 3.0 academic credit units will be awarded.

## Evaluation

A course evaluation form will provide participants with the opportunity to review each session and speaker, to identify future educational needs, and to provide feedback to the Summer Workshop organizers.

## Accreditation/Credit Designation

We have applied to the following for continuing education credits:

- CHES: National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. (NCHCEC)
- Nursing: The University of Texas Health Science Center – Houston School of Nursing
- The University of Texas Houston Science Center at Houston School of Nursing is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Texas Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. This activity provides a maximum of 49.81 nursing continuing education contact hours.
- Application for CHES (entry-level) / MCHES (advanced-level) Category I continuing education contact hours (CECH) has been made to the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. (NCHCEC).
- Social Work: The University of Houston-Graduate College of Social Work

Social Work CEUs are available for up to 50 CEUs over the course of the 6 day conference. Sign in is required for LMSW, LCSW, LMFT and LPC participants approved for Social Work CEUs.

There is a \$10 charge for CEU certificates awarded to be paid individually by the participant.

## Hotel Accommodations

We will have two hotel accommodations for participants:

### **J.W. Marriott Downtown Houston**

806 Main Street  
Houston, Texas 77002  
713-237-1111

### **Holiday Inn Downtown Houston**

1616 Main Street  
Houston, Texas 77002  
713-658-8888

# Grant Support and Sponsorship

This workshop is supported in part by funds from the American Heart Association, American College of Health Care Executives- South East Texas Chapter, the Educational Foundation of the South East Texas Chapter, Nutritional Alternatives, Inc., the Texas Medical Center, Inc, the Voice of Asia Group and the many members of the HDEART Consortium whose member logos appear in the program.

This workshop is also supported in part through a subcontract from NAATPN, Inc., which is partially funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Grant # 1U58DP004975-01). The views and opinions expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators, do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.





HEALTH DISPARITIES, EDUCATION, AWARENESS, RESEARCH & TRAINING

**HDEART Consortium**



**ACHE - SouthEastTexasChapter**

*An Independent Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives*



**EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**  
of the SouthEastTexasChapter

*An Independent Affiliate of the ACHE - SouthEastTexasChapter*



# 14th Annual

## DISPARITIES IN HEALTH IN AMERICA WORKSHOP:

Working Toward Social Justice Summer Workshop

June 20-25, 2016

### Planning Committee

#### Chair:

##### **Lovell A. Jones, PhD, FHDR**

*Professor, Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing Research Professor,  
Texas A&M University Corpus Christi  
Professor Emeritus, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center,  
The University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences*

#### HDEART Consortium Member and Host Institution:

#### Co-Chairs:

##### **E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH**

*Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion and  
Community Health Sciences  
Health Science Center - School of Public Health  
Associate Professor, Department of Internal Medicine Texas  
A&M Health Science Center - College of Medicine*

##### **Heather Honoré Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd**

*Assistant Professor of Social Work, College of Public Service,  
University of Houston—Downtown; Adjunct Assistant Professor,  
Section of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, Baylor  
College of Medicine; Research Investigator (woc), Michael E. DeBakey  
VA Medical Center*

#### Committee Members:

##### **Philip M. Alberti, PhD**

*Senior Director, Health Equity Research and  
Policy Scientific Affairs  
Association of American Medical Colleges*

##### **Caren Blinka, JD, MSHA**

*Volunteer*

##### **Vence Bonham, JD**

*Senior Advisor to the NHGRI Director on  
Genomics and Health Disparities, National  
Institutes of Health*

##### **John Briscoe, MBA**

*Data/Information Resource Specialist  
Prairie View A&M University  
College of Nursing*

##### **Shonta Chambers**

*EVP Health Equity Initiatives and  
Programs, Patient Advocate Foundation*

##### **Angelina Esparza, RN, MPH**

*Chief Program Officer,  
City of Houston Department*

##### **Vaunette Fay, PhD, RNC, FNP, GNP**

*Director, Continuing Education, Lead Nurse  
Planner Professor of Clinical Nursing-  
Clinical Nursing Systems, UT Health  
School of Nursing*

##### **Don Gibson, MS, MHA**

*Quantum Health Resources - Owner;  
President, Quantum Leadership, Inc.*

##### **Immaculata Igbo PhD**

*Associate Professor  
Prairie View A&M University  
College of Nursing*

##### **Ann Liberman, MSW**

*Director Alumni, Career and Professional  
Development Graduate College of Social  
Work, University of Houston*

##### **Stacy M. Lloyd, PhD, MPH**

*Postdoctoral Associate  
Department of Molecular and Cellular  
Biology, Baylor College of Medicine*

##### **Octavio Martinez, MD**

*Executive Director, The Hogg Foundation for  
Mental Health University of Texas Austin*

##### **Benjamin Moore PhD**

*Volunteer*

##### **Jasmine J. Opusunju, DrPH, MSEd, CHES, CPH**

*Executive Director, CAN DO Houston*

##### **Elfreda Sammon**

*Texas A&M Health Science Center*

##### **Jovonni R. Spinner, MPH, CHES**

*Public Health Advisor  
Food and Drug Administration/Office of  
Minority Health*

##### **Ejim Sule, PhD, MSN**

*Assistant Professor  
Prairie View A&M University  
College of Nursing*

##### **Karey Sutton, PhD**

*Lead Specialist, Health Equity  
Research and Policy  
Association of American Medical Colleges*

##### **Angela Tate-Moore, MSW, MBA**

*Vice President for Education Planned  
Parenthood, Gulf Coast*

# *Health Disparities Education, Awareness, Research and Training (HDEART) Consortium Member Institutions*

HDEART is an organization of 44 academic and health institutions located in Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Florida, Tennessee, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC, with member institutions in Nigeria & Mexico.

- Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Public Health (ACADEMIC HOME OF HDEART)
- Texas A&M University College Station
- Texas A&M University Health Science Center
- Texas A&M University Corpus Christi
- University of Florida Health
- Temple University Health System
- University of Miami
- Florida A&M University
- University of Houston – Downtown
- University of Houston
- University of Texas Medical Branch
- University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
- University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio
- University of Texas Health Northeast
- University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
- University of Texas at Austin
- Texas Southern University
- Rice University
- Prairie View A&M University
- Moffitt Cancer Comprehensive Center
- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
- Baylor College of Medicine
- Texas Woman’s University Health Science Center
- Texas Woman’s University
- Tulane University
- Meharry Medical College
- University of New Mexico
- University of North Texas Health Science Center – Fort Worth
- Lee College
- Hogg Foundation for Mental Health
- Michael E. DeBakey Veteran Administration Medical Center- Houston
- City of Houston Department of Health and Human Service
- Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services
- State of Texas Department of Health Services
- Howard University
- Morehouse School of Medicine
- Patient Advocate Foundation
- Federal Republic of Nigeria (5 institutions)
- Mexico (3 institutions)

## Welcome from the HDEART Consortium



**Kirk A. Calhoun, MD**, *President of the UTHealth Northeast,  
University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler  
Chair of HDEART Presidents Advisory Board*

Let me extend our welcome to all of you who are attending the 13th Annual Disparities in Health in America Summer Workshop. You will find an array of thoughtful and informative speakers to both educate and motivate you. We understand better now the critical role that racial, cultural and geographic disparities play in creating and sustaining poor health outcomes. We, as leaders of higher education institutions know we must find a ways to ensure the next generation of professionals have both the knowledge and the tools to address poor health outcomes, and have a meaningful impact on health care delivery in the future. The Health Disparities, Education, Awareness, Research and Training Consortium (HDEART) is proud to be supportive of this conference. Additionally, I want to thank Lovell A. Jones, PhD for his dedication to the HDEART Consortium and to the Health Disparities Summer Workshop. He has been the critical thought leader and the necessary glue to hold it all together. We cannot thank him enough. Please enjoy the conference and I pray it will inspire you to explore these important issues and to improve the health of your communities.

## Welcome from University of Houston-Downtown



**Leigh Van Horn, EdD**, *Interim Dean of the College of Public Service at the  
University of Houston – Downtown*

On behalf of the University of Houston – Downtown and the College of Public Service which includes Social Work, Criminal Justice, and Urban Education as well as the Center for Public Service and Family Strengths, the Institute for Community Research, and the Criminal Justice Training Center, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 14th Annual Summer Workshop in Health Disparities in America: Working Toward Social Justice.

Our mission in the College of Public Service is closely aligned with that of the Health Disparities, Education, Awareness, Research and Training Consortium; we believe that through public service, an educated society creates thoughtful policies and practices to improve the lives of diverse populations. Our faculty and students engage in dynamic research designed to enhance the quality of schools, social work, and justice institutions. During this summer workshop we will hear from leaders in community health who will thoughtfully address challenges and innovations in human health related to inequities and disparities, demographics, policies, economics, ethics, risks, assessment, mental health, economics, neighborhood typologies, communication, and genomics and precision medicine. Together, we will consider how we might grapple with the next generation of health disparities. We'll examine these issues from local and global perspectives as we concentrate our efforts on strengthening individual and community resilience and moving forward in our address of disparities and the attainment of social justice. It is my fervent hope that this conference will enable you to make personal and professional connections with one another and to learn something that will help you to continue leading the critical work of identifying and alleviating health disparities.

# Welcome from Texas A&M University



**Jay Maddock, PhD, FAAHB**, *Dean of the Texas A&M School of Public Health*

It is my sincere pleasure to extend a warm welcome to attendees, speakers and organizers of the 14th Annual Summer Workshop: Health Disparities in America on behalf of the Texas A&M School of Public Health; The Academic Home of the Health Disparities, Education, Awareness, Research and Training (HDEART) Consortium.

Health inequities and their contributory factors are clearly a public health issue. We, as members of the public collective, are only as strong as our weakest link. Thus it is in our best interests by any measure—socially, politically, environmentally, educationally, legally, fiscally and more - to take action such that each and all can achieve and maintain optimal health.

The Texas A&M School of Public Health is committed to transforming health through interdisciplinary inquiry, innovative solutions, and development of leaders locally and globally. We started as the School of Rural Public Health; the only accredited school with a focus on rural public health disparities and issues. We have expanded our scope, which is reflected in our current name, to include public health concerns in other contexts. We are longtime members of the Consortium; Our faculty, students and staff have attended and presented at this workshop for many years. Thus, as the HDEART Consortium's new Academic Home, we are able to more closely align and coordinate our efforts with the Consortium and its institutional members. We are actively making progress. Yet, the existence of health inequities is a reminder of work still undone.

Mahatma Gandhi said “Action expresses priorities.”

Texas A&M School of Public Health acted to function as the Academic Home of the HDEART Consortium, and support this workshop because we are strongly committed to eliminating health disparities and to achieving true health equity. We are excited to see from the sponsorship and support of other Consortium member institutions, and by your presence in the audience, that others share the same priorities.

## Welcome from City of Houston Health Department



**Stephen L. Williams, MEd, MPA**, *Director, City of Houston Health Department*

It gives me great pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to the 14th annual Disparities in America Summer Workshop, on behalf of the City of Houston Health Department. This year's event will convene thought leaders, scientists, clinicians and advocates to exploring health equity, From Health Policy to Precision Medicine: Addressing Health Inequities Across a Broad Spectrum. As a public health leader in one of the most diverse cities in the nation, I understand the importance of addressing health disparities and promoting health equity by recognizing the value of every life, in every community. As a member of the Health Disparities, Education, Awareness and Research and Training (HDEART) consortium, I want to extend a special welcome to the students participating in this year's event. As a part of the next generation, I hope that the accomplished and talented speakers will motivate you to become a catalyst for change, developing solutions to create a healthier and more equitable nation. Finally, I want to thank Lovell Jones, PhD for his dedication to the elimination of health disparities and to the planning committee, staff and the many volunteers and speakers that have worked to make this year's event a success.

## Welcome from Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services



**Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH**, *Executive Director, Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services*

On behalf of Harris County Public Health (HCPH), it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 14th Annual Summer Workshop in Health Disparities in America. HCPH is the county health department for Harris County, Texas – America's 3rd most populous county (4.34 million) spread over an area larger than the size of Rhode Island (1778 square miles).

Our community is diverse as is our agency – we are made up of over 700 public health professionals who are proud and passionate of the work we do and are dedicated to improving the health and well-being of Harris County residents and the communities in which we live. We believe that health happens in our community where people live, learn, work, worship and play. It is about factors such as education, socio-economic status, housing, transportation, environment to name just a few. These elements are all pieces to the larger puzzle of what shapes our community's health. We are equally committed to achieving health equity – the best health possible for all of our residents. As a member of The Health Disparities, Education, Awareness, Research and Training Consortium (HDEART), we congratulate the consortium for its dedication over the years in leading this workshop and are excited to join our colleagues in welcoming you to Harris County.

## Welcome from the Workshop Chair



**Lovell A. Jones, PhD, FHDR**, *Founder, Health Disparities, Awareness, Research and Training (HDEART) Consortium, Professor, Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing, Research Professor, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi; Professor Emeritus, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and The University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston*

We held the first summer workshop on health disparities in Houston over 13 years ago, in the summer of 2003. At that time we had just launched the Health Disparities, Education, Awareness Research and Training (HDEART) Consortium with seven institutions: Baylor College of Medicine, Prairie View A&M University and its College of Nursing, Rice University, Texas Southern University and its College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, the University of Houston Main Campus, the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston, and the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. The HDEART

Consortium sought to create a new paradigm to not only bring attention to the glaring health disparities faced by ethnic minorities and the medically underserved, but also to create solutions to those disparities.

