

15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**Disparities in Health in America:**  
Working Toward Social Justice

**June 19-24, 2017**

Rice University Shell Auditorium  
Jones Graduate School of Business  
Houston, Texas



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

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 minority and medically underserved populations.

PROGRAM CHAIR

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

Founder & Executive Director, Health Disparities, Awareness, Research & Training (HDEART) Consortium

PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

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

Associate Dean of Climate & Diversity, Office of Cultural Competence,  
Diversity & Inclusion at the Texas A&M School of Public Health

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

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

**Bridget Gorman, PhD**

Professor & Chair, Department of Sociology and Founding Faculty Fellow, Rice Center for Teaching Excellence, Rice University



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



# 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Disparities in Health in America: Working Toward Social Justice

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 Consortium (HDEART-C) at that time numbering 7 institutions in the Texas Medical Center. Today, HDEART-C numbers 45 institutions, both nationally and internationally. In addition to the workshop, HDEART, in 2004 launched an annual Scholars and Alumni Reception & Dinner for those fellows who have trained with the CRMH/DH-CHEER or who have been impacted by the center and/or workshop. With that, this year, HDEART-C launched the HDEART Health Equity Scholars & Alumni Network (HDEART HESAN).

Today, the efforts of CRMH/DH-CHEER enfolded into the goals and objectives of the HDEART Consortium. HDEART-C's Academic Home is now in Office of the Associate Dean for Climate & Diversity at Texas A&M School of Public Health. What makes this so special is that Dr. E. Lisako McKyer, a HDEART- C Alumni, first attended HDEART-C Workshop as a graduate student. Today, she serves as one of the co-chairs of this year's workshop. In summing up what her first mean to her, Dr. McKyer stated "I attended as a student, and it literally changed my life and impacted by career goals and aspirations."

HDEART-C still continues its efforts to eliminate health disparities, through individuals such as Dr. McKyer and many others in celebrating the 15th Annual Disparities in Health in America: Working toward Social Justice Course and Workshop.

# Planning Committee Chairs



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

Founder & Executive Director, Health Disparities, Awareness, Research & Training Consortium (HDEART-C), Research Professor, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi; Adjunct Professor, Texas A&M School of Public Health & Professor Emeritus, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center & University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences



**Co-Chair Heather H. Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd**

Assistant Professor, Social Work, College of Public Service, University of Houston-Downtown; Adjunct Assistant Professor, Baylor College of Medicine; Research Investigator (WOC), Michael E. DeBaakey VAMC



**Co-Chair E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH, FAAHB**

Associate Dean, Climate & Diversity; Associate Dean, Office of Cultural Competence, Diversity & Inclusion; Deputy Director, Center for Community Health Development (CCHD) at Texas A&M School of Public Health



**Co-Chair Bridget Gorman, PhD**

Professor & Chair, Department of Sociology and Founding Faculty Fellow, Rice Center for Teaching Excellence, Rice University; Adjunct Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine

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# Planning Committee Members

**Angelina Esparza, RN, MPH**

Chief Program Officer,  
City of Houston Department

**Isabel Estudillo**

Volunteer

**Vaunette Fay, PhD, FNP, GNP**

Director Continuing Education  
Lead Nurse Planner  
Professor of Clinical Nursing  
UTHealth School of Nursing

**Don R. Gibson, FACHE**

Executive Director of Operations  
ACHE- South East Texas Chapter &  
Educational Foundation of the SETC  
Houston, Texas

**Richard A. Hajek, PhD**

Formerly of the University of Texas MD  
Anderson Cancer Center

**Karyn K. Harvey, MPH**

Secondary Science Teacher, Alief ISD  
Formerly of the University of Texas MD  
Anderson Cancer Center

**Tia Jones**

Graduate Student – Epidemiology,  
and Graduate Assistant  
Office of Cultural Competence,  
Diversity & Inclusion  
Texas A&M School of Public Health

**Ann Liberman, MSW**

Director Alumni, Career & Professional  
Development Graduate College of  
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Postdoctoral Associate  
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Adjunct Professor, Department of  
Biomedical Sciences, Texas A&M  
University Corpus Christi

**Octavio Martinez, MD**

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

**Benjamin Moore, DHA**

National Community Liaison  
Alpha and Omega HIV/AIDS  
Foundation  
and Health Initiatives International, Inc.

**Jasmine J. Opusunju, DrPH, MSED,  
CHES, CPH**

President, Texas Society for Public  
Health Education (TSOPHE)  
Executive Director, CAN DO Houston  
Assistant Professor, Department of  
Health & Kinesiology, Prairie View  
A&M University

**Sarah M. Ray, MPA**

Doctoral Student – Adult Education,  
College of Education & Human  
Development  
Graduate Assistant, Office of Cultural  
Competence, Diversity & Inclusion  
Texas A&M School of Public Health

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

Executive Director  
Harris County Public Health

**Shirley Tapscott**

Department Coordinator  
Department of Sociology  
Rice University

# 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 15th 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 & Training Consortium (HDEART-C) 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.

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

HDEART is an organization of 45 academic and health institutions located in Texas, Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, New Mexico, Pennsylvania and Tennessee, with member institutions in Nigeria and Mexico.

## **ALABAMA**

- Auburn University

## **COLORADO**

- Keystone Symposia on Molecular and Cellular Biology

## **FLORIDA**

- Florida A&M University
- Moffitt Cancer Center
- University of Florida Health
- The University of Miami

## **GEORGIA**

- Morehouse School of Medicine

## **LOUISIANA**

- Tulane University

## **NEW MEXICO**

- University of New Mexico

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

- Temple University Health System

## **TENNESEE**

- Meharry Medical College

## **TEXAS**

- Baylor College of Medicine
- Harris County Public Health
- Hogg Foundation for Mental Health
- Lee College
- Michael E. DeBakey Veteran Affairs Medical Center
- Prairie View A&M University
- Rice University
- Memorial Hermann Health System
- Sam Houston State University
- State of Texas Department of Health & Human Services
- Texas A&M University College Station
- Texas A&M University Corpus Christi
- Texas Southern University
- Texas Tech University Health Science Center
- Texas Woman's University
- The City of Houston Health Department
- University of Houston Central Campus
- University of Houston Downtown
- The University of North Texas Health Science Center
- The University of Texas Austin
- The University of Texas Health Northeast
- The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
- The University of Texas M.D Anderson Cancer Center
- The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

## **VIRGINIA**

- Patient Advocate Foundation

## **WASHINGTON, D.C.**

- Howard University

## Venue, Accommodations and Travel Information

### **Venue**

**Shell Auditorium, Jones School of Business Rice University**  
Janice and Robert McNair Hall,  
Loop Rd  
Houston, TX 77005

### **Hotel Accommodations**

We have two hotel accommodations for participants:

**Wyndham Houston Medical Center Hotel & Suites**  
6800 Main St  
Houston, TX 77030  
(713) 237-1111

**Houston Marriott Medical Center**  
6580 Fannin St  
Houston, TX 77030  
(713) 796-0080

# Welcome From Distinguished Sponsors & 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 & Greetings from Host Institution - Rice University***

**Antonio Merlo, PhD**

Dean of the School of Social Sciences; George A. Peterkin Professor of Economics at Rice University

## ***Welcome & Greetings from HDEART-C Academic Home - Texas A&M School of Public Health***

**Jay Maddock, PhD, FAAHB**

Dean of Texas A&M School of Public Health; Professor of Health Policy & Management at TAMSPH

## ***Welcome & Greetings from the Houston Health Department***

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

Director, Houston Health Department

## ***Welcome & Greetings from Harris County Public Health***

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

Executive Director, Harris County Public Health

## ***Welcome & Greetings the HDEART Consortium and Introduction of our Special Guest***

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

## ***Special Guest***

**The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, JD**

18th Congressional District, Texas, Houston, TX

# Welcome & Greetings from Host Institution

**Rice University**

**Antonio Merlo, PhD**

*Dean of the School of Social Sciences*

*George A. Peterkin Professor of Economics*

*Rice University*



I am delighted to welcome everyone to Rice University. We are tremendously proud to host the 15th Annual Summer Workshop: Health Disparities in America. Health inequality is an excellent example of the type of issues we are working to improve at Rice University's School of Social Sciences. One of my proudest achievements from my first year as dean is launching an undergraduate degree with a unique focus on social policy analysis that teaches students how to develop solutions for society's greatest challenges. Our focus is on evidence-based evaluation of alternative interventions that propose to improve human well-being. Many of our faculty and students share a deep interest in addressing health disparities and promoting health equity, and I look forward to taking what we learn from this conference and applying it to our research and teaching.

# Welcome & Greetings from HDEART-C Academic Home

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

**Jay Maddock, PhD, FAAHB**

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

*Professor of Health Policy & Management*



It is my sincere pleasure to extend a warm welcome to attendees, speakers and organizers of the 15th 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 & 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.

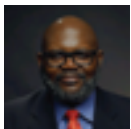
## Welcome & Greetings from the Houston Health Department

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

*Director, Houston Health Department*



**HOUSTON HEALTH**  
DEPARTMENT



It gives me great pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to the 15th annual Disparities in America Summer Workshop, on behalf of the 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 & 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 & Greetings from Harris County Public Health

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

*Executive Director, Harris County Public Health*



Harris County  
**Public Health**  
Building a Healthy Community



On behalf of Harris County Public Health (HCPH), it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 15th 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 & 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 & Greetings from the HDEART Consortium and Program Co-Chair

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

*Sciences, Texas A&M School of Public Health; Associate Professor (joint), College of Medicine, and College of Education & Human Development, Texas A&M University; Deputy Director, Center for Community Health Development*



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, as well as 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 experience 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. Not only am I co-chair and thus able to work hand-in-hand with THE Dr. Lovell Jones, I also have had former student mentees present while also having current students as participants. Further, in 2016 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 hundreds of 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 if it feels 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 & Greetings from the HDEART Consortium and Program 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.

# Welcome & Greetings the HDEART Consortium and Program Co-Chair

**Bridget Gorman, PhD**

*Professor & Chair, Department of Sociology and Founding Faculty Fellow, Rice Center for Teaching Excellence, Rice University; Adjunct Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine*



Greetings! I am very pleased to be serving as one of the co-chairs for the 15th Annual Disparities in Health in America Workshop. I extend a warm welcome to Rice University, set in the heart of Houston, Texas - the nation's fourth largest city. Rice University has been a long-standing partner of the HDEART-Consortium. We usually host the fall semester-long workshop, but are pleased to host the summer conference as it is a dynamic and vibrant event attracting participants from all corners of the nation.

"Working towards Social Justice" – those words which are part of the workshop title resonates with me as it is connected to my own body of work. I conduct research in disparities in morbidity, physical functioning, and medical care use across racial/ethnic, nativity, and gender groups in the United States. I currently work on projects that examine how the connection between mental and physical health differs for men and women; how cross-cutting factors relating to nativity, gender, and socioeconomic status differentially shape health outcomes across diverse racial and ethnic groups; the manner in which sexual identity complicates known patterns of gender difference in physical health and functioning; and the factors that contribute to gender and racial/ethnic differences in the utilization of health care among immigrant adults.

What have learned from my research? First, issues of social conditions and experiences shape group differences in health and well-being among children and adults. Indeed, a guiding framework for my work is that health disparities are driven by fundamental social causes (e.g., socioeconomic status, social integration and support) that underlie and shape group differences in health outcomes. During the conference, I challenge you to think about the impact of social determinants in reducing health disparities and sustaining health communities. Ask yourselves – What are you doing to effect genuine change?

I leave you with some suggestions on how to make the most of your time here. First, take a walk around our beautiful campus during lunch. Use that time to reflect on all you have heard and learned. Take time to dialogue with your peers and colleagues, and meet new people. The exchange of ideas, experiences, opinions, etc. – those are the very things that spark innovation, novel solutions, social movements! Be part of it.

# Welcome & Greetings from the HDEART Consortium and Program Chair

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

*Founder, Health Disparities, Awareness, Research & Training (HDEART) Adjunct Professor, Texas A&M School of Public Health between Consortium, and 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 at Houston*



We held the first summer workshop on health disparities in Houston over 14 years ago, in the summer of 2003. At that time, we had just launched the Health Disparities, Education, Awareness Research & Training (HDEART) Consortium with seven institutions: Baylor College of Medicine, Prairie View A&M University & its College of Nursing, Rice University, Texas Southern University and its College of Pharmacy & 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 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, over fourteen years later, HDEART numbers 45 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 & 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 5,000 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.