Back then we recognized that despite all of the advancements in health care, something was missing in our fight against health disparities. It was time to assess what we were doing wrong and what we were doing right. Bringing together those institutions, many of which are located in the heart of the largest medical center in the world, the Texas Medical Center, provided an excellent platform to make that assessment. What we discovered in our initial meetings was a lack of teamwork in addressing the issue of health inequities. But something else was also apparent – the fact that improving health care access alone would not solve the issue of health disparities. We needed to build the foundation for a new paradigm that would bring together health entities, academic institutions, government agencies, and community organizations, to truly address health disparities; HDEART became that foundation. Now, almost thirteen years later, HDEART numbers 44 institutions, including a few in Mexico and the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Its educational component, the Summer Workshop on Health Disparities in America, is again attracting attendees and speakers both national and international, from a variety of disciplines.

To put the formation of HDEART into perspective, I must go back to 1987, when the first Biennial Symposium on Minorities and Cancer was held in Houston to coincide with the launching of the National Minority Cancer Awareness Week. The Symposium was the first of its kind to involve ALL Americans in attempting to bring attention to the problem of cancer in minorities, launching the concept of an all-inclusive, “biopsychosocial” approach to addressing health inequities. It was a meeting that would be like no other, one that welcomed everyone, rather than preferring one group or another. Before the first Biennial took place, I was asked who would be the target audience, and I responded “Everybody.” The Symposia were a series of conferences dealing with the medical and socioeconomic complexities of cancer, bringing together a variety of leaders and professionals from different racial/ethnic groups, including poor and rural Americans. That sense of inclusiveness was key to their success, a benchmark that soon brought together many community leaders and health coalitions to form the Intercultural Cancer Council (ICC). The ICC, in turn, became the nation’s largest multicultural health policy group, a powerful national voice for equity in cancer treatment.

Similarly, summer workshop participants come from across the nation and represent a broad variety of interests. Today our audience includes students and mentors, nurses and social workers, health policy analysts and attorneys, biomedical researchers, and other health care professionals. Workshop planners tap into this diverse expertise in an effort to show our next generation the breadth of professions and career specialties available to them if they to pursue careers that will help to ameliorate health inequities. I am very proud to say that over the past decade, we have touched the lives of over 4,000 individuals, the majority of whom were trainees, many of whom have taken up the challenges discussed in previous workshops and are now making their own mark in the fight against disparities. It is most gratifying that today, former workshop attendees are sending their own trainees to learn not only about disparities but also that they, too, can make a difference.

Our biopsychosocial approach serves as a model by which others research health issues in a wide range of cultures and communities. But there is still much work to be done, as illustrated by the continuing gaps in health care: inequities in access, medical treatment, prevention and screening, and participation in clinical trials. So once again, it is time for us to climb back out on that limb, to focus our attention on where we need go. Today, like the Biennial Symposia and the ICC, HDEART is looking toward the future and reassessing itself in terms of what is needed. We have created a nucleus of warriors for the future who recognize the need to pursue a broad range

of strategies, giving us hope for a more successful outcome in addressing health disparities. Reassessment and change do not come easy and do not come without risk. However, risk has always been a part of the challenge, and we will not retreat from it.

Over a decade ago, we launched HDEART to address the education and research needs in addressing health disparities. As we enter into the next decade of the existence of the ICC and HDEART, the torch has been picked up by the two co-chairs, Dr. E. Lisako McKyer and Dr. Heather H. Goltz. Concurrently, Regional Leaders from the ICC network and members from HDEART will continue the discussion started last year to identify the person or persons who will work with these two individuals to forge a partnership that will carry us across the finish line. We want to make a substantial and sustainable contribution toward the creation of a society in which the health of a person is not related to skin color, religion, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status. That is the ultimate purpose of this workshop -- to create a collaborative that has not only the knowledge but also the will to make create health equity for all citizens. For if we don't, who will?

## *Welcome from the Workshop Co-Chair*



**E. Lisako Jones McKyer, PhD, MPH**, *Associate Dean of Climate and Diversity, and Associate Professor, Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences, Texas A&M School of Public Health; Associate Professor (joint), College of Medicine, and College of Education and Human Development, Texas A&M University; Director of Research, Center for Community Health Development; Associate Director, Transdisciplinary Center for Health Equity Research*

I attended my first summer workshop in 2003 while a doctoral student. It was a life-changing experience. I was surrounded by the crème de la crème of scholars dedicated to studying, preventing and eliminating health disparities. Several of these esteemed individuals were women and people of color, which is not a minor point to take for granted. Indeed, at the time I was the sole Black doctoral student in my program and subsequently became the first Black woman to earn a PhD from that program. Thus it was profoundly moving and motivating to be surrounded by like-minded people representing both veteran scholars, experienced practitioners, and us student rookies. There was a vibrant energy emanating from the speakers and panelists, as well as from the audience members. I no longer felt alone.

In 2005 while a junior faculty member, I direly wanted to attend but did not wish to fly as I was pregnant. My spouse drove me 1,058 miles through 6 states so that I could participate. Once again, I left the workshop with renewed vigor to tackle our nation's issues with health inequities. This second experiences cemented my commitment to a career focused on eliminating health disparities.

Since my arrival to Texas in 2006, I have made it a priority to be as involved as possible with this workshop. One of the highlights of my career was being asked to present at the workshop! What a culminating experience. I actually thought things could not get better. But I was wrong. This year, not only am I co-chair and thus able to work hand-in-hand with THE Dr. Lovell Jones, I have a former student mentee presenting! Further, the dean of the Texas A&M School of Public Health – Dr. Jay Maddock - stepped up to provide an unparalleled opportunity – to serve as the Academic Home of the HDEART Consortium! With this much support, there is so much we can do! Alas, there is much left to do.

The health issues our nation faces are weighty and complex. No single discipline or profession will be successful in addressing the myriad of factors in a complex system contributing to the creation and sustainment of inequities in health. It requires a truly trans-disciplinary approach. It requires ALL of us – public health professionals, nurses, physicians, social workers, lawyers, historians, anthropologists, sociologist, toxicologists, and yes – artists, engineers and more – ALL of us working in concert to effect meaningful and sustainable changes.

Look around you. In the audience are people from all walks of life, currently studying (or have studied) a wide range of disciplines and/or topics. You have in common, a desire to prepare yourself with knowledge and training in order to effectively wage a battle against injustices manifesting as health disparities. Each year, this summer workshop trains 300-400 people to add to the cadre of activists for health equity. To date our numbers exceed 4,000 individuals! By the end of this workshop, you will cement your membership among us. When you return to your corner of the earth and it seems a bit lonely and daunting, recall your time spent here at the workshop when you were surrounded by like-minded comrades. Know you are not alone. Know we are here for you, and know that as a collective we can and WILL make a difference.

## Welcome from the Workshop Co-Chair



**Heather Honoré Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd**, *Assistant Professor of Social Work, College of Public Service, University of Houston—Downtown; Adjunct Assistant Professor, Section of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine; Research Investigator (woc), Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center*

When people ask me where I am “from,” I say that “I live in Texas, but I am from Louisiana.” Who doesn’t love the smell and taste of good Cajun and Creole cooking; the warm and engaging, but almost intelligible accents; and the pure joy of a “Second Line”? However, growing up in Louisiana also meant learning about some of the less desirable traits of my home State— widening income gaps, lower educational attainment, and ever-present health disparities. My hometown of Baton Rouge is in the middle of a region of Louisiana known in public health circles as “Cancer Alley.” Cancer is so prevalent in this area that it would be difficult to find someone who has not been impacted. I am a 12-year Survivor.

The year after my diagnosis, I completed my Master of Social Work degree and enrolled in Texas A&M’s health education doctoral program. Two very important events happened during that time period. In 2006, I met Dr. E Lisako Jones-McKyer who enthusiastically agreed to join my dissertation committee. In 2007, I was re-introduced to Dr. Lovell Jones, also a Baton Rouge native, when he visited College Station and provided a talk on health disparities. Later that year, I attended my first summer workshop.

Like many of you, I had no idea what to expect. I was handed a workshop bag and entered the auditorium to find hundreds of other students, faculty, and researchers already seated. Then something magical happened! As the Welcome and Introductions began that first day, I noticed that for the first time in my life I was surrounded by minority and female students, scholars, and community activists. Many of the speakers and moderators were also minority scholars, but everyone was a “Friend of Lovell.”

The next five days of the workshop were as awe-inspiring as they were overwhelming. Every day, regardless of discipline or rank, the presenters spoke with one unified message concerning the need for health equity. They issued an undeniable call to action and dared each of us to strike a blow against health disparities in whatever form they take. As the workshop came to a close, I finally began to see the unfolding of my life’s purpose— a career dedicated to the elimination of cancer disparities and the teaching and mentoring of the next generation of health equity researchers and practitioners.

Today, almost 10 years after my first workshop, I have come full circle. I am a faculty member at the University of Houston— Downtown. It is my pleasure and privilege to mentor the next generation of social workers who are going out into Houston and points beyond to alter the very socioeconomic fabric of their communities. For my efforts in bladder and prostate cancer survivorship, I was conferred the 2016 UHD Excellence in Scholarly/ Creative Activities Award. The icing on the proverbial cake is that I am co-chairing this year’s workshop with the two people who helped launch my health disparities career.

So, what possible advice could I give to first-time attendees? First, take it all in. This 6-day workshop is a veritable feast of information, as well as potential mentors and collaborators. It’s ok to feel overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of the issues and “awesomeness” of the presenters. Second, save business cards, make notes of what you discussed, and send thank-you notes. And last, but not least, begin to decide how you will incorporate health equity into your research and practice. This is the first step in your journey.

In closing, the late Muhammad Ali once said, “Impossible is just a big word thrown around by small men who find it easier to live in the world they’ve been given than to explore the power they have to change it.” Join us in doing the “impossible.” Together, we can eliminate health disparities!



# Program

Monday, June 20, 2016 - Morning

Welcome and Opening

7:00 – 1:00 **Registration**

7:30 **Breakfast (A300)**

8:00 **Welcome and Opening (Robertson Auditorium)**



**Lovell A. Jones, PhD, FHDR**, Founder and Executive Director, Health Disparities, Awareness, Research and Training (HDEART) Consortium, Professor, Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing, Research Professor, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi; and Professor Emeritus, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

*Greetings from Co-Chair*



**E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH**, Associate Dean of Climate and Diversity, and heads the Office of Cultural Competence, Diversity and Inclusion at the Texas A&M School of Public Health. She is also the Director of Research Development, Center for Community Health Development (CCHD), and Associate Director of the Transdisciplinary Center for Health Equity Research (TCHER). She holds joint faculty appointments in the departments of 1) Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences, School of Public Health, 2) Humanities in Medicine, College of Medicine, and 3) Health and Kinesiology, College of Education and Human Development at Texas A&M University. Her research interest include health education and health behavior research methods and data analytic methods, socio-ecological and psychological factors associated with child and adolescent health status and behaviors, and minority health issues and health disparities.

*Greetings from Co-Chair*



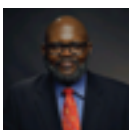
**Heather H. Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd**, Assistant Professor of Social Work in the College of Public Service at the University of Houston-Downtown, Adjunct Assistant Professor at Baylor College of Medicine, and Research Investigator (WOC) at the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC. She is a past Chair of the American Public Health Association's Genomics Forum and the current Co-Chair of the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network's Survivorship Working Group. Her research interests include genitourinary (pelvic) cancer survivorship, patient navigation, disease self-management, family health history, unmet needs of cancer patients and informal caregivers, and health disparities.

*Greetings from Texas A&M University*



**Jay Maddock, PhD, FAAHB**  
Dean of the Texas A&M School of Public Health

*Greetings from the City of Houston Health Department*



**Stephen L. Williams, MEd, MPA**  
Director City of Houston Health Department

*Greetings from the City of Houston Health Department*



**Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH**

Executive Director

*Greeting from the HDEART Consortium and the Introduction of our Special Guest*



**Kirk Calhoun**

President of UTHealth Northeast, Tyler, TX. and Chair of the HDEART Consortium



**The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, JD**

18th Congressional District, Texas, Houston, TX. (invited)

8:45

**Workshop Overview**



**Lovell A. Jones, PhD** received his doctorate in 1977 in the field of zoology with an emphasis in endocrinology and tumor biology from the University of California, Berkeley. During his training Dr. Jones was a National Institutes of Health (NIH) pre- doctoral trainee and a Ford Foundation Fellow at the UC Berkeley's Cancer Research Laboratory. Before joining the Department of Gynecologic Oncology at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (UTMDACC) in 1980, Dr. Jones was an Instructor in the Departments of Physiology and Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at UCSF. In 1982, Dr. Jones became a member of the graduate faculty at the University of Texas Graduate School for Biomedical Sciences and now serves as Director of its Reproductive Biology Program. In January 2000, Dr. Jones was named as the first Director of the Congressionally Mandated Center for Research on Minority Health. Dr. Jones is presently a Research Faculty member at Texas A&M University Corpus Christi and Professor Emeritus at UTMDACC and UTGSBS, and holds and adjunct faculty appointment at Texas A&M University School of Public Health.

9:00

**Introduction of the Opening Keynote Speaker**



**William (Bill) C. Jenkins, PhD, MPH**, Professor, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC is a fellow of the American College of Epidemiology (ACE), a member of the American Statistical Association (ASA), and a member of the American Public Health Association (APHA), where he also served on the Governing Council and Executive Board. He was the founding chair of the Epidemiology Section of ASA, a member of the Board of Directors of ACE, and a past chair of its Minority Affairs Committee. Dr. Jenkins received the Abraham Lilienfeld Award from the APHA Epidemiology Section in November 2009. Prior to joining the UNC Institute of African American Research, Dr. Bill Jenkins served for two decades as Supervisory Epidemiologist in the National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHSTP) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and managed its Minority Health Activities Program. Dr. Jenkins obtained his Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Morehouse College.

He holds a Master's degree in Biostatistics from Georgetown University, and both a Master in Public Health degree and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He has also completed post-doctoral work in Biostatistics at Harvard University School of Public Health.

9:05 **Keynote: Crushing Borders to Conquer Health Inequity**



**Maureen Lichtveld, MD, MPH**, is Professor and Chair, Department of Global Environmental Health Sciences, Tulane University, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Her research focuses on environmentally-induced disease: asthma and cancer, health disparities, environmental health policy, and disaster preparedness. Dr. Lichtveld has a track record in community-based participatory research emphasizing persistent environmental health threats affecting health disparate communities living in disaster prone areas.

She is nationally recognized for the development of competencies addressing a wide-ranging set of interdisciplinary health-related fields including cancer, cultural competence, disaster preparedness, and public health.

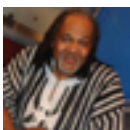
As Director, Center for Gulf Coast Environmental Health Research, Leadership, and Strategic Initiatives, Dr. Lichtveld is Principal Investigator of several Gulf Coast- associated environmental health research and capacity building projects ascertaining the potential impact of the Gulf of Mexico Oil spill: the NIH-funded Transdisciplinary Research Consortium for Gulf Resilience On Women's Health, addressing potential post-oil spill effects on vulnerable pregnant- and non- pregnant women; "Risk and Resilience in Environmental Health", a project designed to implement rapidly deployable community-based research, outreach and education; and the Gulf Region Health Outreach Program's Environmental Health Capacity and Literacy Project, aimed at strengthening individual and community resilience. Dr. Lichtveld was elected President of the Hispanic Serving Health Professions Schools. Prior to joining Tulane University, she completed a successful 18 year career at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in several leadership capacities.

She was honored as CDC's Environmental Health Scientist and twice named Woman of the Year by the City of New Orleans.

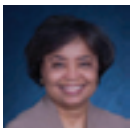
10:00 **Panel Discussion Introduction and Moderator:**

**William (Bill) C. Jenkins, PhD, MPH**

**Panelists:**



**Raymond Winbush, PhD**, Research Professor and Director of the Urban Research Institute at Morgan State University is a clinical psychologist. He is also director of The Warrior Institute (TWI). Dr. Winbush is engaged in research concerning adolescent development, education, health and Black men and boys. He is the author of the critically acclaimed books *The Warrior Method: A Parents' Guide to Rearing Healthy Black Boys* and *Should America Pay?: Slavery and the Raging Debate on Reparations* and *Belinda's Petition: A Concise History of Reparations for the Transatlantic Slave Trade*. In 2007, Dr. Winbush traveled to Australia to participate in a 5-day National Conference on Racism held at Murdoch University and delivered a lecture series at Australian National University. Dr. Winbush conducts workshops based upon *The Warrior Method* locally, nationally and internationally. *The Warrior Method* has been incorporated in school systems in Baltimore, MD; Worcester, MA; Dallas, TX; Brixton, United Kingdom; and Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.



**Janice Ford Griffin** is a long-time advocate and activist for improved health and health care. Her 40 year experience and support for community based comprehensive strategies has included leadership of national programs, state and local policy, and leadership development. Griffin served as the national program director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Community Health Leaders Award from 2007 – 2015 to provide recognition for the contributions made by more than 200 community health leaders from 47 states who overcame daunting odds to significantly improve health in underserved communities. From 1993 – 2005 she served as the deputy director of Join Together at Boston University School of Public Health, a national ad hoc program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The project provided technical support to communities working to address substance abuse prevention and treatment. As deputy director of the RWJF Fighting Back Project – Phase 2 she provided management and direction to 8 communities to measurably reduce their most important substance abuse problems. Griffin also served as the director of drug policy in Houston, TX for Mayor Kathy Whitmire and Mayor Bob Lanier. She also served as a regional coordinator for Texans’ War on Drugs to initiate prevention efforts in a 21 county area of southeast Texas. A member of several boards and commissions, she has been a consultant to US Department of Health and Human Services Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, and the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment; the US Department of Education Safe and Drug Free Schools Exemplary Schools Awards; the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Foundation for the Mid-South; Grantmakers for Children, Youth, and Families; National Council of State Legislators Advisory Committee on the Treatment of Alcoholism and Drug Addictions; USDHHS Healthy People 2000 Mid-Course Review; the Urban Health Initiative at Washington University; the World Health Organization European Committee on Primary Care; the Houston-Harris County Joint City County Commission on Children and Youth; Action for Healthy Kids; St. Luke Episcopal Health Charities Community Health Leaders Award Review Committee; Fort Bend County Department of Health and Human Services; Harris County Precinct 2; American Cancer Society Board Member of the Houston Unit; the National Patient Advocate Foundation; and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University Seminar on Drugs and Crime.

Griffin is passionate about the access to quality health care for all and the social determinants of health. She earned a BA in economics from Fisk University in Nashville, TN and a certificate in real estate from the University of Houston.



**Beverly J. Gor, EdD, RD, LD** is a Staff Analyst, City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services is a registered dietitian and public health professional with over 30 years’ experience in health promotion and addressing health disparities, especially in the Asian and other minority populations. Prior to joining the Houston Health Department, Dr. Gor was a faculty member at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in the Department of Health Disparities Research and a member of the Center for Research on Minority Health where she conducted several studies to reduce cancer risk by improving the health and nutrition of underserved communities. Dr. Gor is a co-founder of the Asian American Health Coalition of Greater Houston which established the HOPE Clinic, a federally qualified health center which provides primary health care to Houstonians in over 14 different languages. She was appointed to the Health Disparities Task Force for the State of Texas and has been honored by the Houston Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics as an outstanding mentor and Distinguished Dietitian. Dr. Gor received her bachelor’s degree in dietetics and food service management from the University of Houston (UH), her master’s degree in nutrition and food science from Texas Woman’s University, and her doctorate in allied health education and administration from UH and Baylor College of Medicine.



**Gabriel Rincón, DDS, CD, FOMHS** was born in Puebla, Mexico, experienced undocumented immigration to New York as a teenager. He later returned to Mexico where he worked to pay for his education and studied dentistry at the Universidad Autonoma de Puebla, graduating in 1981. After a year of community service in Hospital Montelimar, in Managua, Nicaragua, and a short stay in Mexico where he practiced his profession, Dr. Rincón moved to New York and worked various jobs before being accepted at the College of Dentistry of New York University, from which he graduated in 1991 with a DDS degree.

While serving as a Fellow in Oral Surgery at Bellevue Hospital, Dr. Rincón first encountered patients dying of AIDS. He started his own successful dental practice in 1993 in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, and a year later began working in the community by giving talks about HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis prevention, and lead poisoning. In 2000, he and three other concerned community members formed Mixteca Organization, Inc., with an aim to serve recent Mexican and Latino immigrants to New York.

Dr. Rincón presently serves as President of the Board of Directors of Mixteca Organization; Sunset Park Lions Member; Sunset Park Health Council Member; and Lutheran Medical Center Board of Trustees Member; and volunteers tirelessly in administering and implementing the programs of Mixteca Organization.



**Margaret P. Moss, PhD, JD, RN, FAAN**, Associate Professor and Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Buffalo. Dr. Moss is an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota- the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation. She is an Associate Professor at the Yale School of Nursing and Directs 2 programs including the DNP. Dr. Moss received her PhD in Nursing from the University of Texas -Houston, Health Sciences Center in 2000- her dissertation was an ethnography on aging in the Zuni tribe of New Mexico. She subsequently received a distinguished alumni award. Dr. Moss then entered and completed Law School focusing on Federal Indian law, elder law and health law. She is the first and only American Indian to hold both Nursing and Juris Doctorates. Dr. Moss was a 2008-2009 Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow, and staffed the Senate Special Committee on Aging under Senators Martinez and Corker. She has a focus in American Indian Aging specifically and completed a 2-year Postdoctorate Fellowship at the Native Elder Research Center, an NIH funded Resource Center for Minority Aging Research based at the University of Colorado. Dr. Moss researches, presents and writes on American Indians, aging, law and policy.

12:00

### **Lunch by McDonald's**



**Brandi Chase, MS, RDN, LDN** has been a registered dietitian nutritionist since 2003. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Texas A&M University-Kingsville, and her Master's degree in Nutrition from Texas Woman's University. Brandi is a stroller runner that also enjoys reading, scuba diving, practicing Yoga, and spending time with her family. She has completed three full marathons, and more than a handful of half marathons; and has a passion for helping people reach their health and fitness goals.

Brandi practices as a dietitian at The Athlete Stop, and is also a consultant for McDonald's of Greater Houston and Today's Dietitian; as well as a media ambassador for Team CHOCOLATE MILK and Esprit de She race series.

1:00

**Introduction and Moderators (Robertson Auditorium)**

**William (Bill) C. Jenkins, PhD, MPH**, Professor, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC is a fellow of the American College of Epidemiology (ACE), a member of the American Statistical Association (ASA), and a member of the American Public Health Association (APHA), where he also served on the Governing Council and Executive Board. He was the founding chair of the Epidemiology Section of ASA, a member of the Board of Directors of ACE, and a past chair of its Minority Affairs Committee. Dr. Jenkins received the Abraham Lilienfeld Award from the APHA Epidemiology Section in November 2009. Prior to joining the UNC Institute of African American Research, Dr. Bill Jenkins served for two decades as Supervisory Epidemiologist in the National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHSTP) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and managed its Minority Health Activities Program. Dr. Jenkins obtained his Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Morehouse College.

He holds a Master's degree in Biostatistics from Georgetown University, and both a Master in Public Health degree and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He has also completed post-doctoral work in Biostatistics at Harvard University School of Public Health.



**Margaret P. Moss, PhD, JD, RN, FAAN**, Associate Professor and Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Buffalo. Dr. Moss is an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota- the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation. She is an Associate Professor at the Yale School of Nursing and Directs 2 programs including the DNP. Dr. Moss received her PhD in Nursing from the University of Texas -Houston, Health Sciences Center in 2000- her dissertation was an ethnography on aging in the Zuni tribe of New Mexico. She subsequently received a distinguished alumni award. Dr. Moss then entered and completed Law School focusing on Federal Indian law, elder law and health law. She is the first and only American Indian to hold both Nursing and Juris Doctorates. Dr. Moss was a 2008-2009 Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow, and staffed the Senate Special Committee on Aging under Senators Martinez and Corker. She has a focus in American Indian Aging specifically and completed a 2-year Postdoctorate Fellowship at the Native Elder Research Center, an NIH funded Resource Center for Minority Aging Research based at the University of Colorado. Dr. Moss researches, presents and writes on American Indians, aging, law and policy.

**Presenters**

1:15

**“My journey to discover why race disparities exist...and what to do about it”**

**Thomas A. LaVeist, PhD** is chairman of the Department of Health Policy and Management at the George Washington University, Milken Institute School of Public Health. He joined GWU after 25 years on the faculty of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where he was the William C. and Nancy F. Richardson Professor in Health Policy and Director of the Hopkins Center for Health Disparities Solutions. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, his doctorate degree in medical sociology from the University of Michigan and postdoctoral fellowship in public health at the Michigan School of Public Health.

Dr. LaVeist has published more than 100 articles in scientific journals. In addition to his scholarly writing, Dr. LaVeist has written articles for Newsweek Magazine, Black Enterprise Magazine, and the Baltimore Sun. He is a highly sought after lecturer at leading universities, corporations, professional conferences and workshops. His research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, Center for Disease Control, Department of Defense, Commonwealth Fund, Sage Foundation and the Agency for Healthcare Research. In 2012 he organized and hosted the International Conference on Health in

the African Diaspora, which brought together health advocates from 24 countries in the Western Hemisphere.

Dr. LaVeist has provided consultation services for numerous federal agencies and healthcare organizations on minority health and cultural competency issues and racial disparities in health. His dissertation on racial disparities in infant mortality was awarded the 1989 Roberta G. Simmons Outstanding Dissertation Award by the American Sociological Association. He is the recipient of the “Innovation Award” from the National Institutes of Health, and the “Knowledge Award” from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health. In 2013 he was elected to membership in the National Academy of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences (formally Institute of Medicine).

2:15 **Mitigating Health Disparities with Insights and Tools of Urban Bioethics**



**Nora Jones, PhD** founded and directs the MA Urban Bioethics program at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University, where she also serves as Assistant Professor of Bioethics and Associate Director of the Center for Bioethics, Urban Health, and Policy. Working in bioethics since earning her PhD in anthropology in 2002, Dr. Jones’ career has focused on the intersections of the cultures of medicine and of the populations medicine serves. Her areas of teaching and research include urban bioethics, embodiment theory, public understandings of science and medicine, and the relationship of the arts to science and medicine. Her most recent publications address embodiment in transplant recipients and donors, clinical and patient representations of the body in pain, and qualitative methodologies in bioethics research. Dr. Jones represents Temple and Urban Bioethics by teaching courses and speaking at conferences and rounds throughout the School of Medicine and Hospital System, at regional and national hospitals and conferences, and in Schools of Public Health, Dentistry, Law, Business, Engineering, and Liberal Arts.

3:15 **Break**

3:30 **Unauthorized Immigrants and Access to Health Care through the ACA**



**Norman Daniels, PhD** is Mary B. Saltonstall Professor and Professor of Ethics and Population Health at Harvard School of Public Health. Formerly Goldthwaite Professor, Chair of the Tufts Philosophy Department, and Professor of Medical Ethics at Tufts Medical School.