Almost two 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 & HDEART, the torch has been picked up by Drs. Patricia Matthews- Juarez (Meharry Medical College) and Thelma C. Hurd (the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio) for the ICC and for HDEART, two of the three co-chairs, Dr. E. Lisako McKyer and Dr. Heather H. Goltz of this workshop, both HDEART Alumni. Concurrently, Regional Leaders from the ICC network and members from HDEART will continue the discussions started previous years to identify the person or persons who will work with these two individual 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 will create an environment of health equity for all citizens. For if we don't, who will?

## Opening Keynote Speaker

**Kirk A. Calhoun, MD**



### Justice, Understanding and Access to Healthcare

The demographics of many health disparities reflect where the disadvantaged and/or populations of color often live and work. This talk explores the realities, interventions, and the implications from a social justice perspective.



**Kirk A. Calhoun, MD** is currently the President of the University of Texas Health Northeast and Chair of the Health Disparities, Education, Awareness, Research & Training Consortium (HDEART-C). Dr. Calhoun earned a BS degree in biology from the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle and an MD degree from the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Following an internship and residency in internal medicine at Northwestern University and Medical Center in Evanston, Illinois, and a fellowship in clinical nephrology, hypertension, and metabolism at the University of Chicago, he worked in different education and administrative capacities with the University of Missouri-Kansas City in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Calhoun spent 10 years at the UT Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) as an associate professor of medicine and corporate medical director of UTMB HealthCare Systems. He then became both senior vice president at Parkland Hospital and associate dean for clinical affairs with the UT Southwestern Medical School. Dr. Calhoun served two terms as board chair for the National Association of Public Hospitals and served two terms on the Texas Department of State Health Services Council.

In November 2002, Dr. Calhoun left UT Southwestern to become president of UT Health Northeast, the only academic medical center in Northeast Texas. He is currently on the board of directors of the American Association of Medical Colleges, and is vice chair of the Council of Teaching Hospitals. Dr. Calhoun has received numerous awards for his work in healthcare delivery and community leadership.

# 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, and,
- Introduce community and state-level resources and available funding to reduce chronic disease and health disparities.
- 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, to identify future educational needs, and to provide feedback to the Summer Workshop organizers. The evaluation is also the means by which eligibility for CEUs are validated.

## Accreditation/Credit Designation

We have applied to the following for continuing education credits:

**CHES:** National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. (NCHCEC)

- 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).

**Nursing:** The University of Texas Health Science Center – Houston School of Nursing

- The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Nursing is an approved provider of Continuing Nursing Education by the Texas Nurses Association - Approver, and accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This activity provides a maximum of 41.25 nursing continuing education contact hours for the entire conference based on sign in for each conference day.

**Social Work:** The University of Houston-Graduate College of Social Work

- Social Work CEUs are approved for up to a maximum of 44.50 ceus for the entire conference based on sign in and sign out times each conference day. LMSW, LCSW, and with board approval, LPC and LMFT professionals should register at the CEU conference table.



# Grant Support & Sponsorship

This workshop is supported in part by funds from the Robert Wood Johnson Grant Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation, the Aetna Foundation, the American College of Health Care Executives- SouthEastTexas Chapter, the Educational Foundation of the SouthEastTexas Chapter, Nutritional Alternatives, Inc., 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







# SILVER

2017 HDEART-C Sponsor



# PROGRAM

Monday, June 19, 2017 – Morning

## Welcome and Opening

7:00 am – 1:00 pm **Registration** – Shell Auditorium, McNair Hall

7:00 am – 7:50 am **Breakfast** – Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center

8:00 am **Welcome & Opening** – Shell Auditorium



**Lovell A. Jones, PhD, FHDR**, – Founder & Executive Director, Health Disparities, Awareness, Research & Training (HDEART) Consortium, Research Professor, Texas A & M University Corpus Christi; Adjunct Professor, Texas A&M School of Public Health & Professor Emeritus, University of Texas MD. Anderson Cancer Center & University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Dr. Jones 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 M. D. Anderson Cancer Center (UTMDACC) in 1980, Dr. Jones was an Instructor in the Departments of Physiology and Obstetrics, Gynecology & 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 Professor at Prairie View A & M University, a Research Faculty member at Texas A & M University Corpus Christi and Professor Emeritus at UTMDACC & UTGSBS, as well as holds an adjunct faculty appointment at Texas A&M University School of Public Health.



**E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH, FAAHB**, Co-Chair, Program Planning Committee. Associate Dean for Climate & Diversity, and heads the Office of Cultural Competence, Diversity & Inclusion at the Texas A&M School of Public Health. She is also Associate Director of the Center for Community Health Development (CCHD). 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 & Kinesiology, College of Education & Human Development at Texas A&M University. Her research interest includes health education and health behavior research methods and data analytic methods, socio-ecological and psychological factors associated with child and adolescent health status & behaviors, and minority health issues & health disparities.



**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.



**Bridget Gorman, PhD**, (PhD, Sociology and Demography, 2000, Pennsylvania State University) is Professor and Chair of Sociology at Rice University. As a sociologist and demographer, Bridget is interested in how social conditions and experiences shape group differences in health and well-being among children and adults. During her career she has organized her research efforts to examine disparities in morbidity, physical functioning, and medical care use across major U.S. demographic groups – particularly racial/ethnic, nativity, gender, and sexuality groups. She is interested not only in how men vs. women, minorities vs. whites, and the foreign vs. native born differ in health outcomes, but also how these social categories intersect to shape health outcomes (e.g., black women vs. white men, heterosexual men vs. gay men). A guiding framework for her work is that health disparities are driven by fundamental social causes (e.g., socioeconomic status, social integration and support) that underlie and shape group differences in health outcomes. She has over 40 peer-reviewed articles and is also an acclaimed teacher, with multiple awards for teaching, mentoring, and service to the undergraduate student body since starting at Rice University in the fall of 2002.

### Greetings from Rice University -



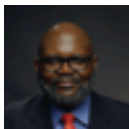
**Antonio Merlo, PhD**, is the Dean of the School of Social Sciences and the George A. Peterkin Professor of Economics at Rice University. He is also the founding and current Director of the Rice Initiative for the Study of Economics (RISE). He served as Chair of the Department of Economics between 2014 and 2016. Before joining Rice University in 2014, Professor Merlo taught at the University of Pennsylvania, New York University and the University of Minnesota. In 2012, he was elected a Fellow of the Econometric Society. His areas of expertise are political economy, public economics, bargaining theory and applications, and empirical microeconomics. He has published widely and his research interests include the economics of crime, voting, the career decisions of politicians, the formation and dissolution of coalition governments, the industrial organization of the political sector, household bargaining and the study of the residential housing market. He has published numerous articles in the leading journals in the profession, including the American Economic Review, Econometrica, the Journal of Political Economy, and the Journal of Economic Theory.

### Greetings from Texas A & M University –



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

### Greetings from Houston Health Department –



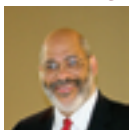
**Stephen L. Williams, MPA**

### Greetings from the Harris County Public Health –



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

### Greeting from the HDEART Consortium and the Introduction of our Special Guests –



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



**The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, JD.** - 18th Congressional District, Texas, Houston, TX

9:00 am – 9:05 am Introduction of Opening Keynote Speaker –



**William (Bill) C. Jenkins, MPH, PhD,** (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 Lillienfeld 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 am – 9:45 am Justice, Understanding, and Access to Healthcare

The demographics of many health disparities reflect where the disadvantaged and/or populations of color often live and work. This talk explores the realities, interventions, and the implications from a social justice perspective.

**Keynote – Kirk A. Calhoun, MD**



Kirk A. Calhoun, MD, is currently the President of the University of Texas Health Northeast and Chair of the Health Disparities, Education, Awareness, Research & Training Consortium (HDEART-C). Dr. Calhoun earned a BS degree in biology from the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle and an MD degree from the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Following an internship and residency in internal medicine at Northwestern University and Medical Center in Evanston, Illinois, and a fellowship in clinical nephrology, hypertension, and metabolism at the University of Chicago, he worked in different education and administrative capacities with the University of Missouri-Kansas City in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Calhoun spent 10 years at the UT Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) as an associate professor of medicine and corporate medical director of UTMB HealthCare Systems. He then became both senior vice president at Parkland Hospital and associate dean for clinical affairs with the UT Southwestern Medical School. Dr. Calhoun served two terms as board chair for the National Association of Public Hospitals and served two terms on the Texas Department of State Health Services Council.

In November 2002, Dr. Calhoun left UT Southwestern to become president of UT Health Northeast, the only academic medical center in Northeast Texas. He is currently on the board of directors of the American Association of Medical Colleges, and is vice chair of the Council of Teaching Hospitals. Dr. Calhoun has received numerous awards for his work in healthcare delivery and community leadership.

9:45 am – 9:55 am 10 Minute Stretch Break

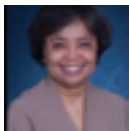


**William (Bill) C. Jenkins, MPH, PhD**

### **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. He 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 comprehensive community strategies to address health issues that draw upon broad based collaborative leadership has included work in the public sector and private sector. Currently a private consultant on community health issues, Griffin has provided leadership to several Robert Wood Johnson Foundation national projects, including the Community Health Leaders Award, Join Together at Boston University School of Public Health; and Fighting Back. Her private consultant clients have included Harris County Precinct 2, Fort Bend County, Action for Healthy Kids, and several federal agencies. 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. 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 certificate in real estate from the University of Houston.



**Beverly J. Gor, EdD, RD, LD**, Staff Analyst, Houston Health Department is a registered dietitian and public health professional with over 30 years of 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, providing 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.



**Phyllis Pettit Nassi, MSW**, enrolled in the Otoe-Missouri Tribe, a member of the Cherokee Nation, Phyllis, is the Associate Director Research & Science Special Populations, American Indian Program at Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah. Formerly a Ph. D. student at the University of Utah's College of Social Work, her dedication is to health disparities, the medically underserved of rural and frontier populations, cancer research, research education, screening, early detection. She has studied cultural and social implications on underserved populations for more than 30 years. Raised on the Navajo, Hopi & Zuni reservation, experienced in scientific research, outreach, development and implementation of research projects, Phyllis is well aware of the need for cultural humility and awareness and works with research teams to understand "how complicated it's going to be to get it right, and how difficult it will be for every researcher working with Native American people if they get it wrong. She educates tribal populations about cancer, clinical trials and the future direction of cancer research, (e.g. genomics) to bring equity to the research table.

Phyllis has over 14 years of experience mentoring undergraduate and graduate students. Phyllis seeks to expose students to research professionals from various disciplines who provide supervised guidance and hands-on experience; familiarize students with research approaches, techniques, data interpretation and scientific problem solving and offer an opportunity for students to meet and interact with peers who have similar career goals. She has provided these opportunities through Continuing Umbrella Research Experience grant, becoming an Association American Cancer Researchers Scientist->Survivors Program Advocate Mentor, being the Leadership Mentor on the Native American Research Internship Program grant and designing and implementing the Academic Student Mentoring: Changing What's Behind the Door Workshop.

Presently Phyllis serves as a Patient Advocate for the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology (Alliance), serving on the Health Disparities, Pharmacogenomics and Respiratory Committees; the Multicultural Advisory Committee and is an Advocate in Science for Susan G. Komen for the Cure (Komen); is Co-Chair of the Southwest Region of the Intercultural Cancer Council (ICC) Network; and is on the Advisory Board of the Cancer Information and Support Network (CISN).



**Mary Bennett, MFA**, is a Community Coach at County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, a collaboration of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. Mary's role is to provide strategic guidance to communities that want to put the County Health Rankings into action for community health improvement. She is part of a team that develops online tools to connect communities to evidence-informed strategies and foster peer learning, delivers technical assistance and training, and recognizes and celebrates health improvement.



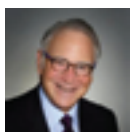
**Kirk A. Calhoun, MD**, is currently the President of the University of Texas Health Northeast and Chair of the Health Disparities, Education, Awareness, Research & Training Consortium (HDEART-C).

11:45 am – 12:45 pm **Lunch** – Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center



## Health Policy & Health Equity – Shell Auditorium

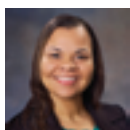
1:00 pm – 1:05 pm **Introductions by Moderator** – Leonard Zwelling, MD.



**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.

1:05 pm – 1:45 pm **Improving Generational Equity Through Investments in Early Childhood Development**

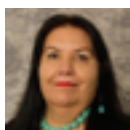
This talk will focus on brain development in early childhood, factors that hinder optimal brain development, and policies and investment strategies to improve health and economic disparities.



**Quianta Moore, MD, JD**, is a Baker Institute Scholar in Health Policy. Her research focuses on developing empirically informed policies to advance the health of children. Specifically, she focuses on access to care in vulnerable populations through school-based clinics, tele-health and health education. She has several years of experience evaluating school health programs and has developed various models of care to maximize outcomes and reduce inefficiencies for health care organizations. Dr. Moore also has experience utilizing mixed methodologies, including community-based participatory research and surveys, to gain insight into the health needs of communities and to develop data-driven, tailored health policy recommendations. Her most recent work involved identifying and making policy recommendations to improve early childhood development, some of which were given to President Trump's transition team. Locally, she helps funders and community stakeholders develop strategies to support early childhood in vulnerable children. She is also part of the Mayor's Task Force on Equity. Dr. Moore received a Bachelor of Arts in sociology from Cornell University, a JD from the University of Houston Law Center and an MD from Baylor College of Medicine.

1:50 pm – 2:30 pm **The 6 P's of US Policy vis a vis American Indians**

An historical and contemporary look at the Policy/Process/Players/Politics/Press/ and Public as contributing to today's American Indian health outcomes.



**Margaret P. Moss, PhD, JD, RN, FAAN**, is an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota, and Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion & Associate Professor at the University of Buffalo, School of Nursing. Previously, she was faculty at the Yale School of Nursing and directed their two policy programs at the Masters and Doctoral levels. While at Yale, Dr. Moss earned a Fulbright Chair in Aboriginal life and culture in the North American context, McGill Institute for the Study of Canada, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, 2014. She received her PhD in Nursing from the University of Texas -Houston, Health Sciences Center in 2000 and subsequently received a distinguished alumni award. Dr. Moss then entered and completed Law School focusing on Federal Indian law, elder law and health law. Concurrently, she completed a 2-year Postdoctorate Fellowship at the Native Elder Research Center, at the University of Colorado. Dr. Moss 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 the Ranking Senators. Dr. Moss researches, presents and writes on American Indians, aging, law and policy. Her most recent effort was the first nursing textbook on: American Indian Health and Nursing Springer, 2015.

2:35 pm – 3:15 pm **Sex, Gender and Health Policy**

This talk will look at the implications of sex and gender for health and health policy, with implications for programs, services, products, practice, research, and education.



**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, & 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.

3:20 pm - 3:30 pm 10 Minute Stretch Break

3:30 pm – 4:10 pm **People, Policy, and Place: A Model for Health Equity Organizational Transformation in Harris County**

This talk will present a local health department’s transition from a health disparities focus to health equity, including a peer-reviewed six-part model and process for infusing a health equity lens into public health practice and real-world examples of how local public health is addressing upstream factors both inside the agency and in the community. Examples will focus on the HCPH theory of change, workforce development, policy and procedures that are “retrofitting” practice upstream, a new approach to place-based work using Collective Impact 3.0, and using data as a tool for monitoring a health equity footprint.



**Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH**, In May 2013, Dr. Shah was appointed Harris County Public Health (HCPH) Executive Director and Local Health Authority for Harris County, Texas – third most populous county in the United States. Since 2004, he served as HCPH Deputy Director and Director of Disease Control & Clinical Prevention. Prior to joining HCPH, he provided clinical care as an emergency department physician at the well-respected Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center and Chief Medical Officer at the Galveston County Health District. He earned his B.A. (philosophy) from Vanderbilt University and MD from University of Toledo Health Science Center, where he also completed an international health policy internship at the World Health Organization (Geneva). Dr. Shah completed Internal Medicine residency, Primary Care/General Medicine fellowship, and his MPH. (management) at The University of Texas Health Science Center. Dr. Shah has had a long, distinguished career in public service having served in numerous leadership positions and having responded to a variety of large-scale emergencies. These include Tropical Storm Allison; Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Ike; earthquakes in Kashmir and Haiti; novel H1N1, Ebola and Zika. Though sought nationally for his expertise, Dr. Shah remains actively engaged in both patient care and academic teaching locally.



**Jennifer M. Hadayia, MPA**, is the Senior Policy Planner for Harris County Public Health (HCPH), where she leads internal and external planning initiatives, including serving as HCPH’s first Health Equity Coordinator and Public Health Accreditation Coordinator. Jennifer has over 18 years of public health experience at state and local health departments as well as national non-profit organizations in a total of five states and the District of Columbia. Over the course of her career, Jennifer has overseen clinical preventive programs, community coalitions, strategic planning, social marketing campaigns, evaluation initiatives, and policy, systems, and environmental change efforts (including her work on the historic Harris County BUILD Health Partnership in Pasadena, TX). Jennifer’s work on health equity transformation in a local health department has been featured in multiple national conferences and webinars, as a case study for national toolkits and websites, and in Health Equity, the first open-source journal dedicated to the topic. Jennifer received her MPA from Columbia University, her BA from Yale University, and is a graduate of the Great Basin Public Health Leadership Institute.

4:15 pm – 4:55 pm **Dismantling the Affordable Care Act: Implications for Health Equity**

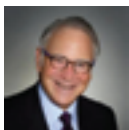
This talk will focus on policy examples and the potential impact on populations whose access to care was expanded through ACA or whose access will be adversely affected by the potential for repeal and replacement.



**Janet A. 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 eligible children in the District of Columbia. She received her BA 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. She served as a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow in the Office of Senator Orrin Hatch.

5:00 pm – 5:40 pm **Red Kool Aid and Blue Kool Aid**

This presentation focuses on how ObamaCare came to be and how it might be repealed.



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.

5:45 pm – 6:05 pm **Questions & Answers**

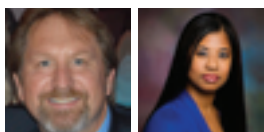
6:05 pm – 6:15 pm **Evaluation & Prize Drawings**

6:15 pm **Adjourn**

## Guest Speaker, Reception & Poster

6:30 -8:00 pm

Reception & Poster Session - Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center



**Hosts: Richard A. Hajek, PhD**, formerly of The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center & **Stacy Lloyd, PhD**, Baylor College Medicine

### Introduction of Special Guest Lecturer & Book Signing



**John Ruffin, PhD**, Founding Director (Retired), National Institute of Minority Health & Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland  
President and C.E.O. ConsulStart Inc.

Dr. John Ruffin recently retired from federal service as the founding director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). In this capacity, he oversaw the NIMHD budget of approximately \$276 million, and provided leadership for the NIH minority health and health disparities research activities, which constituted an annual budget of approximately \$2.8 billion.

He is a well-respected leader and visionary in the field of minority health and health disparities. As an academician and a scientist, he devoted his career to improving the health status of racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved populations. He has an impressive track record of developing and supporting programs to increase the cadre of minority scientists, physicians, and other health professionals, as well as attract a diverse group of researchers to the health disparities field. Dr. Ruffin earned a BS in Biology from Dillard University, a MS in Biology from Atlanta University, a PhD in Systematic and Developmental Biology from Kansas State University, and completed postdoctoral studies in biology at Harvard University. His record of dedication to leadership and career advancement for individuals from racial and ethnic minority populations was nurtured through his experience as instructor of biology at Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Assistant Professor of Biology at Atlanta University; Associate Professor of Biology at Alabama A&M University, Huntsville, Alabama; Cabot Teaching Fellow at Harvard University; and Professor Biology, Chair of the Department of Biology, and Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at North Carolina Central University. The hallmark of his career has been his success in institutionalizing minority health and health disparities research within the organizational structure of the NIH. Ultimately, this resulted in the creation of a health disparities research enterprise with global reach. His leadership consequently transformed the national discourse around minority health and health disparities, resulting in health disparities research becoming a recognized scientific discipline.

In 1990, he joined the NIH as Associate Director for Minority Programs. This led him to take a remarkable journey over 24 years, in transforming the national landscape for minority health and health disparities in the USA. With congressional support, he guided the transition of the OMP to become the Office of Research on Minority Health (ORMH) in 1993, a legislatively-created entity that placed emphasis on research to address minority health. Dr. Ruffin continued his quest to raise awareness about health disparities and advance the minority health research agenda, which led to the creation of the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD) in 2000 with the enactment of the Minority Health and Health Disparities Research and Education Act. Through his leadership, the Center became an Institute at the NIH in

2010 as a result of the Affordable Care Act. Under his leadership, NIMHD established a robust research portfolio that integrates multiple disciplines and offers opportunities for once marginalized groups and communities to be a part of the research process and the elimination of health disparities. The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) has been leading the way in facilitating cross-agency collaboration among federal government agencies and private partnerships to integrate science, policy, practice and community efforts toward eliminating health disparities, with emphasis on the social determinants of health. His stellar record of professional achievement includes 10 honorary doctor of science degrees from Spelman College, Tuskegee University, University of Massachusetts in Boston, North Carolina State University, Morehouse School of Medicine, Meharry Medical College, Tulane University, Dillard University, Medgar Evers College, and North Carolina Central University. He is a recipient of the National Medical Association's Lifetime Achievement Award, National Medical Fellowship's Lifetime Achievement Award, Cura Personalis Award from Georgetown University Medical Center. He has been recognized by various professional, non-profit, and advocacy organizations, including the Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Award for National Service, the Department of Health and Human Services' Special Recognition Award; and the U.S. Presidential Merit Award.

### Poster Session

Please see abstracts provided in your registration bag.

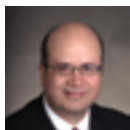
## Tuesday, June 20, 2017 – Morning

### Hogg Foundation for Mental Health Session Mental Health and Health Inequities

7:15 am – 7:50 am **Breakfast** – Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center

7:30 am **Registration** – Shell Auditorium, McNair Hall

8:00 am **Introduction of the Session & Moderator:**

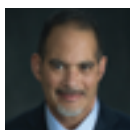


**Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., MD., MPH, MBA, FAPA**

Dr. Martinez is the Executive Director of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, Clinical Professor in School of Social Work & Associate Vice President for Diversity & Community Engagement, University of Texas at Austin. Rheeda L. Walker, PhD, Associate Professor of Psychology, University of Houston

8:05 am – 8:45 am **The 85th Texas Legislature and Mental Health Policy in Texas**

At the end of this program participants will have a better understanding of mental health policies in Texas as they currently stand. They will also know challenges we are still faced with.



**Representative Garnet F. Coleman** has served District 147 in the Texas House of Representatives continuously since 1991 as a leader in health care, economic development and education. He is Chairman of the County Affairs Committee and Senior member of the Public Health Committee. Representative Coleman served as a member of President Obama's State Legislators for Health Reform dedicated to advancing health reform. He serves as Co-Chair of the Progressive States Network, which advances progressive economic and social policies. He is one the Board of the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee where he advocates for the interest

of Democratic state legislators. Representative Coleman joint authored legislation simplifying access to children's Medicaid for more than 600,000 Texas children who were eligible but not enrolled because of bureaucratic barriers. He helped secure an increase of \$161.5 million for at-risk child care services and joint authored legislation that created the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in Texas, which makes low-cost health insurance available to more than 400,000 children from working families. Representative Coleman received the Eli Lilly Reintegration Award and the Texas Academy of Family Physicians' Patient Advocacy Award, and was named one of Texas Monthly's Ten Best Legislators twice. Raised in Houston, Representative Coleman attended Howard University in Washington, D.C. and in 1990 graduated from the University of St. Thomas cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts. He also completed the prestigious Harvard University Senior Executive Program for State and Local Government.

8:50 am -9:30 am

## Changing Policies That Promote the Triple Whammy: Mental illness, Substance Abuse and Chronic Disease

Disparities in health care outcomes have been shown for people of color. African Americans have been shown to show poorer outcomes in chronic diseases. We are proposing a "Triple Whammy" that African Americans have such outcomes due to inadequate treatment of mental health and substance abuse disorders. Misdiagnosis or missed diagnoses for mental disorders are common. Substance abuse is often inadequately treated. Problems such as stigma, and provider perspectives are some of the issues. Failure to seek treatment from mental or substance abuse provider specialists is a contributor to these concerns as is the overrepresentation of African Americans in correctional settings. Proposals to address these concerns include screening programs for mental disorders, education for patients and providers, adoption in correctional settings such as drug and mental health courts, and further research of the causes of disparities through such programs as the Sandra Joy Anderson Center.