A member of the Institute of Medicine, a Fellow of the Hastings Center, a Founding Member of the National Academy of Social Insurance and of the International Society for Equity in Health, he has consulted with organizations, commissions, and governments in the U.S. and abroad on issues of justice and health policy, including for the United Nations, WHO, and the President’s Commission for the Study of Ethical Problems in Medicine. He served as a member of the Ethics Working Group of the Clinton White House Health Care Task Force (Spring 1993), as a member of the Public Health Service Expert Panel on Cost Effectiveness and Clinical Preventive Medicine, as a member of a National Academy of Social Insurance study panel on the social role of Medicare, and as a member of a Century Fund task force on Medicare reform. He served four years as a founding member of the National Cancer Policy Board, established by the Institute of Medicine and the Commission on the Life Sciences, and on the Advisory Board of the Open Society Foundation project on Medicine as a Profession, and on the International Bioethics Advisory Board of PAHO. He served recently on an IOM Committee on the use of Cost Effectiveness Analysis in regulatory contexts. International Society for Equity in Health, Medicare Coverage Advisory Commission, Advisory Board of the CIHR-Medicare Coverage Advisory Commission, Advisory Board of the CIHR-Institute of Population and Public Health, Ethics Advisory Board of the CDC and Ethics Advisory Board, IPPH Canada.

Dr. Daniels ongoing research falls into these main areas: Moral Epistemology, Theory of Justice and Justice and Health.

4:30 **Narrowing the Gap through Attention to Values and Ethics in Public Health Risk Assessment**



**Colin L. Soskolne, PhD** is Professor emeritus, University of Alberta, Canada. From 1985, he built the Epidemiology Program in that University's School of Public Health. From 2006, he led the foundational work to establish the University of Alberta's School of Public Health as Canada's first accredited such school. He serves as Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Health at the University of Canberra, Australia (2013-2016). He retired in 2013, currently serving as Chair of the International Joint Policy Committee of the Societies of Epidemiology (IJPC-SE). He remains an active Fellow in both the American College of Epidemiology and the Collegium Ramazzini.

Dr. Soskolne obtained his BSc (1970) and BSc Honors (1971) degrees in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. His PhD in Epidemiology (1982) is from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Through his PhD he discovered the association between long-term occupational exposure to high Concentrations of sulfuric acid and the development of laryngeal cancer. For this work he was awarded the Society for Epidemiologic Research (SER) Student Prize in 1983. Given his experiences from corporate influence as a PhD student, he brought ethics and integrity as legitimate areas of focus to epidemiology worldwide.

Dr. Soskolne has been awarded for service to his profession. He has served in elected positions on several professional society executive boards and councils. He also has served on a number of editorial boards of scientific journals, including the American Journal of Epidemiology and the American Journal of Industrial Medicine. His current primary editorial commitments are to Environmental Health, EcoHealth, Global Bioethics, and the Canadian Journal of Public Health. His major focus as a volunteer over the past few years is on work at the nexus of health research and policy; he is working to ensure the sustainability of the International Joint Policy Committee of the Societies of Epidemiology (IJPC-SE). He also continues working in professional ethics, as well as in ongoing research relating to the sustainability of life on Earth. His website is at [www.colinsoskolne.com](http://www.colinsoskolne.com)

5:30 **Questions & Answers**

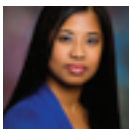
6:00 **Break**

6:30-9:00 **Reception and Poster Session (A300)**

**Hosts**



**Richard A. Hajek, PhD**, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center



**Stacy Lloyd, PhD**, Baylor College of Medicine

**Mayor Sylvester Turner**, City of Houston (invited)



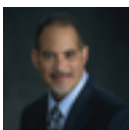
7:30 **Registration and Breakfast (A300)**

8:00 **Overview**



**E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH**, Associate Dean of Climate and Diversity, and heads the Office of Cultural Competence, Diversity and Inclusion at the Texas A&M School of Public Health. She is also the Director of Research Development, Center for Community Health Development (CCHD), and Associate Director of the Transdisciplinary Center for Health Equity Research (TCHER). She holds joint faculty appointments in the departments of 1) Health Promotion and Community Health Sciences, School of Public Health, 2) Humanities in Medicine, College of Medicine, and 3) Health and Kinesiology, College of Education and Human Development at Texas A&M University. Her research interest include health education and health behavior research methods and data analytic methods, socio-ecological and psychological factors associated with child and adolescent health status and behaviors, and minority health issues and health disparities.

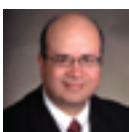
8:05 **Introduction of the Session**



**Garnet F. Coleman** serves in Texas House of Representatives for District 147 in the Texas House of Representatives since 1991. Throughout his years of service, Representative Coleman has earned a reputation as a diligent leader in the areas of health care, economic development and education. He is currently the Senior ranking member of the Public Health Committee as well as the Chairman of the County Affairs Committee. Representative Coleman also serves as a member of the Select Committee on Federal Economic Stabilization Funding, which is charged with ensuring that the state maximize its share of funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. continuously since 1991. Throughout his years of service, Representative Coleman has earned a reputation as a diligent leader in the areas of health care, economic development and education. He is currently the Senior ranking member of the Public Health Committee as well as the Chairman of the County Affairs Committee.

Representative Coleman also serves as a member of the Select Committee on Federal Economic Stabilization Funding, which is charged with ensuring that the state maximize its share of funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

**Moderator and Introductions**



**Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., MD, MPH, MBA, FAPA**, Executive Director of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, Clinical Professor in School of Social Work and Associate Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement, University of Texas at Austin. Rheeda L. Walker, PhD, Associate Professor of Psychology, University of Houston

8:10 **An Excuse or Humanizing: Mental Health in the Criminal Justice System**



**Ryan M Sutton, PhD** is a postdoctoral fellow of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health in the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. He earned his bachelor's degree in psychology, with a minor in African-American studies, from Xavier University of Louisiana earned a master of arts degree and a doctorate in counseling psychology from Howard University. Dr. Sutton completed his APA-accredited internship at D.C. Superior Courts. He has spoken at national conferences and has published on African American youth and mental health, juvenile justice, and academic achievement.

9:00 **Changing Policies That Promote the Triple Whammy:  
Mental Illness, Substance Abuse and Chronic Disease**



**William Lawson, MD, PhD, DFAPA** is currently Associate dean for health disparities at the Dell Medical School. He recently left after 15 year as Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Howard University to facilitate a collaboration between the University of Texas at Austin and Huston-Tillotson University to develop the Sandra Joy Anderson Community Health and Wellness Center. He is past President of the DC chapter of Mental Health America, Past President of the Washington Psychiatric Society, Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, past Chair of the Section of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences of the National Medical Association, and past president of the Black Psychiatrists of America. He received the American Psychiatric Foundation Award for Advancing Minority Mental Health, and the 2014 Solomon Carter Fuller Award by the American Psychiatric Association, He was inducted in Sigma XI the scientific honor society and Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical honor society. He received the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Exemplary Psychiatrist Award and Outstanding Psychologist Award. He was named one of “America’s Leading Black Doctors” by Black Enterprise Magazine, the Washington Post many times, and the US news and World Report. He received the Jeanne Spurlock Award from the American Psychiatric Association, the E.Y. Williams Clinical Scholar of Distinction Award from the National Medical Association, and the Multicultural Workplace Award from the Veterans Administration. He has over 200 publications and has received federal, industry, and foundation funding to address mental and substance abuse disparities.

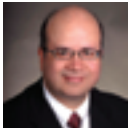
9:50 **Break**

10:00 **Stigma and the Reluctance to Address  
Mental Health Issues in Minority Communities**



**Gary L. Kreps, PhD** (U of Southern California, 1979) is a University Distinguished Professor and Director of the Center for Health and Risk Communication (<http://chrc.gmu.edu/about.html>) at George Mason University (Fairfax, Virginia, USA). He studies health and risk communication, with a major focus on reducing health inequities. He publishes widely (more than 400 articles, books, and chapters). He has been funded by numerous federal agencies, foundations, health systems, foreign governments, and corporations. He coordinates the Fairfax County Health Literacy Initiative community collaborative that develops culturally- sensitive health information programs for at-risk populations (<http://chrc.gmu.edu/fchli/>), and co-directs the Global Advocacy Leadership Academy (GALA) for promoting effective consumer health advocacy (<http://www.advocacyleader.org/>). He served as the founding Chief of the Health Communication and Informatics Research Branch at the National Cancer Institute (NIH), where he planned national research programs for promoting cancer prevention and control. He also served as the founding Dean of the School of Communication at Hofstra University, Executive Director of the Greenspun School of Communication at UNLV, and a professor at Northern Illinois, Rutgers, Indiana, and Purdue Universities. Gary is the recipient of many honors for his research including the 2015 Research Laureate Award from the American Academy for Health Behavior.

10:50 **Eliminating Mental and Physical Health Disparities Through Culturally and Linguistically Centered Integrated Health Care**



**Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., MD, MPH, MBA, FAPA** is the executive director of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, which is a unit within the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement at The University of Texas at Austin. He holds an appointment of Associate Vice-President within the division; is a clinical professor with an appointment in the School of Social Work; and holds an adjunct professor appointment at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio School of Medicine's Department of Psychiatry. His academic interests include minority health, health disparities, and workforce issues. In addition to his administrative and academic duties, he currently serves on the Institute of Medicine's Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity and the Elimination of Health Disparities. He has formerly served on the IOM's Committee on the Governance and Financing of Graduate Medical Education and on the Committee on the Mental Health Workforce for Geriatric Populations.

From 2002 to 2006 he served as a Special Emphasis Panel Member for the National Institutes of Health, National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities. He has a master's degree in public health from Harvard University's School of Public Health, a doctor's degree in medicine from Baylor College of Medicine, and master's and bachelor's degrees in business administration with a concentration in finance from The University of Texas at Austin. He was Chief Resident during his psychiatric training at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and is an alumnus of The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard Medical School.

11:40 **Questions & Answers**

12:00 **Lunch (A300)**

**American Heart Association Presentation**



**Kelly P. Hodges**, American Heart Association, Senior Director of Health Equity, SouthWest Affiliate, Dallas, Ft. Worth and Houston

**DON'T LET YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE BE A STRANGER**

Enroll in the American Heart Association's free **Check. Change. Control.**™ text message program to continue your journey to living a heart healthy life.

**TEXT "HBP HOU" to 97779**

When you join, you'll receive health tips, recipes and more.

\*Standard data and text messaging rates may apply

American Heart Association | American Stroke Association | **Check. Change. Control.**  
Life is why™

1:00 **Introduction & Moderator**

**Leonard A. Zwelling, MD, PhD** is a medical oncologist. He served on the staff of the US Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions in 2009 during a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy fellowship. He currently does health services research and writes extensively on health care reform and other medical issues having to do with the changes taking place in academic medicine. He has an undergraduate, medical and house staff degrees from Duke, fellowship at the National Cancer Institute and an MBA from the University of Houston.

1:15 **Achieving Health Equity in American Indians**

**Margaret P. Moss, PhD, JD, RN, FAAN**, Associate Professor and Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Buffalo. Dr. Moss is an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota- the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation. She is an Associate Professor at the Yale School of Nursing and Directs 2 programs including the DNP. Dr. Moss received her PhD in Nursing from the University of Texas -Houston, Health Sciences Center in 2000- her dissertation was an ethnography on aging in the Zuni tribe of New Mexico. She subsequently received a distinguished alumni award. Dr. Moss then entered and completed Law School focusing on Federal Indian law, elder law and health law. She is the first and only American Indian to hold both Nursing and Juris Doctorates. Dr. Moss was a 2008-2009 Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow, and staffed the Senate Special Committee on Aging under Senators Martinez and Corker. She has a focus in American Indian Aging specifically and completed a 2-year Postdoctorate Fellowship at the Native Elder Research Center, an NIH funded Resource Center for Minority Aging Research based at the University of Colorado. Dr. Moss researches, presents and writes on American Indians, aging, law and policy.

2:00 **Caring for the Underserved Disproportionate Share Providers and Institutions**

**Janet Phoenix, MD, MPH** is an Assistant Research Professor in the Departments of Health Policy and Management in the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University in Washington, DC. She is a physician by training who has managed research, risk communication, and health prevention and promotion programs for many organizations. Dr. Phoenix is currently conducting research in children's environmental health, health impact analysis and developmental disabilities. She is the Principal Investigator for a project examining the effects of an asthma educational tablet on emergency room utilization and hospitalization for Medicaid children in the District with Asthma in partnership with a Medicaid managed care organization. She received her B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Colorado in Denver and her MD from Howard University. Dr. Phoenix also completed a Masters of Public Health from the Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore. Dr. Phoenix served on two federal advisory committees, the CDC Lead Poisoning Advisory Committee and the EPA Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee.

2:45 **Social or Political Determinants: What Is It About Americans?**

**John Lunstroth, LLM, MPH**, (Houston, 2004), MPH (Columbia 2007) is a Fellow of the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics and Human Rights (Rome) and an Adjunct Faculty at the Institute of Spirituality and Health at the Texas Medical Center. He is an ethicist focusing on political theory and the health sector. His current research focuses on how both religion and science disengage ethical discourse, and on public health ethics.

3:30 **Break**

3:45

### **Tools for Sex- and Gender-Specific Policy, Programs, and Research**



**Justina A. Trott, MD, FACP** is a senior fellow and Co-Director of the Women's Health Policy at the RWJF Center for Health Policy at the University of New Mexico, Senior Fellow NM Center for the Advancement of Research, Engagement, and Science on Health Disparities, Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, core faculty Northern New Mexico Family Practice Residency Program, a fellow of the American College of Physicians and president of the New Mexico Chapter American College of Physicians (2011- 2012). She was a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Congressional Fellow 2008-9 in the office of Senator Jeff Bingaman. Prior to her fellowship she was medical and executive director at Women's Health Services, a nonprofit organization designated as a National Community Center of Excellence in Women's Health in 2001 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She is a member of the Sex and Gender Women's Health Collaborative, a joint project of the American College of Women's Health Physicians and academic and professional organization collaborators. In 2006 she was appointed chair of the New Mexico Governor's Women's Health Advisory Council.

4:30

### **Red Kool-Aid Blue Kool-Aid: How Partisan Politics and Greed Undermined the Value of ObamaCare**



**Leonard A. Zwelling, MD, PhD** is a medical oncologist. He served on the staff of the US Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions in 2009 during a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy fellowship. He currently does health services research and writes extensively on health care reform and other medical issues having to do with the changes taking place in academic medicine. He has an undergraduate, medical and house staff degrees from Duke, fellowship at the National Cancer Institute and an MBA from the University of Houston.

5:15

### **Questions & Answers**

5:45

### **Break**

6:00-6:30

### **Reception with American College of Healthcare Executives - SouthEast Texas Chapter (A300)**

### **Healthcare Executives for Health Equity**

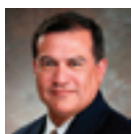
6:30

### **Aligning Cultural Competency to Improve Healthcare Safety, Quality and Equity**



**Richelle Webb Dixon, FACHE** is Vice President, Ambulatory Care at Baylor St. Luke's Health, Medical Center in Houston, TX. She is responsible for ambulatory services. Prior to joining CHI St. Luke's Health, Richelle held several national positions within the Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI) based in Englewood, CO. CHI is a faith-based healthcare system with 105 hospitals in 19 states.

Richelle is president-elect for the National Associate of Health Services Executives (NAHSE), serves on the ACHE –SouthEastTexasChapter Board, and is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives. Richelle serves as an examiner with Quality Texas – a foundation that assists organizations with improving performance based upon the Baldrige performance excellence criteria. She is also a board member with the Fort Bed YMCA. She earned a BA in Psychology and a masters degree in Health Services Administration – both from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.



**Carlos R. Escobar, BED-Arch., MHA, FACHE** joined UTMB in July 2010. Mr. Escobar came to UTMB with more than 25 years of experience with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). He began his career as an architect for the Olin E. Teague Veterans Center in Temple, TX. He has also held several progressive management positions in VA institutions in Ann Arbor, MI, Kansas City, MO, St. Louis, MO, as Interim CEO, and Houston, TX as a Chief Operations Officer. Mr. Escobar's contributions to innovations in federal health services and capital asset management have been recognized at a national level. During his tenure at UTMB, he has been directly responsible for Environmental Health and Safety programs, Institutional Preparedness and Auxiliary Services. In March of 2012, his scope of responsibilities was expanded to include Supply Chain Operations. He also provides leadership and operational oversight for all functions of the Business Operations and Facilities group encompassing all aspects of Capital Assets Management.

He is an elected Board Member in the National Board of Directors for the National Forum for Latino Healthcare Executives (NFLHE) where his goal is to develop a Houston Chapter. He serves on the Math and Science Advisory Council at St. Thomas University at Houston, and has taught a one-day healthcare leadership seminar at the UT School of Public Health. He is currently a Senior Fellow of the American Leadership Forum (ALF), Houston Chapter Medical Class I and the Senior Executive Program of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE).

7:15 **The Physical and Mental Stresses of Discrimination that Affects the Quality of Health Care and Well Being**



**Allison O. Bashir, JD**, is the Manager of Diversity and Inclusion for the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She started her career as a labor and employment attorney in the Houston Office of the Gulf Coast regional law firm Adams and Reese LLP. From there, Allison opened a small firm focused on employment, criminal and family law. After a couple of years as a solo practitioner, she joined the University of Houston's Equal Employment Opportunity / Affirmative Action Office initially as an EEO Specialist and later became the Assistant Director of that office. In September 2011, Allison accepted an HR Specialist, EEO, position with MD Anderson where she served until transitioning into her current role in June 2015. Allison received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Houston Law Center. Her favorite pastime is spending time outdoors with her two daughters, Jasmine and Eden.

7:30 **Registration and Breakfast (A300)**

8:00 **Overview (Robertson Auditorium)**



**E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH** is Associate Dean of Climate and Diversity, and heads the Office of Cultural Competence, Diversity and Inclusion at the Texas A&M School of Public Health.

### **Moderator and Introductions**



**Alva O. Ferdinand, DrPH, JD** is an Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management, Texas A&M School of Public Health. She serves as assistant director of the Southwest Rural Health Research Center, School of Public Health. Dr. Ferdinand earned her JD from Michigan State University School of Law, an MPH and DrPH, both in Health Care Organization and Policy from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is often sought to provide legislative testimony to Texas lawmakers on public health issues. Dr. Ferdinand teaches graduate level courses in Health Law and Ethics, as well as Public Health Policy and Management.

8:05 **The Changing Face of Houston and America: Tracking the Economic and Demographic Transformations; Their Implications for Health Care Policy.**



**Stephen L. Klineberg, PhD** Professor of Sociology at Rice University, is a graduate of Haverford College, with an M.A. from the University of Paris and a PhD from Harvard. In 1982, he and his students initiated the annual "Kinder Institute Houston Area Survey," now in its 35th year of tracking the remarkable changes in the demographic patterns, economic outlooks, experiences, and beliefs of Harris County residents. He has completed a series of reports (and soon, a book) on this research, including a report released in April 2014, entitled What Accounts for Health Disparities: Findings from the Houston Surveys (2001-2013). The recipient of twelve major teaching awards, Klineberg is the Co-director of the Kinder Institute for Urban Research at Rice University.

8:55 **Income Inequality and Health**



**Ya-Chen Tina Shih, PhD** is Professor of Health Economics and Chief of the Section of Cancer Economics and Policy at the Department of Health Services Research, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Shih received her PhD in Economics from Stanford University. She has close to 20 years of experience with economic evaluation, health services research, and comparative effectiveness research, using both modeling approach and econometric. Her research concentrates on the application of quantitative methods to examine the economic aspect of cancer care. Dr. Shih has served as Principal Investigators on research grants related to various economic aspects of cancer funded by the National Cancer Institute, National Human Genome Research Institute, Agency for Healthcare and Quality, American Cancer Society, and Lance Armstrong Foundation. She has over 120 publications, serves as a co-editor for Value in Health, and is on the editorial board of PharmacoEconomics. Dr. Shih is a member of the National Cancer Policy Forum at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and also serves on the American Cancer Society Guidelines Development Workgroup.

9:45 **Break**

10:00

### **Neighborhood Typologies in Houston and Differences in Health Impact**



**Lester King, PhD** specializes in sustainable development and the development of context sensitive solutions for urban development. He is a certified and skilled researcher with experience in community development; master planning, transportation planning, and sustainability planning. He has had experience with sustainability social engagement through developing consensus building techniques for public participation and community involvement support for the identification and delineation of planning objectives; and facilitation of stakeholder meetings for federal, state, and municipal projects. He has conducted research on developing sustainability indicators and contributed to several local, national and international efforts to develop sustainability planning system.

Dr. King spent the last four years serving the executive leadership for the Houston Chapter of the American Planning Association as secretary. He currently serves on the advisory council for the Urban Planning program at Texas Southern University.

10:50

### **Cultural Tailoring for African Americans: The Eat for Life Study**



**Kenneth Resnicow, PhD** is the Irwin Rosenstock Professor of Health Behavior and Health Education at University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, MI. His research interests include: the design and evaluation of health promotion programs for special populations, particularly chronic disease prevention for African Americans; tailored health communications; understanding the relationship between ethnicity and health behaviors; substance use prevention and harm reduction; training health professionals in motivational interviewing. Much of his work is informed by Chaos Theory, Complexity Science, and Self Determination Theory. Current studies include: An NIH-funded project to test the impact of ethnic and novel motivational tailoring of colorectal screening materials for African Americans; two Department of Transplantation studies to increase organ donation rates among African Americans working in Michigan “Greek” organizations, churches, and dialysis centers; a CDC funded study to improve colorectal screening rates working in Black churches; and an NIH-funded study to reduce obesity using Motivational Interviewing working with the American Academy of Pediatrics PROS practices. He has published over 200 peer reviewed articles and book chapters and has served on numerous advisory panels and review groups.

11:40

### **Questions & Answers**

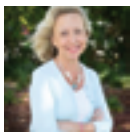
12:15

### **Lunch (A300)**

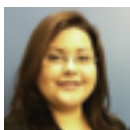


1:15 **Introductions**

**Moderators**



**Cathy D. Meade, PhD, RN, FAAN**, Senior Member, Division of Population Science, Health Outcomes and Behavior, Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa FL



**Mariana Arevalo, MSPH**, Doctoral Student, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, School of Public Health, Houston, TX

1:25 **Dying While Black: Why Colorblind Policies and Laws Can't Eliminate the Intergenerational Impact of Slavery, Segregation, and Racism**



**Vernellia R. Randall, JD** has been a professor at the University of Dayton School of Law since 1990, Vernellia Randall writes extensively on and speaks internationally about race, women, and health care. She is the recipient of the Ohio Commission on Minority Health Chairman's Award, and she was named one of the "Top 10 Most Influential African- Americans" on the 2001 Black Equal Opportunity Employment Journal list. Professor Randall holds both a B.S. degree and an M.S. degree in Nursing. She was involved in public health work for more than 15 years, focusing on eliminating disparities in health care for minorities and the poor.

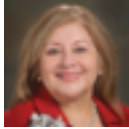
Professor Randall served as an administrator for a statewide health program in Alaska. Believing that a thorough knowledge of the law would help her become more effective in her mission, she enrolled in law school. After graduating in 1987 from Lewis and Clark Law School, she became an associate with a Portland, Oregon, law firm specializing in health care law and issues relating to health and disability insurance coverage. She also served as an adjunct faculty member at Lewis and Clark College

2:15 **The Elusive Elephant in the Room**



**Thelma C. Hurd, MD, FACS**, a surgical oncologist, is Associate Professor of Surgery, Clinical Assistant Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in San Antonio, Texas and Adjunct Associate Professor at the UT School of Public Health Houston- San Antonio Extension. Dr. Hurd completed her General Surgery training at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and clinical and research oncology fellowships at the Ohio State University and MD Anderson Cancer Center, respectively. Dr. Hurd's research focuses on health disparities in underserved populations. She founded and serves as the Director of the South Texas Esperanza y Vida Program, a breast and cervical cancer education/ screening program for Hispanic women and men in Texas- Mexico Border Region counties. From 2001-2005, she founded and served as the Executive Director of the Witness Project (community based breast and cervical cancer education program for African American women) in Buffalo and Niagara Falls NY and the Fruitbelt Community Witness Project (Buffalo NY) at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, New York. This project continues to serve the Western New York community. Dr. Hurd is a member of the Enhancing Minority Participation in Clinical Trials (EMPaCT) Project team that is developing a national model to increase minority participation in clinical trials.

3:05 **Disparities in the Communication and Information Needs of Post-Treatment Cancer Survivors**



**Guadalupe Palos, DrPH, LMSW, RN** is a Clinical Research Manager, Office of Survivorship, Division of Medical Affairs at the M D Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC). As the Principal Investigator of a NCI 5-year research, Dr. Palos continues to examine the effects of underserved cancer patients' symptoms on the physical and psychological health of minority and non-minority caregivers. Dr. Palos' publications on cancer survivorship, prevention, symptom burden, and cultural competency, have appeared in scientific journals such as the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Cancer, Journal of Pain, Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing, and the Journal of Pain and Symptom Management. She has authored several book chapters on achieving cultural competency in oncology social work and nursing; conducting research with diverse populations, and describing the impact of cancer care policies on underserved and ethnically diverse populations.

3:55 **Break**

4:05 **Language Barriers in the Clinical Arena: Is It Affecting Our Patient Care?**

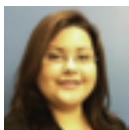


**Tyson Pillow MD, MEd** completed his medical school training at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) in Houston, TX. After 3 years of Emergency Medicine Residency training at the University of Chicago, he returned to Baylor as faculty in the Section of Emergency Medicine. He currently serves as the Program Director for the Emergency Medicine Residency Program, and the Medical Director for Simulation and Standardized Patient Program for Baylor College of Medicine. During this time, he also completed the ACEP Teaching Fellowship and a Master of Education degree program at the University of Houston. Dr. Pillow's interests focus on education, implicit bias, and disparities in healthcare. He has lectured nationally on the topics of implicit bias and healthcare disparities and has conducted research on health literacy and quality of care in patients with limited English proficiency.

4:55 **Health Literacy Meets Social Justice: Words Do Count**



**Cathy D. Meade, PhD, RN, FAAN** is a "community-minded researcher." She is Senior Member in Moffitt Cancer Center's Division of Population Science, Health Outcomes and Behavior, and is a national leader in the field of health disparities, health literacy, and cancer communications. She is especially interested in the role that culture and literacy play in the development and design of behavioral interventions. She has led a wide variety of education, training and research activities at the cancer center, and is currently Co-PI of the Tampa Bay Community Cancer Network (TBCCN), a network of over 28 community organizations, that work together to address critical access, education, and prevention issues among medically underserved populations. She has been involved in a number of research collaborations that span cancer prevention to survivorship, and which have brought information, services and scientific advancements back to the community.