**William B. Lawson MD, PhD, DLFAPA**, is currently Associate Dean for Health Disparities and professor of psychiatry, at the Dell Medical School, University of Texas, Austin, where he also has appointments in psychology and pharmacy. He is also Professor of psychology at Huston-Tillotson where he is Director of Community Health Programs at the Sandra Joy Anderson Community Health and Wellness Center. He is also the Director of Health Disparities Policy and Research at Austin Travis County Integral Care. He received a BS in psychology from Howard University, an MA from the University of Virginia, and PhD in Psychology from the University of New Hampshire. He received his MD from the Pritzker School of Medicine University of Chicago, did his residency at Stanford University and a fellowship at the National Institute of Mental Health. He has held faculty positions at the University of Illinois, Urbana, University of California, Irvine, Vanderbilt University, University of Arkansas, and recently left after 15 year as Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Howard University. He has held numerous senior positions and received national recognition including past President of the DC chapter of Mental Health America, Past President of the Washington Psychiatric Society, past Chair of the Section of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences of the National Medical Association, and past president of the Black Psychiatrists of America, received the American Psychiatric Foundation Award for Advancing Minority Mental Health, the 2014 Solomon Carter Fuller Award by the American Psychiatric Association, the Sigma XI the scientific honor society and Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical honor society, the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Exemplary Psychiatrist Award and Outstanding Psychologist Award, the Jeanne Spurlock Award from the American Psychiatric Association, and he E.Y. Williams Clinical Scholar of Distinction Award from the NMA. He received the 2017 George Winokur Clinical Research Award from the American Academy of Clinical Psychiatrists. He has over 200 publications, is the editor in chief of the Journal of the National Medical Association. He has continuously received federal, industry,

and foundation funding to address mental and substance abuse disparities. He has developed innovative telemedicine educational, early onset psychosis, correctional and addiction programs.

9:30 am - 9:40 am 10 minute break

9:40 am - 10:20 am **Stigma and the Reluctance to Address Mental Health Issues in Minority Communities**

This presentation will examine serious health communication problems that are closely related to the development of mental health disparities for members of minority populations, including pervasive stigma concerning mental health issues, poor access to relevant health information, lack of available mental health services, and the tendency to self-treat mental health disorders in ways that may exacerbate the problems. New communication strategies will be suggested to help address the stigma of mental health problems in minority communities and to encourage open discussion of these problems to promote provision of needed interventions for effectively addressing mental health issues.



**Gary L. Kreps, PhD** (PhD, U of Southern California, 1979) is a University Distinguished Professor and Director of the Center for Health and Risk Communication at George Mason University. He studies the use of strategic evidence-based communication to promote public health. Gary's well-funded research program is reported in more than 400 widely-cited publications. He was the founding Chief of the Health Communication and Informatics Research Branch at the National Cancer Institute (NIH) and served as Dean of the School of Communication at Hofstra University, Executive Director of the Greenspun School of Communication at UNLV, and professor at Northern Illinois, Rutgers, Indiana, and Purdue Universities. He has received many honors for his work including the 2015 Research Laureate Award from the American Academy for Health Behavior.

10:25 am – 11:05 am **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.

11:25 am – 11:45 am **Questions & Answers**

11:45 am - 12:50 pm **Lunch** – Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center



## Hogg Foundation for Mental Health Session Mental Health and Health Inequities

1:00 pm – 1:10 pm Introductions of afternoon speakers -



**Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., MD., MPH, MBA, FAPA**

1:15 pm – 1:55 pm **Role of Depression in Chronic Disease Management in Minority Populations**

Depression and chronic disease such as diabetes mellitus (DM) are the most common comorbid conditions across all socio-demographic spectra. Although their etiological relationship is unclear, together they present significant challenges to disease management in individuals with chronic disease. The difficulty of chronic disease management with depression is particularly amplified in vulnerable minority populations: individuals with disabilities, low income, and low health literacy, as well as members of linguistically isolated ethnic minority immigrant groups. The presentation will focus on the impact of untreated depression in chronic disease management and potential intervention strategies for underserved populations.



**Miyong Kim, RN, PhD, FAAN**, is a translational researcher who has built a strong program of research focused on community-based participatory research (CBPR) as a means of reducing cardiovascular related health disparities among traditionally undeserved ethnic minority populations. Dr. Kim's research program examines the effectiveness of self-care strategies for improving health outcomes and overcoming racial, ethnic and social disparities in healthcare. She has conducted several descriptive studies to explore and better define barriers and facilitators to equitable care for this racial and ethnic minority population. She has conducted more than 40 externally funded studies (Over \$ 20 million research cost) to improve minority health and over 100 publications on high impact scientific journals.

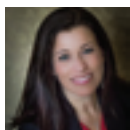
Dr. Kim currently serves as the inaugural Associate Vice President of Community Health Engagement at UT Austin. Most recently, in collaboration with 14 departments at UT and more than 10 community partners, Dr. Kim successfully obtained NIH funding to open a collaborative research center, the Center for Trans-Disciplinary Collaborative Research in Self-Management Science (TCRSS). As the principal investigator and director for this new Center, she is actively facilitating community-partnered research projects, mentoring junior investigators, and establishing an extensive network of community collaborators. Dr. Kim's research links community building strategies and health outcomes for individuals from under-served communities; her work continues to inform the researchers and clinicians to find community based evidence materials that deliver high quality, equitable care to increasingly diverse patient populations.

Dr. Kim had a long distinguished career at Johns Hopkins University where she started as an Assistant Professor & rose to the rank of full Professor, served as Department Chair and the Director of Center for Excellence in Cardiovascular Health Promotion before moving to UT in 2013.



2:00 pm – 2:40 pm **“Change is in the Air” within Behavioral Health Settings: We are Taking Texas Tobacco Free**

Individuals with mental and behavioral health needs (hereafter referred to as behavioral health needs) use tobacco at exceedingly high rates relative to the general population, which significantly contributes to chronic disease, cancers, and premature mortality. We describe Taking Texas Tobacco Free ([www.TakingTexasTobaccoFree.com](http://www.TakingTexasTobaccoFree.com)) a program that promotes wellness among Texans by partnering with behavioral health organizations to build capacity for system-wide, sustainable initiatives that reduce tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure among employees, consumers, and visitors through policy and practice changes, educational initiatives, clinical training, and community outreach.



**Lorraine R. Reitzel, PhD**, is an Associate Professor and the Associate Chair of the Department of Psychological, Health, & Learning Sciences at the University of Houston. Her research program focuses on better understanding the social determinants of health and health risk behaviors - and the specific biopsychosocial mechanisms that account for disparities in health risk behaviors and health outcomes - with an emphasis on generating highly translational results that can be used to inform policy and intervention. Guided by social cognitive theory and the social ecological model of health, her research program spans the assessment of micro-level individual behavioral precipitants of, and macro-level environmental/contextual influences on, health risk behaviors. Much of her work is focused on addressing health disparities related to tobacco use, alone or comorbid with other substance dependence and health risk behaviors, among low socioeconomic status and other underserved groups. Dr. Reitzel has over 110 peer-reviewed publications in journals including *Addiction*, *Health & Place*, and *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, & Prevention*. She is a Tobacco Treatment Specialist and a licensed Psychologist in Texas with specific expertise in Motivational Interviewing. Her professional service includes work as an Associate Editor of *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* and a Managing Co-Editor of *Health Behavior and Policy Review*.

2:40 pm – 2:55 pm **Break**

2:55 pm – 3:35 pm **Neurocognitive and Health Disparities in Congenital Heart Disease**

Congenital heart diseases (CHDs) are the most common type of birth defects, observed in 40,000 babies born in the US each year. Improvements in the care of those with severe CHD have led to a decline in childhood CHD mortality over the last 20 years, with an estimated 2.4 million people living with these medical conditions in the United States in the year 2010. This emerging ‘survivor’ population requires life-long surveillance and disease management, and is particularly vulnerable to neurocognitive, mental, and other health disparities, including lapses in care, depression, anxiety, and executive functioning deficits.



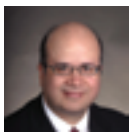
**Keila N. Lopez, MD, MPH**, is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Section of Pediatric Cardiology at Texas Children’s Hospital/Baylor College of Medicine. During medical school at Rush Medical College in Chicago, Illinois, she took a year to complete research training at the Mayo Clinic, in Rochester, MN, where she worked with Latino adolescents and smoking cessation. She then completed a pediatric and chief residency at the University of Chicago, and subsequently the Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy, where she received a Master of Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, Massachusetts. She then went on to Houston, Texas, where she completed a fellowship in pediatric cardiology with a focus on cardiovascular imaging at Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children’s Hospital. Dr. Lopez’s research portfolio reflects a longstanding commitment to addressing health disparities and public health initiatives. She completed several projects focused on health disparities during medical and public health training, including a project investigating the Massachusetts “universal healthcare coverage”, where she revealed an “invisible” group not covered– an established and newly-arrived

Portuguese speaking immigrants (Latino, but non-Spanish speaking). Her current research interests focus on healthcare disparities among minority and underserved, particularly as they pertain to the field of pediatric cardiology. She has worked with the Texas Department of State Health Services on population-based epidemiologic projects to better understand congenital heart disease patients in the state of Texas. She is the creator and Director of the pediatric cardiology Transition Program, screening vulnerable adolescents and young adults with congenital heart disease for mental health disparities, knowledge and self-efficacy gaps, and suboptimal academic achievement. She is currently creating technology driven educational programs to assist transitioning adolescents with congenital heart disease to make the successful transfer from pediatric to adult care. Most recently she has received grant support from the NIH NHLBI Pediatric Heart Network as well as the NIH K23 Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award to develop mobile technologies to assist in this transition process. She has presented locally and nationally on health disparities, including to the Texas Department of State Health Services Center for Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities and the National Birth Defects Prevention Network Conference. She is leading the effort on creating adolescent transition and transfer quality metrics for American College of Cardiology Adult Congenital and Pediatric Cardiology Quality Work group. Given her public health background, she serves as an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Sociology at Rice University and research affiliate at Rice's Kinder Institute for Urban Research. Additionally, as a result of her policy training, she serves as a co-investigator for the Texas Children's Policy and Advocacy Center. Dr. Lopez seeks to incorporate cardiology, public health, and minority health policy in order to develop research initiatives that directly inform health policy and improve the health care of minorities and underserved populations. She hopes to identify strategies to enhance and prolong the lives of those with CHD through surveillance, population-based research, education, health promotion, advocacy, and policy development.

3:35 pm – 4:15 pm

## Eliminating Mental and Physical Health Disparities Through Culturally & Linguistically Centered Integrated Health Care

Since the U.S. Surgeon General's report on mental health (1999) declared mind and body to be inseparable, integrated health care has been gaining significant momentum across the nation as a preferred approach to care for people with comorbid physical health and mental health conditions. Primary care settings often are the gateway to health care for racial and ethnic minority populations and individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) and, as such, it has become the portal for identifying undiagnosed or untreated behavioral health disorders. This provides an opportunity to address mental and physical health disparities and achieve health equity through a culturally and linguistically centered integrated health care delivery model.



**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 university's 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.

- 4:15 pm - 4:40 pm Questions & Answers
- 4:40 pm – 5:00 pm Evaluations & Prize Drawings
- 5:00 pm Adjourn

## Tuesday June 20, 2017 – Evening

### American College of Healthcare Executives – SouthEastTexas Chapter (On site registration required)

- 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm Reception with American College of Health Care Executives – SouthEastTexas Chapter – Rotunda, McNair Hall

- 6:30 pm – 8:00pm Making Health Equity a Strategic Priority: A Leader-Driven Imperative  
- Imperative - Shell Auditorium, McNair Hall

The objectives of the panel discussion are to (1) Gain an understanding of the structures and processes that support equity, (2) Explore actions that address the social determinants of health and necessary to make equity a leader-driven priority, (3) Identify steps in increasing access to clinical services, such as working to improve cancer screenings and survival, as well as closing disparities in the management of myocardial infarction, and (4) Recognize the next level by leveraging economic, social and political power of the health care industry.

#### **Moderator:**



**Carol Paret**, is the Senior Vice President/Chief Community Health Officer for Memorial Hermann Healthcare System (MHHS) and the CEO of Memorial Hermann Community Benefit Corporation. Carol completed her undergraduate work at University of Houston and her graduate studies at University of Texas School of Public Health in Houston. Her career began in community health planning and for the past 31 years Carol has worked for MHHS. Among Carol's many accomplishments with the Memorial Hermann Community Benefit Corporation is a partnership with five school districts, Houston, Pasadena, Aldine, Alief, and Lamar Consolidated, called The Health Centers for Schools Program designed to provide a "medical home" for uninsured and Medicaid children K-12th grade. The program offers access to primary medical care, dental care, mental health counseling, social services, and nutrition counseling. Each of the 10 clinics is staffed by a nurse practitioner/physician assistant, social worker, licensed vocational nurse, and a receptionist with dietitian support and physician oversight provided. The Centers are open year round, five days a week and serve students in the schools' designated elementary, middle and high school feeder patterns.

## Panelists



**Ira Bell, MD**, is the Regional Medical Director of First Care Health Plans, Austin, TX. Dr Ira Bell brings more than 40 years of experience in Family Medicine and Medical Management with over 20 years of experience specific to healthcare. He has worked in managed care as a primary care physician in a solo and group practice, served in organized hospital administration serving in various roles such as chief of departments and all elected positions including chief of staff at a major teaching institution. He has served as medical director and chief medical officer in several managed care organizations in the healthcare industry.



**Craig Cordola, FACHE, MBA, MHA**, serves as the Senior Vice President and President of the West Region for Memorial Hermann Health System with overall responsibility for Post-Acute Services across the organization, as well as Memorial Hermann Cypress Hospital, Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital, Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital and Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center. In addition, Cordola provides oversight for Heart & Vascular and Women & Children's Service Lines. As the Executive-in-charge of the System's relationship with McGovern Medical School at UTHealth, Cordola is responsible for continued growth of the flourishing partnership that provides patients with access to academically-affiliated physicians.

Cordola serves on a number of local not-for-profit boards for organizations such as the March of Dimes and Center for Houston's Future. Craig serves as the Chair for the George McMillan Fleming Center for Healthcare Management Advisory Board. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and has served as president of the organization's Southeast Texas Chapter. Cordola graduated with honors from The University of Texas at Austin with a degree in Psychology and continued his studies at University of Houston-Clear Lake, where he earned dual degrees with a Master of Healthcare Administration and a Master of Business Administration.



**Tomas Garcia III, MD**, Dr. Tom Garcia is Past President (2015-2016) of the Texas Medical Association and a practicing cardiologist (Houston). He has served in various leadership capacities, including chair of the TMA Board of Trustees. He is an advisory committee member of the Texas Medical Association Insurance Trust. Dr. Garcia served as president of Harris County Medical Society in 2008 and is currently a member of the boards of the Texas Medical Center and Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center. On the national level, Dr. Garcia has served on the delegation to the American Medical Association since 1998. He also served on the AMA Special Advisory Group Extraordinaire in 2002. Dr. Garcia is a native Texan and a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin with a B.S. in pharmacy. He has practiced cardiology in Houston since 1981. He is an Eagle Scout and an active member of the Boy Scouts of America, Sam Houston Council.



**Monica L. Rasmus, MEd, MBA, DrPH**, is Assistant Professor and Program Director of Health Administration in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at Texas Southern University. She is adjunct professor at UT School of Public Health and the University of Houston-Downtown. Prior to academia, she was employed in both the private and public sectors of health care. She has served and serves on various boards, including the ACHE-SETC Board of Directors. Her areas of research are: health care quality, health care disparities, preventable adverse events, and diversity in hospital governance and leadership.

## Health Disparities, Demographics & Policy

7:15 am – 1:00 pm **Registration** – Shell Auditorium, McNair Hall

7:15 am – 7:50 am **Breakfast** – Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center

8:00 am - 8:05 am **Introductions** **Steve Murdock, PhD** (See full biography below.)

8:05 am – 8:45 am **The Changing Face of Houston and America: Tracking the Economic and Demographic Transformations; Their Implications for Health Care Policy**

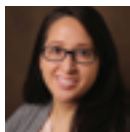
Houston is at the forefront of the two most fundamental transformations of our time: a restructured economy, marked by growing inequalities based on access to quality education, and an epic demographic revolution. We review the findings from 36 years of Houston surveys to explore the way the new realities are unfolding and to consider their implications for health care delivery in the years ahead.



**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 Houston Area Survey,” now in its 36th year of tracking the demographic patterns, economic outlooks, experiences, and beliefs of Harris County residents. He has completed a series of published reports on this research, including a 2014 document (available at: [kinder.rice.edu/shear/health](http://kinder.rice.edu/shear/health)), entitled What Accounts for Health Disparities. The recipient of twelve major teaching awards, Klineberg is the founding director of the Kinder Institute for Urban Research and is at work this year on a book exploring the national implications of the Houston findings.

8:50 am – 9:30 am **Evaluating the Role of Race and Ancestry in Complex Disease Using Electronic Health Record Data**

This presentation reviews the complexity of conducting research in racially diverse populations using electronic health record databases.



**Digna R. Velez Edwards, PhD** is a genetic epidemiologist and an Associate Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Vanderbilt University. Dr. Velez Edwards received her PhD in Human Genetics (2008) and Masters in Applied Statistics at Vanderbilt University (2007) with subsequent postdoctoral training in human genetics at the University of Miami (2008-2009). She has established a research program focused on genetic and environment risk factors associated with women’s health and reproductive outcomes. Since the start of her faculty appointment Dr. Velez Edwards has developed and coordinated a repository of biospecimens from participants in the Right from the Start pregnancy cohort to be used for genetic epidemiology studies examining reproductive health complications and risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes. She has several ongoing research projects utilizing this resource, as well as large clinical databases that link clinical information to DNA. These studies focus on understanding the racial and/or ethnic disparities in genetic risk for several complex diseases including preterm birth, miscarriage, uterine fibroids, and pelvic organ prolapse.

9:30 am – 9:40 am 10 Minute Stretch Break



9:40 am – 10:20 am **Public Health & Well-being in Harris County, TX**

The talk will focus on an international comparative analysis of Harris County, TX; the United States and several other countries of the world.



**Lester O. King, PhD, AICP, LEED** is a nationally certified sustainability and public health planner and dedicated educator in the United States. Dr. King specializes in the development of public health enhancement solutions for urban development, in his role as manager of the Built Environment Unit in the Harris County Public Health Department. He is a certified and skilled planner with expertise in community development, public health planning, master planning, environmental planning, and sustainability planning. He has had experience with developing consensus building techniques for public participation/ community involvement support for the identification and delineation of planning objectives; and facilitation of stakeholder meetings for federal, state, and municipal projects. Dr. King has delivered lectures to local, national and international groups, regarding best practices in performance measurement for achieving sustainability goals. Dr. King is a University Lecturer and Senior Fellow with the American Leadership Forum (ALF).

10:25 am – 11:05 am **Reimagining the Association Between Education and Adult Mortality in a Dynamic Policy Environment**

Debate has swirled around the increase in US adult life expectancy for some demographic groups. College education persons are living longer, while less educated persons, especially whites, have experienced stalled or increasing mortality. What are the facts? How should we think about the association in the larger context of societal changes in technology, political economy, and demography? What are the societal forces coming into play? A conceptual framework is proposed to understand these macro forces, the emergence of multiple Americas, and the consequences of policy changes for the dim prospects of a longer life in working class America.



**Mark Hayward, PhD** is Professor of Sociology, Centennial Commission Professor in the Liberal Arts, and director of the Population Health Initiative at the University of Texas at Austin. His research integrates life course theory and statistical and demographic techniques to interrogate how factors from across the life course influence morbidity and mortality. Beyond extensive research on mortality, his work has examined a variety of aspects of health—including inflammation, cognitive impairment, disability, self-rated health and positive aspects of health including active life expectancy. Hayward has also considered the role of factors at multiple levels—from micro-level factors such as genes and biomeasures of cardiovascular, metabolic, and chronic inflammation risk to macro-level factors including state socioeconomic and policy contexts. A common thread throughout his work is understanding how socioeconomic status— especially education—as well as gender, marital status, and race/ethnicity shape health inequalities in later life. He has also explored the role of behavioral factors in health and health disparities including nutrition, body weight, and tobacco use.

Hayward is currently a Co-PI on the NIA-funded “Network on Life Course Health Dynamics and Disparities in 21st Century America” and is the past recipient of awards through both NIA and NICHD. He has published in leading journals, including: the American Journal of Public Health, Demography, the Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences, the Journal of Health and Social Behavior, and Social Science and Medicine.

In addition to his numerous scholarly accomplishments, he has served in several professional leadership positions. He recently served as the president of the Southern Demographic Association, chair of the Aging and Life Course section of the American Sociological Association, and is the chair-elect of the Sociology of Population section of the ASA. He has also served on the boards of the Population Association of America and the Society of Biodemography and Social Biology, and was a member and



subsequent chair of the Inter- University Consortium for Political and Social Research council. He is currently a member of the Committee on Population, National Academy of Sciences and recently served on the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Health and Society Scholars Program. Hayward earned his PhD in sociology from Indiana University in 1981.

11:10 am – 11:50 am **Population Change in the United States and Texas: Implications for Health Care**

The presentation examines the growth in overall demand for health care and how change in demographic characteristics will change the characteristics in Texas and the United States in the coming decades.



**Steve Murdock, PhD** is the founding Director of the Hobby Center for the Study of Texas. Dr. Murdock holds the Allyn and Gladys Cline Chair in Sociology at Rice University. He is the former Director of the U.S. Census Bureau, The State Demographer of Texas, holder of a Regents Chair at Texas A&M University, The Lutcher Brown Distinguished Chair in Demography and Organization Studies at the University of Texas at San Antonio, and a noted scholar with 13 books and more than 150 articles and analytical reports. He is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from North Dakota State University, the Distinguished Rural Sociologist Award from the Rural, Sociological Society, a recipient of the Excellence in Research Awards from the Rural Sociological Society, Faculty Distinguished Research Award from Texas A&M University and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi and the Phi Eta Sigma national honorary societies. He has extensive experience in research on a wide variety of issues impacting Texas and is widely known as a national expert in the areas of Demography, Rural Sociology and Socioeconomic Impact Assessment.

11:50 am – 12:05 pm **Questions & Answers**

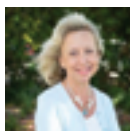
12:10pm – 1:00 pm **Lunch** – Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center

## Wednesday June 21, 2017 – Afternoon

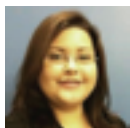
### Health Inequities and Health Communication

1:10 pm – 1:15 pm **Introductions by Moderator – Cathy Meade, PhD, RN, FAAN**

**Moderators**



**Cathy D. Meade, PhD, RN, FAAN**, Senior Member, Division of Population Science, Health Outcomes & 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. More detailed bio below.

1:15 pm – 1:55 pm

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

Drawing on studies of diet, colorectal cancer screening, and smoking cessation, Dr. Resnicow discuss how health communication intervention can reduce health disparities through both group tailored and individually tailored approaches.



**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. Drawing on studies of diet, colorectal cancer screening, and smoking cessation, Dr. Resnicow discuss how health communication intervention can reduce health disparities through both group tailored and individually tailored approaches.

2:00 pm – 2:40 pm

## Dying While Black: Why Colorblind Policies and Laws can’t eliminate the Intergenerational Impact of Slavery, Segregation, and Racism

This presentation reviews the current health status of Descendants of Africans Enslaved in the United States (DAEUS), discusses how the stress of slavery, segregation and racism impacts Black health, and analyzes the role of the law in maintaining racial discrimination.



**Vernellia R. Randall, JD**, Professor Emerita of Law has taught 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 MS 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. Professor Randall taught American Health Care Law for 26 years and Race, Racism and the Law for 20 years. Professor Randall’s website Race, Racism and the Law has been on the web since 1995. <http://racism.org>. She is available on Twitter @ProfVRandall and facebook.

2:45 pm – 3:25 pm **Building Trust in the Era of Outcomes Based Health Care**

Trust is the cornerstone of clinical trial recruitment and retention. The complex interactions between trust and clinical trial participation and retention in minority populations is an area of active research. Contextual factors that impact minority trust building in clinical trials and strategies and models to interrogate the process of trust building will be discussed.