**Mariana Arevalo, MSPH** is a PhD student in the Department of Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences and a Susan G. Komen pre-doctoral fellow at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, School of Public Health. Her research interests include health communications and cancer prevention and control among ethnically diverse and medically underserved populations. Her dissertation research is focused on assessing decision making related breast cancer clinical trial participation across different racial and ethnic groups.

5:45 **Questions & Answers**

6:15 **Adjourn**

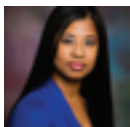
6:30 **Reception and Student Mentoring Session (Coffee House)**

7:00 **Introduction and Moderators**



**James Phillips, MD**

Senior Associate Dean, Baylor College of Medicine



**Stacy Lloyd, PhD**

Baylor College of Medicine

7:15 **Metacognition: The Key in Acing Courses**

Do you want to master concepts in your classes and ace your exams? Dr. Sandra McGuire, a nationally renowned learning specialist and chemistry professor, will offer an interactive session that will introduce participants to cognitive science based strategies to help them experience meaningful transferable learning. The session will provide a simple, straight forward strategies that have resulted in test performance improvements of as much as three full letter grades



**Sandra McGuire, PhD**, Author, Teach Students How to Learn, (Ret) Assistant Vice Chancellor and Professor of Chemistry Director Emerita, Center for Academic Success, Louisiana State University

8:30 **Discussion**

9:00 **Adjourn**

7:30 **Registration and Breakfast (A300)**

8:00 **Overview (Robertson Auditorium)**



**Lovell A. Jones, PhD, FHDR**, Founder, Health Disparities, Awareness, Research and Training (HDEART) Consortium, Professor of Research, Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing, Research Professor, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi; and Professor Emeritus, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center and University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

**Introductions and Moderator**



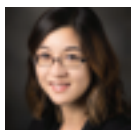
**E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH** is Associate Dean of Climate and Diversity, and heads the Office of Cultural Competence, Diversity and Inclusion at the Texas A&M School of Public Health.

8:05 **Cancer Survivorship – from the Etiology of Behavior to Intervention Effectiveness**



**Raheem J. Paxton, PhD, MS** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health at the University of North Texas Health Science Center – School of Public Health. His research is centered on reducing the risk of cancer and comorbid conditions (e.g., diabetes) in high-risk and underserved cancer survivors. Specifically, understanding the antecedents and consequences of physical activity and dietary intake. This includes identifying the psychosocial (i.e., self-efficacy, quality of life, etc.), behavioral (e.g., dietary intake, physical activity, and sedentary behavior), physiological (e.g., percentage of body fat), and biological endpoints (e.g., oxidative stress and inflammation) associated with cancer development and progression. As such, Dr. Paxton leads the Behavioral Oncology Laboratory at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, where the mission is to design innovative community-based and translational research studies. In this lab, Dr. Paxton performs exercise testing, point-of-care glucose and lipid testing, dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry for body fat and bone density, and resting and stress electrocardiogram testing. In addition, Paxton has extensive experience and training in covariance (I.e., factorial invariance, factor analysis, and structural equation modeling) and mixture modeling (e.g., latent class analysis, factor mixture modeling), multilevel and weighted data analysis (e.g., repeated measures, nesting, national surveys), and have recently pursued training in statistical learning or data mining (e.g., clustering, Regularization, recursive partitioning, and random forest). Dr. Paxton has been using these techniques to gain a greater understanding of behaviors and various health outcomes.

8:50 **Uncovering the Model Minority: Diet, Physical Activity, and Health Among Asian Americans**



**Cassandra S. Diep, PhD** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Disparities Research at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Diep earned her B.A. in Kinesiology from Rice University, and her M.S. and PhD in Health Education from Texas A&M University. She recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship in behavioral nutrition at the USDA/ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine, where she led a series of studies on the role of acculturation in Asian-American children's diet, physical activity, and health outcomes. Dr. Diep's overall program of research focuses on understanding, preventing, and intervening on determinants (e.g., food-related parenting, acculturation, policy) of obesity and cancer-related behaviors in at-risk populations. Currently, Dr. Diep is part of the Center for

Community-Engaged Translational Research (CCETR) at MD Anderson, where she is bridging her research expertise with community partnerships to develop, implement, and evaluate interventions to reduce obesity and cancer disparities in community and population-based settings.

9:35 **New Approaches for Reducing Communication Disparities and Health Knowledge Gaps**



**Shelly Hovick, PhD** is an Assistant Professor in the School of Communication at The Ohio State University. Her area of research is health and risk communication. Dr. Hovick is interested in people's perceptions of their risk for cancer and other chronic diseases and the extent to which they respond to risks with information seeking and the adoption of prevention and early detection behavior. She also focuses on the identification of key social and cognitive predictors of health information seeking that may contribute to health and communication disparities. From an applied perspective, Dr. Hovick is also interested in how communication messages can strategically be used to increase prevention behavior and to reduce health disparities via increased knowledge of cancer risks and health behaviors to lower risk and improve overall health. Her current projects are about the evaluation of family health history tools and the development of tools to communicate genetic risk information.

10:20 **Break**

10:30 **HIV and HPV in Relation to Cancer: From Health Disparities to Community-Based Multilevel Interventions**



**Lisa T. Wigfall, PhD** is a Research Assistant Professor at the University of South Carolina in the Arnold School of Public Health. She earned her BS in Medical Technology from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1991, and her PhD in Health Promotion, Education and Behavior from the University of South Carolina in 2009. Dr. Wigfall's research is in cancer and HIV/AIDS prevention with academic training in health promotion, education and behavior (including program planning and evaluation). She also has experience in health status and health care disparities research. She has expertise in conducting secondary data analysis studies using large population-based datasets, as well as linked health claims and disease surveillance databases. Dr. Wigfall has also used community-based participatory research approaches to engage with key community leaders and other stakeholders to identify community-driven solutions to reducing cancer and HIV/AIDS disparities among vulnerable populations. Her research agenda focuses primarily on the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS-associated malignancies among persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). Most recently Dr. Wigfall has done the following using samples of HIV-positive women: 1) examined the utilization of cervical cancer screening, diagnostic and treatment services and procedures, and 2) examined HPV and cervical cancer prevention knowledge (including health literacy), attitudes and behaviors. Other areas of interest include HIV/AIDS prevention, health communication, patient navigation, and behavioral (including mHealth) interventions. In addition to the above research experiences, Dr. Wigfall also facilitated a health disparities research work group, and developed a research career development program for students, postdoctoral research fellows, and junior faculty. This is in addition to serving as primary faculty advisor for masters and doctoral students, serving on dissertation and thesis committees, supervising independent study and residency projects, and teaching and developing a graduate level distance health disparities research course.

11:15

## **The DARC side of Breast Cancer Disparities**



**Melissa Davis, PhD** is Assistant Professor in the Department of Genetics at the University of Georgia. Dr Davis happens to be both the first human geneticist faculty and the first African- American tenure-track faculty in the Department of Genetics at the University of Georgia. Dr. Davis has a diverse set of training experiences with a broad expertise in classical genetics of model organisms, functional genomics and systems biology as well as human subjects' cancer research. Dr. Davis received her PhD at the University of Georgia under the direction of Michael Bender, a drosophila-ist and developmental biologist. This training including genetic mutagenesis screening that led her to show that transcript/protein isoforms of the steroid hormone receptor (EcR) have distinct functionality during development. This led to her investigations of genomic differences in gene expression and her post-doctoral training with Dr. Kevin White, PhD, a systems biologist. Beginning at Yale School of Medicine and continuing with him at the University of Chicago, Dr. Davis worked to map the dynamics of EcR binding sites in response to hormone treatments across several specific cell types, representing distinct tissues. This project developed her skillset in bioinformatics and functional genomics and her work is embedded in the modEncode project. While at U of C, Dr. Davis made a shift in her research focus and began training with Dr. Olufunmilayo (Funmi) Olopade, MD and Dr. Sara Gehlert, PhD at the Center for Interdisciplinary Health Disparities, which taught her concepts of combining applied basic and clinical research approaches, in order to identify biological mechanisms of ethnic disparities in cancer. This work sparked her current research interests where she has a specific focus on genetic (African) ancestry as it relates to Breast and Prostate Cancer risk and progression. The Davis lab has produced findings that establish a unique genetic signature in tumors of African and African American patients with the intensions of highlighting treatable mechanisms of tumor biology where none currently exist and extend opportunities for precision medicine in minority populations.

In partnership with the local clinical community, including; Athens Regional Medical Center, the University Cancer and Blood Center, the Athens Nurses Clinic and the North East Georgia Cancer Coalition, Dr Davis has built an independent and unique research program at UGA. She actively recruits participants into several on-going projects related to genetic ancestry, cancer survivorship and immunology. She also volunteers her time to deliver cancer awareness information to the Athens-Area community. Through these efforts and through her medical education teaching at the AU-UGA Medical Partnership, Dr. Davis hopes to better inform the community-at-large, as well as primary clinicians, of the importance of research that investigates cancer causes and disparate treatment outcomes

12:00 **Questions & Answers**

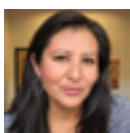
12:30 **Lunch (A300)**

1:15 **Introductions and Moderator**



**E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH** is Associate Dean of Climate and Diversity, and heads the Office of Cultural Competence, Diversity and Inclusion at the Texas A&M School of Public Health.

1:20 **Indigenous Knowledge, Land, and History:  
Determinants of American Indian Health**



**Tennille L. Marley, PhD MPH** is an Assistant Professor of American Indian Studies and a faculty research affiliate with the Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center at Arizona State University (ASU). She is a member of the White Mountain Apache tribe and grew up on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. Tennille's dissertation examined the relationship among indigenous knowledge, land, history and diabetes on an American Indian reservation. Her current research includes examining structural determinants, particularly housing, and obesity in American Indian adolescents and examining American Indian reservations as segregated places. Currently, she is a co- principal investigator of a pilot grant through ASU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to understand more fully how traditional American Indian knowledge can further build and sustain Indian nations, communities, and organizations in Arizona in the areas of food sovereignty, health, language, and education. Dr. Marley earned her B.A. and MPH from the University of Arizona and PhD from the University of New Mexico. She is also a former fellow of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy at the University of New Mexico.

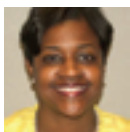
2:05 **Using Cultural Tailoring to Improve Access and Community Resource  
Utilization of Mental Health Services for Chronically Ill Racial/Ethnic Minorities**



**Gina Evans-Hudnall, PhD** is an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine, Section of Health Services Research, Menniger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Baylor College of Medicine and Investigator, Behavioral Health and Implementation Program, Center for Innovations in Quality Effectiveness and Safety, Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center. She holds a doctoral degree in counseling psychology from Ball State University. She completed a Kellogg Scholars in Health Disparities postdoctoral fellowship at MD Anderson Cancer Center in the Center for Research on Minority Health, now known as the Dorothy I. Height Center for Health Equity and Evaluation Research. As a behavioral interventionist, Dr. Evans-Hudnall overall program of research focuses on translating evidenced based interventions to be applicable to underserved persons with comorbid mental and physical illness. She has completed studies that examine stroke, diabetes and obesity outcomes among racial/ethnic minorities with mental health symptoms and limited access to healthcare. She has received funding from NIDDK, NIDDR, and VA RRandD. Dr. Evans- Hudnall has been a nationally and internationally invited speaker at health disparities and public health oriented conferences. Her research findings have been disseminated in several scholarly journals. Dr. Evans continues to complete quality research that impact policy outcomes.

2:50 **Break**

3:00 **Are These Environmental Determinants Harming Us?  
Environmental and Neighborhood Determinants.**

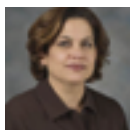


**Denae King, PhD** is currently a research associate professor at Texas Southern University in the Mickey Leland Center for Environment, Justice, and Sustainability and an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Health Disparities Research. She holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Texas Southern University and obtained a master's and doctoral

degree in environmental science with a concentration in toxicology from The University of Texas, Houston Health Science Center, School of Public Health. Although formally trained as a bench scientist, Dr. King developed an interest in community-based participatory research (CBPR) as it relates to environmental health and cancer while completing a Kellogg Scholars in Health Disparities postdoctoral fellowship at MD Anderson Cancer Center in the Center for Research on Minority Health, now known as the Dorothy I. Height Center for Health Equity and Evaluation Research. She has continued to work on environmental health assessment projects designed to address community-identified environmental health concerns in Houston's underserved communities. Dr. King's newfound interests also include the role of neighborhood effects in the onset of cancer in underserved populations. She has presented her research at national conferences such as the American Public Health Association (2012), and published her findings in various journals, including, the American Journal of Public Health, Cancer, Health and Place, and the Journal of Cancer Education.

3:45

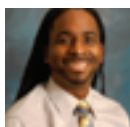
### **Factors That Influence Changes in End of Life Treatment Preferences over Time**



**Isabel Torres-Vigil, DrPH** obtained her doctorate in public health from the University of Texas School of Public Health in 2004. Dr. Torres-Vigil is an Associate Professor at the University of Houston, Graduate College of Social Work and Visiting Associate Professor in the Department of Palliative Care and Rehabilitation Medicine at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She recently completed a NCI R01 supplement titled "Caregiver Assessments of the Quality of Home Hospice Care: A Comparison Across 3 Ethnic Groups" and is expanding this line of inquiry through a 5-year NCI-funded Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01), titled "End-of-Life Treatment Preferences of Latino Medicare Beneficiaries with Cancer". Her areas of expertise include palliative and geriatric care, cancer health disparities, international health, medical mistrust/racism and informed decision making. The recipient of numerous honors, Dr. Torres-Vigil recently collaborated on the Lancet Oncology Commission: Planning Future Affordable Cancer Control in Latin America and the Caribbean, published in spring of 2013.