**Thelma C. Hurd, MD, FACS**, a surgical oncologist, is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Clinical Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio (UTHSCSA). She is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Public Health at the UT School of Public Health Houston-San Antonio Extension. Dr. Hurd completed her General Surgery training and research fellowship 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. She will complete her MPH in Global Health Leadership in 2018. For over a decade, her work has addressed health disparities in underserved populations. Her current research focuses on trust in health care and community based interventions to address health equity in minority communities. Currently, she is co-leading the FluFIT on the Frontera project, a community wide, comprehensive, colorectal cancer screening initiative on the Texas Mexico Border in Val Verde County, Texas. Dr. Hurd's more recent prior community projects include Enhancing Minority Participation in Clinical Trials (EMPaCT) and the South Texas Esperanza y Vida Program, a breast and cervical cancer education/screening initiative for Hispanic women and men in the Texas-Mexico Border counties. Prior to these projects she founded the Witness Project of Buffalo and Niagara Falls, NY at Roswell Park Cancer Institute and the Fruitbelt Community Witness Project at St. John Baptist Church (Buffalo, New York). This project continues to serve the Western New York community 15 years after its inception. Dr. Hurd has also served as a member and Director of the Community Engagement core at the Institute for the Integration of Medicine and Science at the UTHSCSA (2008-2012). Her current position as President Elect of the Intercultural Cancer Council and membership in Partners for the Advancement of Community Engaged Research (PACER) enable continued contributions at the national and international levels. Mentoring students, residents and fellows in clinical and public health science, continues to be the most rewarding part of her career. Dr. Hurd enjoys travel, hiking and community service with her husband, Dr. Robert Urtecho, and their two sons.

3:30 pm – 3:40 pm 10 Minute Stretch Break

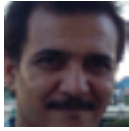
3:45 pm – 4:25 pm **When poor people die . . . Who cares?: Effective Communication Strategies in the Event of Public Health Emergencies**

An effective communication during a public health emergency is critical for vulnerable populations. We present a health communications framework and use ebola as a case study to illustrate the need for effective communication across sectors, jurisdictions, and borders to ensure equity in mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.



**Kenneth D. Smith, PhD**, is the Director of the Center to Eliminate Health Disparities and an Adjunct Assistant Professor for the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB). Dr. Smith is a health economist and public health practitioner. Formerly the Director of Chronic Disease Prevention, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, he oversaw the City's Tobacco Control Program; helped implement the City's trans fats ban; and drafted a city-wide plan to improve access to fresh, affordable produce. As a result of Dr. Smith's efforts, Philadelphia passed the nation's most comprehensive menu labeling ordinance. Prior to his appointments at UTMB, Dr. Smith was the Lead Analyst for Chronic Disease and Environmental Health for the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO), where he built a national-level portfolio of projects around Health Impact Assessment, Health in

All Policies, and community health planning; provided technical assistance to NACCHO members on building healthy, resilient communities; and supported NACCHO advocacy on the Hill.



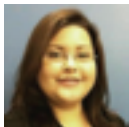
**Hani Serag, MD, MPH** is a Health System Research Fellow for the UTMB Center to Eliminate Health Disparities (CEHD) and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics. He previously, served as the Global Coordinator of People's Health Movement (PHM) – a global network bringing academic institutes, civil society organizations and health activists from all over the world. During the last 20 years, Dr. Serag participated in designing and setting methodologies for several qualitative and quantitative research projects, including national-level surveys and cross-country comparative studies. His research spans a wide range of educational and training activities in public and global health, including developing the curricula and teaching for more than 30 training courses, mainly on health system research (regional and national training courses) and global health (on regional and global levels) for public health practitioners especially from the nonprofit sector.

4:30 pm – 5:10 pm **Health Literacy Meets Social Justice: Words Do Count**

Effective health communication is imperative in our diverse demographic landscape. This presentation illustrates how health literacy and culture inform messages and materials, and give meaning to health education, practice and research.



**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.

5:10 pm – 5:30 pm **Questions and Answers**

5:30 pm – 5:45 pm **Evaluation & Prize Drawings**

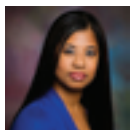
5:45 pm **Adjourn**

Prepare for Student Mentoring Session

## Student Mentoring Session

6:15 pm – 8:30 pm Student Mentoring Session - Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center

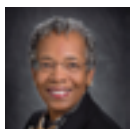
### Introduction & Moderators:



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

### Metacognition: The Key to Acing Courses, Board Exams, and Life!

Do you want to major 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 simple, straight forward strategies that have resulted in test performance improvements of as much as three full letter grades and passing board exams.



**Sandra McGuire, PhD**

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

Dr. Sandra Yancy McGuire, Director Emerita of the LSU Center for Academic Success and Retired Assistant Vice Chancellor and Professor of Chemistry, is an internationally recognized chemical educator, author and lecturer who has travelled the globe promoting sure-fire strategies to help students, including those underrepresented in science and math professions, to be successful in their coursework and careers. Prior to joining LSU in 1999, Dr. McGuire spent eleven years at Cornell University, where she received the coveted Clark Distinguished Teaching Award. Her latest book, *Teach Students How to Learn: Strategies You Can Incorporate into Any Course to Improve Student Metacognition, Study Skills, and Motivation*, was released in October 2015 and is a Stylus Publications best seller that is now in its eleventh printing. She has worked effectively with pre-medical and medical school students, teaching them effective learning strategies, for the past 47 years.

Dr. McGuire's most recent accolades include the 2017 American Chemical Society (ACS) Award for Encouraging Disadvantaged Students to Pursue Careers in the Chemical Sciences, the LSU Women's Center 2017 Esprit de Femme Award, and induction with the 2017 class into the LSU College of Science Hall of Distinction. She also received the 2015 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Lifetime Mentor Award and the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE). She is an elected Fellow of the ACS and the AAAS. In November 2007 the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring was presented to her in a White House Oval Office Ceremony.

Dr. McGuire received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry, magna cum laude, from Southern University, a Master's degree from Cornell University, and a PhD in chemical education from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where she received the Chancellor's Citation for Exceptional Promise. She is married to Dr. Stephen C.

McGuire, a professor of physics at Southern University. They are the parents of Dr. Carla McGuire Davis and Dr. Stephanie McGuire, and the doting grandparents of Joshua, Ruth, Daniel, and Joseph Davis.

## Thursday June 22, 2017 – Morning

### Training the Next Generation of Health Disparities & Kellogg Scholars

7:15 am – 1:00 pm **Registration** – Shell Auditorium, McNair Hall

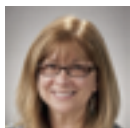
7:15 am – 7:50 am **Breakfast** – Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center

8:00 am - 8:05 am **Introductions & Overview**

**Moderator E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH, FAAHB**

8:05 am – 8:45 am **New Mechanistic Insights Into Breast Cancer Outcome Disparities In Women Of Color - Interactions Of Genetics, Lifestyle And Environment**

This presentation will discuss persistent breast cancer health disparities in women of color. We will consider the some of the contributors to early onset, aggressive disease that underlie the disproportionately poor breast cancer outcomes, including the interaction of genetic, dietary and environmental risk factors.



**Robin Fuchs-Young, PhD** is a Professor in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Medicine and the Institute for Biosciences and Technology at the Health Science Center of Texas A&M University. She did her postdoctoral work at the Ben May Institute at the University of Chicago, with Dr. Geoffrey Greene. Following her postdoctoral training, Dr. Fuchs-Young spent four years at Eli Lilly and Company, where she was part of the preclinical development team for Raloxifene (Evista). She then joined the Department of Molecular Carcinogenesis at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center as an Assistant Professor in 1996, rising to the rank of Professor. Dr. Fuchs-Young joined the faculty at Texas A&M University Health Science Center in early 2012. The Fuchs-Young laboratory studies the basic mechanisms of breast carcinogenesis, including the interaction (cross-talk) between the estrogen receptor alpha (ER), IGF-1 and p53 signaling cascades and the role of diet/obesity in breast cancer susceptibility. Her research utilizes a variety of unique in vivo and in vitro models, including transgenic and humanized mice. An underlying theme of her research is the discovery of bio-physiological determinants of disparities in breast cancer outcome.

8:50 am – 9:30 am **Early Life Environmental Exposures, Epigenetics, and Health Disparities**

Adverse environmental exposures during early life promote the development of metabolic diseases with known disparities such as cancer, obesity, and diabetes in adulthood. Although alterations in the epigenome that can last a lifetime may be responsible for this link, there is still a gap in our knowledge regarding the mechanisms underlying epigenomic reprogramming in this context. Dr. Trevino will discuss the current state of research involving early life environmental exposures, epigenomics, and the development of diseases with health disparities.



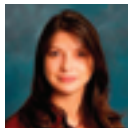
**Lindsey S. Treviño, PhD** is an Instructor at Baylor College of Medicine in the Center for Precision Environmental Health. She obtained her PhD in Reproductive Physiology from Cornell University and completed her postdoctoral training at Baylor College of Medicine in Molecular and Cellular Biology and at Texas A&M Health Science Center in Translational Cancer Research. Her current research focuses on understanding the



molecular basis of how early life exposure to endocrine disruptors (EDCs) reprograms the epigenome to promote the development of metabolic diseases with known disparities such as cancer, obesity, and diabetes in adulthood. Lindsey is a Future Leaders Advancing Research in Endocrinology (FLARE) Fellow, a Keystone Symposia Fellow and a National Institutes of Health Future Research Leader. She is a former member of the Endocrine Society's Committee on Diversity and Inclusion and currently serves as a member of the Keystone Symposia's office of Diversity in Life Science Programs (DLSP) health disparities working group on cancer. Adverse environmental exposures during early life promote the development of metabolic diseases with known disparities such as cancer, obesity, and diabetes in adulthood. Although alterations in the epigenome that can last a lifetime may be responsible for this link, there is still a gap in our knowledge regarding the mechanisms underlying epigenomic reprogramming in this context. Dr. Trevino will discuss the current state of research involving early life environmental exposures, epigenomics, and the development of diseases with health disparities.

9:35 am – 10:15 am **An Equal Opportunity Epidemic: Systemic Pain and Opioid Addiction**

Dr. Spencer's lecture will provide a sociocultural perspective on America's opioid epidemic by exploring the connections between systemic pain, drug addiction, and community-level (dis)empowerment.



**Mindi Spencer, PhD** is currently a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior and the Institute for Southern Studies at the University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health. She received her PhD in Life Span Developmental Psychology from West Virginia University in 2006, with Graduate Certificates in Gerontology and Women's Studies. She went on to complete her postdoctoral training as Kellogg Health Scholar at the University of Pittsburgh, where she focused her scholarship on how cultural and psychosocial factors influence health in older adulthood. She continues to conduct research on caregiving and mental health among American Indian and African American elders. She is also the Principal Investigator of the "Youth Empowered Against HIV!" Project and a partner in the "Equalize Health" LGBT cultural competence training program for health care providers. Her scholarship with the Institute for Southern Studies focuses on the regional context of health disparities and her course – "Southern Discomfort: Public health in the American South" – has recently been used as a model for the new Graduate Research in the South (UNC-GRITS) speaker series at UNC-Chapel Hill. Her ultimate goal is to ensure that her scholarship can be used to inform policy and promote positive social change.

10:15 am – 10:25 am 10 Minute Stretch Break

10:30 am – 11:10 am **Preclinical Drug Development for Inflammation-Associated Disorders**

NACHT, LRR and PYD domains-containing protein 3 (NLRP3) is a multiprotein assembly that plays a critical role in the establishment and progression of the inflammation-associated disorders, such as type-2 diabetes, Alzheimer's disease etc. These disease states affect the minority populations disproportionately. The presentation will highlight our collaborative research focused on the development of small molecule inflammasome inhibitors.



**Amol Kulkarni, PhD**, is presently an Assistant Professor at Howard University in the College of Pharmacy Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. NACHT, LRR and PYD domains-containing protein 3 (NLRP3) is a multiprotein assembly that plays a critical role in the establishment and progression of the inflammation-associated disorders, such as type-2 diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, etc. These disease states affect the minority populations disproportionately. The presentation will highlight our collaborative research focused on the development of small molecule inflammasome inhibitors.

11:15 am – 11:55 am **Cultural Beliefs, Behaviors, and the Environment Merge to Influence Migrant and Seasonal Worker Health**

This presentation will review intervention material for Mexican, migrant and seasonal farmworkers. We will outline the development of an intervention based on ethnographic research in the population.



**Shedra Amy Snipes, PhD**, is an Assistant Professor of Biobehavioral Health at Pennsylvania State University. The bulk of her research is centered along the Texas-Mexico Border of the United States where she lives with farmworkers to share in, and document the dangers associated with exposure to pesticides and related health experiences. Currently, Dr. Snipes' research program entails ethnographic studies on pesticide risks, collecting bio-specimens for pesticide exposure measures, and piloting behavioral interventions.

Broadly, Dr. Snipes is a bio-cultural anthropologist whose research explores the intersection of culture and health, where she engages use of ethnography (an intensive form of cultural and behavioral exploration) and collection of biomarkers (saliva and urine) as a combinatorial strategy to understand how beliefs, behaviors and health outcomes are related. Currently, Dr. Snipes' research program focuses on pesticide exposures, occupational injuries, issues of 'legality' and environmental justice for Mexican Immigrant farmworkers. In her most recent project, ¡Protéjase! (Protect Yourself!), Dr. Snipes uses culturally-appropriate messaging and mHealth (mobile health) as an interventional design to reduce pesticide exposure. Dr. Snipes' ultimate goal is to provide new, useful data on how to promote the use of culture and perceived risks about the environment to better promote healthy behaviors for farmworkers, including pesticide exposure safety, reduced occupational injury, and better healthcare access.

Dr. Snipes earned her PhD in Bio-Cultural Anthropology from the University of Washington in 2007. She is a former fellow of the prestigious Kellogg Health Scholars Program at the University of Texas MD. Anderson Cancer Center. She is also alumni of the National Cancer Institute Education and Career Development Program at the University of Texas School of Public Health.

12:00 pm- 12:20 pm **Questions & Answers**

12:30 pm – 1:20 pm **Lunch** – Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center

## Thursday June 22, 2017 – Afternoon

### Training the Next Generation of Health Disparities & Kellogg Scholars

1:30 pm - 1:35 pm **Introductions & Moderator** – **E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH, FAAHB**

1:35 pm – 2:15 pm **History: A Determinant of American Indian Health**

American Indians experience disparities that are associated with land loss and destruction and forced changes in lifestyles. This purpose of this presentation is to examine the relationship between history and health. I will share findings from several studies suggesting that history is an overarching determinant of American Indian health. History influences health through several mechanisms: colonization, confinement, distribution of rations, and historical trauma. History influences health through several mechanisms: colonization, confinement, distribution of rations, and

historical trauma. This research gives prominence to the premise that for a tribe residing in its ancestral homeland, disruptions and cultural losses do affect health.



**Tennille L. Marley, PhD, MPH**, a citizen of the Dził Ligai Sian N'dee (White Mountain Apache), grew up on the White Mountain Apache Indian Reservation, located in eastern Arizona. Dr. Marley is an assistant professor of American Indian Studies and a faculty research affiliate with the Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center at Arizona State University. She is also a member of the Washington University Center for Diabetes Translation Research (WU-CDTR) and a faculty affiliate with the National Council of American Indians (NCAI) Policy Research Center (PRC). In addition, Dr. Marley is an investigator with the Native Investigator Development Program at the Native Elder Research Center, a National Institute on Aging-funded Resource Center for Minority Aging Research, within the Centers for American Indian and Alaska Native Health in the School of Public Health at University of Colorado Denver.

Dr. Marley earned her BA and MPH from the University of Arizona and PhD from the University of New Mexico. She has extensive experience in community health and in conducting research with American Indians; she served as the program coordinator of a family education program of the Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health and is a former fellow of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy at the University of New Mexico.

Dr. Marley's prior research examined the relationship among indigenous knowledge, land, history and diabetes on an American Indian reservation. In the past three years, she has been working towards establishing a research agenda, based on her prior work, investigating the social determinants of American Indian (AI) health, specifically the association of health with structural risk factors, especially place and housing, using qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods. She recently completed a study examining the association between homeownership and health in AI populations and she is currently embarking on an exploratory study of reservation housing and health.

Dr. Marley teaches graduate and undergraduate classes including Introduction to American Indian Studies, American Indian Sovereignty and the Courts, Federal Indian Policy, Social Change in American Indian Communities, and Historical Trauma, Healing, and Decolonization.

2:20 pm – 3:00 pm

### Soiled Soils: Exploring the Spatial Distribution of Certain Chronic Diseases Among Communities in Close Proximity to Urban Brownfields Inside the Perimeter of Atlanta, GA

The city of Atlanta is a large urban city in the State of Georgia in the Southeastern United States. The relics of the Reconstruction Era are still pervasive throughout the central City's landscape and have left an undeniable footprint in the form of brownfields within its perimeter. While brownfields are not as toxic as Superfund sites, the contaminants left behind in these spaces still pose considerable health risks to residents. Many toxins found on brownfield sites persist in the environment and are known to be toxic in humans; therefore, the potential development of chronic diseases can arise in communities with prolonged exposure to chemicals left in the soil of these desolate commercial and industrial sites. Despite brownfields in urban areas being a toxic legacy of industrialization, research focused on the health outcomes associated with those living fence line or near these properties is very limited.



**Demetrice "Dee" Jordan** is a University Enrichment Fellow and 3rd year dual doctoral student in the Department of Geography Environment and Spatial Science and Environmental Science and Policy at Michigan State University. Dee's concentration is Spatial Epidemiology and Health Geography with an Environmental Health and Policy focus. Dee has been actively involved in student government at Michigan State, serving two terms on the Council of Graduate Students from 2015-2017, becoming the first

African American woman elected to the Executive Board and the first African American to serve as President. Dee has also served on the Board of Trustees for the Society of Public Health Education as the Student Trustee for two consecutive terms. She has held research fellowships at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health's National Cancer Institute, Emory University's Urban Health Initiative, and the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in the Center for Research on Minority Health. She is a member of the NSF funded Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate and was selected as Michigan State University's Graduate Student Leader of the Year for 2016. Dee holds a Masters in Health and Medical Geography from Georgia State University, and a certificate in Geographic Information Systems. She is from Atlanta, Georgia

3:05 pm – 3:10 pm 10 Minute Stretch Break

3:15 pm – 3:55 pm **Environmental Health Hazards and Community Capacity in Houston's Environmental Justice Communities**

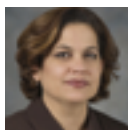
Environmental health hazards continue to plague low-wealth, people of color communities. This presentation will highlight impacted communities and discuss their capacity to address environmental concerns.



**Denae King, PhD** is 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 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. While 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.

4:00 pm – 4:40 pm **Equity in Palliative Cancer Care: Challenges Faced by Ethnic Minority Communities**

Dr. Torres' presentation will address the significance of palliative care research and identify barriers to quality palliative care services experienced by ethnic minorities. Relevant research studies will be highlighted to illustrate the importance of evidence based palliative care research in ethnic minority populations.



**Isabel Torres-Vigil, DrPH**, is an Associate Professor at the University of Houston, Graduate College of Social Work and a Visiting Associate Professor in the Department of Palliative, Rehabilitation, and Integrative Medicine at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. Her current area of research addresses ethnic health disparities in palliative cancer care with an emphasis on factors that influence the quality of advanced cancer care among underserved or vulnerable populations. She recently completed a National Cancer Institute funded research R01 supplement titled "Caregiver Assessments of the Quality of Home Hospice Care: A Comparison Across 3 Ethnic Groups" and a 5-year NCI-funded Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01), titled "End-of-Life Treatment Preferences of Latino Medicare Beneficiaries

with Cancer". She has expanded this line of inquiry through a R21 award funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research titled, "Disclosure Preferences of Older Latinos with Advanced Cancer and their Caregivers." Dr. Torres has extensive expertise in conducting cross-national surveys that include the successful completion of three landmark cross-national surveys of Latin American physicians assessing the quality of advanced cancer care, parenteral hydration prescribing patterns and attitudes and beliefs regarding communication with advanced cancer patients. Her research training and experience spans cross-cultural health, health services organization, survey and intervention design and analysis, and qualitative research methods. Her research interests include cancer health disparities, community-based participatory research, palliative and geriatric care, international health, medical mistrust/racism and informed decision making. The recipient of numerous academic, research and community awards, Dr. Torres recently collaborated on the Lancet Oncology Commission: Planning Future Affordable Cancer Control in Latin America and the Caribbean, published in spring of 2013.

4:45 pm -5:25 pm **American Indian (Dis)Engagement in Genetics Research**

American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) indigenous people consistently suffer worse health outcomes of any minority group in part because they are severely underrepresented in research and, consequently, may be omitted from developments in new genetic technologies and clinical advancements. This disengagement in research participation, a result of past unethical practices by researchers and from sustained concern for respect towards cultural differences, can only serve to exacerbate the health disparities gap as healthcare moves towards precision medicine. Community-based participatory research and an introduction towards Tribally-driven research are discussed as a potential platform for more equitable, culturally-appropriate genetics research that can benefit Tribal members.



**Krystal Tsosie, MPH, MA**, (Navajo/Diné) is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at Vanderbilt University in genomics and health disparities. Her work focuses on understanding historical and recent genetic admixture of Tribes in the Southeastern portion of the U.S. 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 in cancer biology research, her newest endeavor is to ameliorate the health disparities gap in genetics through community-based participatory research and through non-profit work. American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) indigenous people consistently suffer worse health outcomes of any minority group in part because they are severely underrepresented in research and, consequently, may be omitted from developments in new genetic technologies and clinical advancements. This disengagement in research participation, a result of past unethical practices by researchers and from sustained concern for respect towards cultural differences, can only serve to exacerbate the health disparities gap as healthcare moves towards precision medicine. Community-based participatory research and an introduction towards Tribally-driven research are discussed as a potential platform for more equitable, culturally-appropriate genetics research that can benefit Tribal members.

5:25 pm – 5:45 pm **Question & Answers**

5:45 pm – 6:00 pm **Evaluation & Prize Drawings**

6:00 pm **Adjourn**

## Tobacco-Use: Creating & Resolving the Problems of Disparities

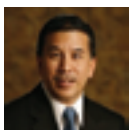
7:15 am – 1:00 pm **Registration** – Shell Auditorium, McNair Hall

7:15 am – 7:50 am **Breakfast** – Anderson Family Commons, McNair Hall

8:00 am – 8:05 am **Welcome & Introductions by Co-Moderators Delmonte Jefferson & Rod Lew, MPH**



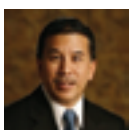
**Delmonte Jefferson** is the Executive Director of National African American Tobacco Prevention Network, Inc. He is a Public Health Program Administrator with years of experience advancing health equity. He has a passion for empowering and mentoring youth and young adults to achieve their maximum potential.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



**Rod Lew, MPH**, Founder and Executive Director of APPEAL. See full biography below.

8:10 am - 8:55 am **Health Equity: What's Tobacco Got to Do With It**

In addressing health equity and health disparities, tobacco control must be a critical part of the discussion as tobacco still remains the single most preventable cause of death. In addition, the tobacco control movement must incorporate a health equity approach to eliminating tobacco use. But, no significant changes in health status can take place without addressing social determinants of health including elimination of racism and discrimination.



**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.



9:00 am – 9:45 am **How to Market the Most Dangerous Consumer Product in the World to Minorities and Everyone Else**

This lecture will discuss a brief history of tobacco regulation and the lack thereof. I will give an overview of the toll of tobacco in the US and the world. The risk of tobacco will be compared to other lesser causes of morbidity and mortality. Then the risk of tobacco usage in various socioeconomic and racial groups will be compared. Multiple examples of marketing tobacco to multiple groups in various media will be shown. I will discuss how various minority media owners contribute to the tobacco problems of their own groups.



**Joel Dunnington, MD, FACP**, 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.

9:50 am – 10:05 am Fifteen Minute Stretch Break

10:05 am – 10:55 am **Big Killers: Tobacco and More**

Why do 40 million Americans still smoke? And where literally is public health going? Reflections and opinions from a non-healthcare person.