4:30

### **Examining the Relationships between Religiosity, Spirituality, Internalized Homonegativity, and Condom Use among African American MSM: The SHIFT Study**



**Stacy W. Smallwood, MD, MPH** is an assistant professor in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health at Georgia Southern University. Dr. Smallwood's graduate instruction is in health promotion, education, and behavior, and his specialized training is in the area of HIV/AIDS prevention. He earned his MPH and PhD from the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina-Columbia. He also completed a postdoctoral research fellowship in the I. DeQuincey Newman Institute for Peace and Social Justice in the College of Social Work at the University of South Carolina.

Dr. Smallwood's research interests include HIV prevention, sexual health, LGBT health, discrimination and health, and community engagement and organizing within marginalized communities. In particular, he is interested in the effects of psychosocial and structural factors on HIV risk among sexual minority people of color. He also consults with community-based HIV prevention organizations on the evaluation of their evidence-based interventions.

5:15

### **Questions & Answers**

5:45

### **Adjourn**



7:30 **Registration and Breakfast (A300)**

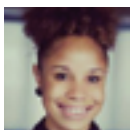
8:00 **Introductions & Moderator**



**Heather H. Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd** is an Assistant Professor of Social Work in the College of Public Service at the University of Houston-Downtown, Adjunct Assistant Professor at Baylor College of Medicine, and Research Investigator (WOC) at the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC. She is a past Chair of the American Public Health Association's Genomics Forum and the current Co-Chair of the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network's Survivorship Working Group. Her research interests include genitourinary (pelvic) cancer survivorship, patient navigation, disease self-management, family health history, unmet needs of cancer patients and informal caregivers, and health disparities.

8:00 **Introductions**

8:05 **Electronic Health Records and Precision Medicine:  
Disease Mapping Approaches in Admixed Populations**



**Janina M. Jeff, PhD, MS** is a human genetics, educator, and minority science technology engineering math (STEM) activist. She received her PhD in Human Genetics and a Masters in Applied Statistics at Vanderbilt University and her BS in biology for Spelman College. Dr. Jeff recently finished her postdoctoral training with Drs. Eimear Kenny and Erwin Bottinger at Mount Sinai hospital in population genetics and pharmacogenetics and now works at Illumina as a Bioinformatician.

Throughout her training as a human geneticist, Dr. Jeff has gained expertise in the statistical design and interpretation of large-scale genomic data. Her research career has been largely focused on the discovery of genetic loci that impact minority populations, Hispanics and African Americans, for complex common diseases, such as heart disease and type 2 diabetes. She is known for her expertise in population genomics, specifically in developing and implementing pipelines to handle complex genetic ancestry for genome-wide association studies (GWAS). Dr. Jeff recently accepted a position as the Global Bioinformatics Specialist for a biotechnology company, Illumina that specializes in genotyping and sequencing technologies.

Dr. Jeff is also an educator, she has taught an array of undergraduate and graduate courses in biology, genetics, and statistics. She is currently an adjunct professor at Grand Canyon University in the College of Arts and Sciences. She has also taught K-12 STEM courses. During her graduate career, Dr. Jeff served as the 1st grade scientist for the Scientists in the Classroom Partnership with Nashville Public Schools and Vanderbilt University.

Dr. Jeff is a product of the New Orleans Public Education system and has been passionate about serving her community as early as high school student. As a junior at McDonough #35 High School, Dr. Jeff and her peers started a non-profit, Initiating a Circle of Education, ICE, that was locally recognized by the local magazine, My New Orleans. Her dire commitment is to be a role model aimed to aspire young students of color whom she can directly relate to in her community has followed her to this day. Outside of her career at Illumina, Dr. Jeff is dedicated to educating her community about STEM careers to ultimately change the face of STEM for generations to come.

8:50 **Metabolic Profiling Identifies a Potential Target in African American Prostate Cancer**



**Stacy M. Lloyd, PhD, MPH** is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology at Baylor College of Medicine and The Dorothy I. Height Center for Health Equity and Evaluation Research at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston Texas. She completed her PhD in Human Genetics and her MPH in Public Health Genetics from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health in May 2010 and December 2007, respectively. Dr. Lloyd's primary focus is the development of a robust research program designed to elucidate the multi-factorial relationships between the biological, social, behavioral, and structural factors that contribute to the unequal burden of cancer morbidity and mortality experienced by minorities and the medically underserved in order to advance cancer prevention efforts. Dr. Lloyd has worked in the area of breast and lung cancer, and is currently working on new project investigating prostate cancer disparities from a metabolomics perspective.

9:30 **American Indian (Dis)Engagement in Genetics Research**



**Krystal Tsosie, MPH, MA, (Navajo/Diné)** is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at Vanderbilt University. Her public health and genetic epidemiology research focuses on genetic determinants in racially diverse populations that lead to complex diseases. She is also continuing work from her Masters in Applied Ethics from Arizona State University (ASU) which examines medical ethics in the context of indigenous beliefs and genetic rights. As one of the few Native researchers in the biological sciences, Krystal has had the distinct honor of representing her people at such leading institutions as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), TGen, the Biodesign Institute at ASU, and the Mayo Clinic. After devoting several years to developing a technique to target small drugs to cancer cells, her newest endeavor is to ameliorate the health disparities gap in genetics through community-based participatory research.

10:10 **Break**

10:20 **Precision Nutrition: Individual Differences in Children Detection Thresholds, Sugar Consumption and Obesity.**



**Paule V. Joseph, MSN, CRNP, CRRN, CTN-B, PhD** is a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of Nursing Research. Dr. Joseph's research interest in eating behavior, genetics, obesity, symptom management and gastrointestinal disorders stems from her clinical practice and research experience as a gastrointestinal nurse and family nurse practitioner. She worked as a clinical nurse at Mount Sinai Hospital and at Columbia Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Hospital in New York City. Dr. Joseph has practiced nursing in the areas of Rehabilitation Medicine and Gastrointestinal Medicine and Surgery. Dr. Joseph has a PhD in Nursing/Genomics from the University of Pennsylvania, a Master's Degree in Nursing as Family Nurse Practitioner from Pace University, and an AAS in Nursing at Hostos Community College and a BSN from the College of New Rochelle. Dr. Joseph has received many awards and recognitions including the highly competitive Johnson and Johnson- American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Minority Nurse Faculty Scholarship, The Pace University Lienhard School of Nursing Dean's Alumni Award for Outstanding Professional Contribution, the University of Pennsylvania Teresa I. Lynch Award for outstanding commitment to leadership and social activism. She was also a University of Pennsylvania Fontaine Fellow '11, NIH NINR Summer Genetics Institute Fellow '12, and NIH Summer Intern Program Fellow '13.

11:00 **Precision beyond Genomics: Addressing Disparities in Maternal Health through Personalized Behavioral Change Interventions**



**Leigh Ann Simmons, PhD, MFT** is an Associate Professor in the Duke University School of Nursing. A former Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health scholar, she has published extensively and presented nationally and internationally in the areas of women's health disparities, peripartum health behaviors and decision-making, personalized health care, and health care policy. Dr. Simmons' current research focuses on innovations in personalized health behavior change interventions to prevent and manage chronic disease among women who experience health disparities due to rural residence, racial/ethnic identity, and socioeconomic status. She has a specific interest in addressing obesity and depression, which often co-occur and serve as gateway conditions to common disorders, including cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, and cancer.

Dr. Simmons earned a PhD in child and family development from the University of Georgia, a master's degree in couple and family therapy from MCP-Hahnemann University (now Drexel University), and a BA in literature/writing from the University of California at San Diego.

Between 2005-2010 she served as a Health Disparities Scholar through the NIH Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities. Prior to coming to DUSON she was an assistant professor in the departments of Family Studies and Health Services Management at the University of Kentucky and in the Division of General Internal Medicine in the Duke University School of Medicine. Dr. Simmons has extensive policy experience, having served as a Congressional Fellow on the Senate Health Education Labor and Pensions Committee for the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA).

She currently serves as the chair of the public policy and advocacy working group for the Duke Center for Applied Genomics and Personalized Medicine.

11:45 **Questions & Answers**

12:15 **Lunch (A300)**

1:15 **Introductions and Moderator**

**Robin Fuchs-Young, PhD** is a Professor of Medicine, in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Medicine, and the Institute for Biosciences and Technology at Texas A&M Health Science Center, College Station, Texas. Her research focuses on the basic mechanisms of breast carcinogenesis, including the interaction (cross-talk) between the estrogen receptor alpha (ERα), IGF-1 and p53 signaling cascades. The underlying theme of her research is the discovery of bio-physiological determinants of disparities in breast cancer incidence and outcome. In addition to her research, Dr. Fuchs-Young is a strong advocate for women and other under-represented groups in STEM fields. She serves as a scientific reviewer for NIH, and on the editorial board for several journals, including *Endocrinology*. Dr. Fuchs-Young received her B.S. in Biology from Emory University and her PhD degree in Pathology from Vanderbilt University, followed by postdoctoral work at the Ben May Institute at the University of Chicago. After several years leading the preclinical development team for Raloxifene (Evista) at Eli Lilly and Company, she joined the faculty at MD Anderson until her 2012 when she joined the faculty at Texas A&M Health Science Center.

1:20 **Genes, Ethnicity and Autoimmunity: A Historical Perspective**

**John D. Reveille, MD** is Professor and Director of the Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunogenetics at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston in Houston, TX. He completed his undergraduate degree at University of Florida and received his medical degree and fellowship training at Johns Hopkins University in the 1980's. After fellowship, he was Assistant Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) for 4 years before being recruited by Dr. Frank C. Arnett to join the faculty at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Medical School in 1987. He was promoted to Associate Professor three years later and became Professor in 1997. Dr. Reveille was principal investigator at the UTHSC-Medical School site for the Lupus in Minorities - Nature vs. Nurture study (1993-2003), and for the UAB Program Project grant on the genetics of SLE. In 1997, he received the Alfred and Anna Brohn Memorial Award for Service to the Lupus Foundation of America. He was President of the Pan American League of Associations for Rheumatology (2012-2014) and was the Director of the North American Spondylitis Consortium (1999-2004). Since 2006, has served as the Principle Investigator of the Program Project on the Genetics of Spondyloarthritis funded by the National Institutes of Health since 2006.

2:20 **Population Substructure and Health Disparities:  
Insights from Biological Anthropology**

**Fatimah L. C. Jackson, PhD** is currently a Professor at Howard University. Prior to that, Dr. Jackson was a Professor at the University North Carolina - Chapel Hill in Chapel Hill, NC and Professor Emerita, University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Jackson received her PhD from Cornell. She is an expert on the biohistory of African peoples and their descendants in the diaspora. She is widely recognized for her stress on interdisciplinary and interactive approaches to scientific research. During the 1990s, she was coordinator for genetics research on the African Burial Ground Project in New York City. In 2002, she co-founded the first human DNA bank in Africa (based at the University of Yaounde I in Cameroon) with the aim of changing the way that anthropological genetic research is done on the African continent (moving away from the colonial approach), enhancing local infrastructure and expertise, and dramatically improving the potential for scientific understanding of the interactions of genotypes and environmental factors in producing specific phenotypes (by providing a local context for data analysis and interpretation). With the cooperation of local scientists, the project continues to amass a large and diverse database of African and non-African genotypes which is unique in its ethnographic detail.

3:20 **Break**

3:30 **Ancestry, Health and Disease: Placing Genetic Susceptibility into Context**



**Rick Kittles, PhD** is Associate Professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL. He received a PhD in Biological Sciences from George Washington University in 1998. His first faculty appointment was at Howard University where he helped establish the National Human Genome Center at Howard University.

From 1997 to 2004, Dr. Kittles helped establish and coordinate a national cooperative network to study the genetics of hereditary prostate cancer in the African American community. This project, called the AAHPC study network, successfully recruited over 100 African American hereditary prostate cancer families and serves as a model for recruitment of African Americans in genetic studies of complex diseases.

Dr. Kittles is well known for his research of prostate cancer and health disparities among African Americans. He has also been at the forefront of the development of ancestry- informative genetic markers, and how genetic ancestry can be used to map genes for common traits and disease. Kittles co-founded African Ancestry, Inc., a private company that provides DNA testing services for tracing African genetic lineages to genealogists and the general public around the world.

4:30 **Engaging Diverse Communities in Precision Medicine: Why and How**



**Consuelo H. Wilkins, MD, MSCI** Is Director of the Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance--a strategic partnership between Meharry Medical College and Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She holds faculty appointments as Associate Professor of Medicine at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and Meharry Medical College. Dr. Wilkins earned a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology from Howard University College of Arts and Sciences where she graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa after just three years of undergraduate study. She matriculated to the Howard University College of Medicine where she actively involved in student government and community engagement and received the Doctor of Medicine degree in 1996.

After medical school, Dr. Wilkins completed internship and residency in internal medicine at Duke University Medical Center. She then completed a fellowship in geriatric medicine at Washington University/Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Immediately following fellowship, Dr. Wilkins joined the faculty of the Washington University School of Medicine where she also earned a Master of Science in Clinical Investigation in 2002. During her 12 years on the faculty at Washington University, Dr. Wilkins rose to the rank of Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Geriatrics, with secondary appointments in Psychiatry and Surgery (Public Health Sciences). There her research focused on the complex intersection between cognitive impairment, physical frailty, and depression. Her research contributed significantly to the understanding of Alzheimer's disease among African Americans. She also served as Founding Director of the Center for Community Health and Partnerships in the Institute for Public Health and gained national recognition in the fields of aging and community engaged research.

In 2012, Dr. Wilkins assumed her current role and in the past three and a half years has increased external grant funding more than 10-fold. Dr. Wilkins is internationally recognized for her work in community engaged research and is the principal investigator of more than \$20 million in research awards including funding from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) and NIH. She is a leader in the emerging field of precision medicine and is a PI of the recently funded Vanderbilt-Miami-Meharry Center of Excellence in Precision Medicine and Population Health. Dr. Wilkins also leads stakeholder engagement for the Precision Medicine Initiative Pilot program.

5:30 **Questions & Answers**

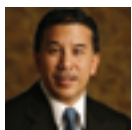
6:15 **Adjourn**

7:30-1:00 **Registration**7:30 **Breakfast (Coffee House)**7:55 **Overview**

**Heather H. Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd** is an Assistant Professor of Social Work in the College of Public Service at the University of Houston-Downtown, Adjunct Assistant Professor at Baylor College of Medicine, and Research Investigator (WOC) at the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC. She is a past Chair of the American Public Health Association's Genomics Forum and the current Co-Chair of the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network's Survivorship Working Group. Her research interests include genitourinary (pelvic) cancer survivorship, patient navigation, disease self-management, family health history, unmet needs of cancer patients and informal caregivers, and health disparities.

8:00 **Introductions & Moderators**

**Delmonte Jefferson** is the Executive Director of National African American Tobacco Prevention Network, Inc. He is a Public Health Program Administrator with years of experience advancing health equity. He has a passion for empowering and mentoring youth and young adults to achieve their maximum potential. He has also managed and directed public health programs at the local, state and national level.



**Rod Lew, MPH** is the Founder and Executive Director of APPEAL. Prior to APPEAL, Rod was the Health Education Director at Asian Health Services and the Associate Director for the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations. Rod was a contributing author to the 1998 Surgeon General's Report on Tobacco Use and has written and published widely on tobacco and health disparities. Rod provided testimony to the U.S. Congressional Committee on Commerce on the impact of national tobacco policy in 1999 and to the U.S. Surgeon General in 2004. He has also served on numerous national health advisory committees, including the State of California Tobacco Education and Research Oversight Committee (2000-2006), American Public Health Association (APHA) Equal Health Opportunity Committee (2005-6) and APHA Asian Pacific Islander Caucus, where he served as Chair (1998-2000). Rod was the 2002 recipient of the Christopher Jenkins Cancer Control Award. In 2009, he also received the Lester Breslow Lifetime Achievement Award from the UCLA School of Public Health, his alma mater.

8:05 **How to Market the Most Dangerous Consumer Product in the World to Minorities and Everyone Else**

**Joel Dunnington, MD, FACR**, Professor of Diagnostic Radiology (retired), The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX. Dr. Dunnington served on the faculty at MD Anderson Cancer Center for 26 years. He spent thirteen years on the Texas Medical Association's Council on Public Health and 6 years on the Cancer Committee (Chair) where his principal focus was on tobacco control. He chaired the TMA Task Force on Tobacco for 5 years, represented the TMA at the Texas Interagency Council on Smoking or Health from 1991-1995 and was the Vice Chairman from 1991 to 1992 and Chairman in 1995. Dr. Dunnington received a Health Leader in Medicine award from the TMA Foundation for his Public Health activities, especially in tobacco control. He was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award in Tobacco Control from the ACS and the Faculty Achievement Award in Prevention from the faculty of MD Anderson. He was the chief consultant to the Texas Tobacco Lawsuit. He is currently a Board member of Americans for Nonsmokers Rights.

8:55 **Tobacco Control: Eliminating Tobacco Cessation Disparities and Potential New Concerns**



**Monica Webb Hooper, PhD** is the Director of the Office Cancer Disparities Research at Case Comprehensive Cancer Center and a Professor in the School of Medicine and Psychological Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. Prior to her appointment at Case Western Reserve University, Dr. Hooper was a faculty member and associate professor in the Health Division, Clinical Program in the Department of Psychology at the University of Miami. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of South Florida in 2005. Dr. Webb Hooper's research interests include cancer prevention and control, with a focus on health risk behaviors, and cancer health disparities. Her work focuses on tobacco smoking. Dr. Webb Hooper's research consists of theoretical, behavioral, experimental, and applied investigations on tobacco use, cessation, and relapse prevention. Her research is connected by two themes, in that each of her studies: 1) involve increasing the personal relevance of tobacco interventions, by sub-group targeting or individual-tailoring; 2) consider mechanisms that might affect intervention response, including process and/or outcome variables. She has also a new research-based smoking cessation clinic, NEW U, on the Miller School of Medicine campus, which provides individual and group cognitive behavioral therapy plus free nicotine patches to smokers in the community and within the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center (SCCC).

9:45 **Break**

9:55 **Differences in Smoking and Other Health Behaviors among Latinos of Different Backgrounds**



**Frank Bandiera, PhD**, is assistant professor in epidemiology at the University of Texas School of Public Health interested in the associations between tobacco, alcohol, and mental health among diverse populations - especially Latinos. I completed my PhD in epidemiology at the University of Miami in 2012 and then completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco, in Tobacco Control in 2014. Many studies have grouped Latinos together, ignoring the diversity within Latinos. My program of research considers differences in smoking, alcohol, and mental health problems among Latinos by country of origin (e.g., Mexican, Cuban, Puerto Rican). Since Latinos of certain groups reside in different geographical areas of the United States, my research informs healthcare practitioners and public health policymakers which Latino groups are at greater risk for substance abuse and mental health. Further, my research informs coping and behavioral interventions in these groups at-most risk. My research has been funded by NIMH, NIMHD and RWJF New Connections.

10:45 **Tobacco Disparities or Equity in Tobacco Control?  
Building a Movement of Community Leadership and Change**

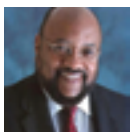


**Rod Lew, MPH** is Founder and Executive Director, Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership. Since graduating with a degree from the UCLA's Department of Community Health Sciences in 1988, Lew has spent more than 20 years working to eliminate health disparities, with a focus on Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. The term "Asian American" includes 68 nationalities; despite being the fastest-growing ethnic group in the United States, Asian Americans are among the most overlooked and underserved. Lew has devoted his career to changing that. He is founder and executive director of the Asian and Pacific Islander Partnership for Education, Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL), an organization addressing health justice issues for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. Prior to APPEAL, Lew was the health education director at Asian Health Services. He was a contributing author on the 1998 Surgeon General's Report on Tobacco Use and was the 2002 recipient of the Christopher Jenkins Cancer Control Award.

11:45 **Questions & Answers**

12:15 **Lunch (Coffee House)**



1:30 **Town Hall Meeting: Where Do We Go From Here? (Robertson Auditorium)****Introduction of the Keynote Speaker**

**Elwyn C. Lee, JD**, Vice President for Community Relations and Institutional Access. Elwyn C. Lee spent his early years in Houston, Texas before leaving for Phillips Academy (Andover) where he graduated in 1967. He matriculated to Yale College where he graduated magna cum laude in 1972 and then on to Yale Law School (1975). After a three year stint at practicing in Washington, D.C. Lee joined the University of Houston Law Center where he taught employment law, personal injury law, administrative law and ethics on his way to becoming the first African-American tenured law professor in 1984.

Moving into administration Lee served three semesters as the interim director of the UH African-American Studies program. From 1991 to 2011 Lee served as Vice President for Student Affairs responsible for a comprehensive array of student services such as enrollment, orientation, campus activities, student discipline, career services, counseling, student health, religion center, university center, veteran services, and disability services. His achievements include developing the world class Campus Recreation & Wellness Center and spearheading the construction of housing projects comprising over 3000 beds including housing for sororities and fraternities.

In February 2011 Lee was appointed to his current position where he focuses on enhancing UH's relationship with the community. As co-chair of the UH Neighborhood Partnership Forum (UNPF), comprised of community and university leaders, Lee coordinates the outreach efforts in the adjacent historic Third Ward area that focus on elevating education outcomes, eliminating health disparities, securing jobs, and business development. The other major focus of his office involves developing a more inclusive and diverse campus at all levels. Lee serves on the ADVANCE Internal Advisory Committee working on increasing the number of minority female STEM faculty, and he sits of a special admissions committee that develops strategies for enrolling more African American undergraduates. Lee has served on many local boards such as the March of Dimes, the Sam Houston Area Council Boy Scouts, and the MacGregor Park Advisory Board. He is married to Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee.

***Closing Keynote Speaker***

**Camara Jones, MD, PhD, MPH**  
**President of the American Public Health Association**  
**Senior Fellow, Satcher Health Leadership Institute**  
**and Cardiovascular Research Institute**  
**Morehouse School of Medicine**

***Keynote*****Addressing Health Equity : Tools For A National Campaign Against Racism**

Camara Phyllis Jones, MD, MPH, PhD, is the current President of the American Public Health Associate and a Senior Fellow at the Satcher Health Leadership Institute and Cardiovascular Research Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine. Dr. Jones received her B.A. degree (Molecular Biology) from Wellesley College, her MD from the Stanford University School of Medicine, and both her MPH and PhD (Epidemiology) degrees from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. She also completed residency training in general preventive medicine (Johns Hopkins

School of Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland) and in family practice (Residency Program in Social Medicine, Bronx, New York).

Dr. Jones is a family physician and epidemiologist whose work focuses on the impact of racism on the health and well-being of the nation. She seeks to broaden the national health debate to include not only universal access to high quality health care but also attention to the social determinants of health (including poverty) and the social determinants of equity (including racism). As a methodologist, she has developed new ways for comparing full distributions of data (rather than means or proportions) in order to investigate population- level risk factors and propose population-level interventions. As a social epidemiologist, her work on race-associated differences in health outcomes goes beyond documenting those differences to vigorously investigating the structural causes of the differences. As a teacher, her allegories on race and racism illuminate topics that are otherwise difficult for many Americans to understand or discuss.

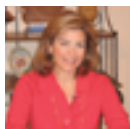
Dr. Jones was an assistant professor at the Harvard School of Public Health from 1994 to 2000, and is currently an adjunct associate professor at both the Morehouse School of Medicine and the Rollins School of Public Health. She is a member of the World Health Organization's Scientific Resource Group on Equity and Health and the National Board of Public Health Examiners, and recently completed service on the Executive Board of the American Public Health Association, the board of directors of the American College of Epidemiology, and the board of directors of the National Black Women's Health Project.

## Panel Discussion - Where Do We Go From Here?

### Moderators



**William (Bill) C. Jenkins, PhD, MPH**, Professor, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC) is a fellow of the American College of Epidemiology (ACE), a member of the American Statistical Association (ASA), and a member of the American Public Health Association (APHA), where he also served on the Governing Council and Executive Board. He was the founding chair of the Epidemiology Section of ASA, a member of the Board of Directors of ACE, and a past chair of its Minority Affairs Committee. Dr. Jenkins received the Abraham Lilienfeld Award from the APHA Epidemiology Section in November 2009. Prior to joining the UNC Institute of African American Research, Dr. Bill Jenkins served for two decades as Supervisory Epidemiologist in the National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHSTP) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and managed its Minority Health Activities Program. Dr. Jenkins obtained his Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Morehouse College. He holds a Master's degree in Biostatistics from Georgetown University, and both a Master in Public Health degree and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He has also completed post-doctoral work in Biostatistics at Harvard University School of Public Health



**Patricia Gras**, Multiple Emmy award winning producer Patricia Gras began her career in television 27 years ago. She first worked as a product marketing manager in Spain and France for Ralston Purina. Then she began her career in television when she joined the Telemundo station in Houston for its first newscast as a reporter, anchor and as the host of its first community affairs show. In 1990 after receiving her Masters in journalism from Columbia University (NYC) she began working with Houston PBS as an anchor, producer and reporter. Patricia also has a dual Masters in International Management from Thunderbird in Arizona and Esade in Spain.

She came to Houston PBS (KUHT-TV) in 1990 to host the respected public affairs program "Almanac". In 2005, she began hosting and producing the award winning series now on its 8th season "Living Smart with Patricia Gras" to get the most out of life which aired in over 200 PBS

channels nationwide. She also co hosted and produced Latina Voices: Smart Talk until the end of 2011. Patricia has interviewed such notables as Pres. Jimmy Carter, George Bush, Desmond Tutu etc.

Ms. Gras speaks 5 languages and has travelled and worked abroad extensively. She's been to Romania, Taiwan, Vietnam, Mexico and Ecuador to work on TV documentaries. She has also visited over 50 countries. In Colombia she taught production workshops at the International Park of Creativity.

Patricia Gras is the recipient of over 170 journalism awards including 7 regional Emmy Awards, 20 nominations and 17 national Telly's. She's listed on "Who's Who in the Media and the Oxford International Biography." Houston Hispanic Media Professionals gave her a lifetime achievement award in 2013. She is also a recording artist, author of the "Yin and Yang of a Small Fish in a Big Murky Pond," video storytelling lecturer and radio host for podcast [programafactorm.com](http://programafactorm.com).

She owns a television production Co. Contact her [patti@lovesmartlivingmedia.com](mailto:patti@lovesmartlivingmedia.com)

### **Closing Panelists**

4:30 **Adjourn**