**Michael D. Terry, Corporate CEO & son of former U.S. Surgeon General, Luther Terry, MD.** Michael Terry is a graduate of Wesleyan University (B.A. Far Eastern Studies) and the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton Graduate School of Business. Terry's career was in investment banking and structured finance before he moved to the Mid-South to turn around a 1,000 employee failing manufacturing company. He is the author of four books including a Washington D.C. murder mystery and a volume of poetry. Terry is the son of legendary Surgeon General Dr. Luther L. Terry whose 1964 Report on Smoking and Health set the stage for monumental changes, domestically and internationally, in the anti-smoking and tobacco control movements. Michael's interest in medicine, particularly public health, was fueled not only by his father's career, but also by his personal cancer journey. Health care is a family matter. His mother was a hospital dietician and nutritionist and his daughter, an expert in population health, holds an MPH from Harvard University; his son-in-law also works in population health. A cousin is a Johns Hopkins Medical School grad and another cousin is a radiation oncologist at Harvard / Dana Farber. Terry is a two-time survivor of throat cancer and he writes a blog on his cancer experience. He continues to suffer debilitating voice and swallowing problems. He was treated at MD Anderson and regards Houston as his second home!

10:55 am – 11:20 am **Questions & Answers**

11:20 am – 11:35 am **Break** and Change of Venue for Lunch and Presentation

11:35 am – 12:00 pm **Lunch** – Anderson Commons, McNair Hall

The afternoon presentations begins during lunch. Please get your food, be seated and relax while the presentation is given. See below for details.

## Equity and Climate Issues for LGBT Patients and Employees

12:00 pm – 12:45 pm **Fostering Inclusion of LGBT Patients and Employees**

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) patients face many challenges in accessing knowledgeable, unbiased and welcoming healthcare in all practice settings. The potential and/or fear of receiving derogatory remarks, unequitable care, or being turned away from treatment often deters some of the LGBT community and their families from seeking healthcare services. Healthcare equality for all people is a guiding principle of the healthcare management profession. However, discrimination towards the LGBT community continues in the healthcare environment today. This topic will focus on the need to strengthen the pursuance of equity



**Carl E. Josehart, SVP**, is CEO of Post-Acute Care Services, Memorial Hermann Health Care System, Houston, Texas. Mr. Josehart is from Chicago, Illinois and is a graduate of Washington University where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's degree from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. He is an experienced healthcare executive who began his career as a clinician in social work and then moved into leadership positions in acute care hospitals, rehabilitation and ambulatory care. Mr. Josehart's prior work history includes practice as a psychiatric social worker in a variety of community and hospital based settings, senior consultant in the healthcare consulting practice of Ernst & Young, LLP, and Sr. Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital, part of the Sinai Health System.

Carl Josehart joined TIRR Memorial Hermann as chief executive officer in 2006. Since his arrival, he and his leadership team have advanced the hospital's U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals ranking from number 5 in the nation to number 2. Today, TIRR Memorial Hermann is a national leader in medical rehabilitation and research, and a model for interdisciplinary rehabilitation services, patient care, education and research.

As the system executive for post acute services for the Memorial Hermann Health System, he has a lead role in reducing hospital re-admissions, making healthcare delivery cost-effective and efficient while increasing quality of care. Mr. Josehart is an associate of the American College of Health Care Executives and has served on the American Hospital Association Governing Council. He is an invited speaker around the country and has published articles.

12:45 pm – 1:00 pm **Break and Finish Lunch**

Please return to Shell Auditorium, McNair Hall for the remainder of the program

1:05 pm – 1:10 pm **Introductions – Heather H, Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd**

### **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.

1:15 pm – 2:00 pm **Health Inequities at the Intersection of Race, Place, and LGBT identity**

In 2011, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) published its groundbreaking report on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) health, adding to a growing body of evidence that improving the health of LGBT populations was a major priority for both researchers and policymakers alike (IOM, 2011; USDHHS, 2011). One of their key findings was that health disparities experienced by LGBT individuals might partially be due to the deleterious effects of personal and structural stigma. The goal of this session is to discuss key issues in the LGBT community from an intersectional perspective, exploring the complex role of sexual and gender identity, race/ethnicity, and region on the persistence of health inequities.



**Mindi Spencer, PhD**, is an Associate Professor in the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina (USC), with a joint appointment in the Institute for Southern Studies. She is also the Associate Director for Research at the USC Office for the Study of Aging. Dr. Spencer has conducted extensive work on the regional context of health in the LGBT community, specifically how the sociocultural environment of the American South impacts LGBT-related stigma (i.e., how the region's conservative values, higher poverty rates, and discriminatory policies combine to create a "perfect storm" of stress for this population). She is the Principal Investigator of the Youth Empowered Against HIV (YEAH!) program and has worked in collaboration with the Harriet Hancock LGBT Center in Columbia, SC to conduct a statewide LGBT Needs Assessment. She is also a partner on "Equalize Health," a training program designed to improve the cultural competence of health care providers and public health professionals so that they can more effectively care for their LGBT patients.



**Stacy W. Smallwood, MD, MPH** is an Assistant Professor in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health at Georgia Southern University. He earned his MPH and PhD from the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina and completed a postdoctoral research fellowship in the I. DeQuincey Newman Institute for Peace and Social Justice in the College of Social Work. 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.

2:05 pm - 2:50 pm **Unique challenges LGBT elders face, especially at end of life:  
Examination of the Challenges and Suggested Solutions**

This presentation focuses on (a) The unique challenges faced by LGBT elders, over and above challenges that heterosexual elders face; (b) Programmatic, research and policy recommendations.



**Ronit Elk, PhD** is a Research Associate Professor at the University of South Carolina in the College of Nursing. Dr. Elk returned to academia at the University of South Carolina, to pursue her passion in health disparities and palliative care. Her current studies focus on developing culturally tailored Palliative Care programs for underrepresented elders in rural South Carolina, using a community based participatory research. The program will be one of the first in rural USA to use telemedicine to provide palliative care to elders at end of life, using a program that is being developed by the community for the community. Prior to this position, Dr. Elk served as Director of the Extramural Cancer Control and Prevention Research Program at the American Cancer Society for 10 years, where she developed and directed: (a) Priority Program Focusing on Poor and Medically Underserved Population: During her tenure over 100 studies (\$100 million) were funded, there was an increase in studies focusing on solutions to health disparities, as well as a significant increase in funding of minorities underrepresented in science. (b) A Palliative Care Research Initiative

developed in partnership with the National Palliative Care Research Center (NPCRC), the first research-focused program for funding in palliative care research in the US.

Dr. Elk has written and edited several books. She is the author (with Dr. Monica Morrow) of "Breast Cancer for Dummies®." She co-edited (with Dr. Hope Landrine) "Cancer Disparities: Causes and Evidence-Based Solutions, the first book on evidence-based solutions to cancer health care disparities. She is currently co-editing (with Dr. UliBoehmer) "Cancer in the LGBT Community: From Prevention to Survivorship," the first book to focus on cancer in this underserved population.

Dr. Elk was born in Israel but grew up "in many countries." As the daughter of the Israeli Ambassador to Turkey, India, Uganda, Kenya, South Africa and others, she moved with her family every few years. As a child she attended 12 schools, often with a different language, culture and philosophy, until graduating from high school in South Africa. She received her Bachelors, Honors, Masters and PhD from the University of Cape Town in South Africa. Dr. Elk has lived "joyously" in the United States for twenty-seven years. This presentation focuses on (a) The unique challenges faced by LGBT elders, over and above challenges that heterosexual elders face; (b) Programmatic, research and policy recommendations.

2:55 pm - 3:05 pm 10 Minute Stretch Break

3:10 pm - 3:55 pm **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Behavioral Health Disparities: Identifying and Intervening on Risk Factors**

This presentation will present a brief overview of LGBTQ health disparities, followed by a review of recent research focusing on three areas of health disparities: tobacco use in LGBTQ adults; HIV/AIDS in gay, bisexual, and queer men; and suicidality among trans adults. The presenter will highlight his own published and emerging results in these areas in addition to drawing from the broader literature.



**Nathan Grant Smith, PhD**, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychological, Health, and Learning Sciences in the College of Education at the University of Houston. His main area of research focuses on stress and coping, with emphases on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans persons and persons living with or affected by HIV. Specific areas of interest include discrimination and resilience, lesbian/gay/bisexual identity, and primary and secondary prevention of HIV. Currently, his research focuses on the intersection of minority stress and health behaviors among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans persons. He is currently conducting studies to examine and intervene on HIV risk behaviors among gay and bisexual men, using a syndemic lens to understand the continued high incidence of HIV among this population, as well as studies on tobacco use among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans individuals. Dr. Smith's secondary lines of research focus on bereavement, gender issues, and professional and training issues in counseling psychology.

Dr. Smith's research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. He is currently PI on a NIDA-funded project to test the efficacy of a primary HIV prevention intervention for young gay and bisexual men that targets minority stress and its mental, behavioral, and physiological outcomes. Dr. Smith is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association (APA) and of APA's Division 17 (Society of Counseling Psychology) and Division 44 (Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues), and is a recipient of the APA Division 17 Section for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues Award for Significant Contribution to Social Justice and Advocacy.

- 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm Questions and Answers
- 4:35 pm - 5:00 pm Evaluation & Prize Drawings
- 5:00 pm Adjourn

## Saturday June 24, 2017 – Morning

### Genetics, Genomics and Health Disparities

- 7:30 am - 1:00 pm Registration – Shell Auditorium, McNair Hall
- 7:30 am - 7:50 am Breakfast – Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center
- 8:00 am - 8:05 am Introductions & Overview by Lovell A. Jones, PhD, FHDR
- 8:05 am - 8:50 am Genes, Ethnicity and Autoimmunity: A Historical Perspective

In this presentation, we will review 200,000 of human history, tracing migration patterns out of Africa and later throughout history, in order to describe the generation of genetic diversity. In particular we will show how environmental influences have shaped human genetics, and how population growth eventually established the dominance of certain groups and the decline of others.



**John D. Reveille, MD**, is Professor & Director of the Division of Rheumatology & 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.

- 8:55 am - 9:35 am Population Substructure & Health Disparities: Insights from Biological Anthropology
- Substructure due to familial-associated divisions exists in all large populations. Geographical heterogeneity in US ethnic minorities is a function of historical, social, political, and economic factors overlaying regional geographical biodiversity. Using geospatial, historical, demographic, genetic, and epidemiological databases, we identify 40 US microethnic isolates across the US, the “minorities within ethnic minorities” and locate their geospatial distributions within the US. Key components of the environment relevant to health disparities are identified and elaborated in terms of their impact on genomics. US ethnic minority microethnic isolates often have distinct genetic and social histories from the US ethnic majority that put these isolates at a disadvantage in the quest for access to relevant, precision medicine because



of the magnitude of imbedded (North Atlantic Euro-American) bias in the existing databases. However, these microethnic isolates are also at a disadvantage when simply aggregated with their nearest ethnic minority macroethnic group (e.g., generic African American). The use of geospatial and ethnographic analyses has the potential to accelerate the accurate identification of heretofore disadvantaged subgroups of ethnic minority groups, bringing them into the mainstream of genomic diversity studies and healthcare access.



**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 bio-history 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.

9:35 am – 9:45 am 10 Minute Stretch Break

9:50 am – 10:30 am **The Biology of Health Disparities: A Story of Immunity and Geography**

The speaker will present a hypothesis that genomic adaptations to pathogens indigenous to specific geographical locations lead to unique innate immune genetic signatures; these differences in genetic patterned immunity contribute to complex disease disparities. He will also review examples of genetic variants, some unique to his laboratory, that not only confer resistance to infectious agents but also underlie alternative pathologies that contribute to complex diseases in the categories of cancer and cardiovascular disease.



**Sean Kimbro, PhD**, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biological & Biomedical Sciences at North Carolina Central University. Dr. Kimbro previously served as director of the Julius L. Chambers Biomedical/Biotechnology Research Institute (BBRI) at North Carolina Central University. The Institute, established in 1998, engages in research focused on health issues that disproportionately affect African-Americans and other minority groups and trains NCCU students for careers in the biomedical sciences. Prior to joining the faculty at NCCU, Dr. Kimbro was at the Winship Cancer Institute at the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta. There, he served as program director of the Georgia Center for Health Equality. The Center is based on the collaboration of Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse School of Medicine, Grady Health Systems and Winship Cancer Institute, providing infrastructure for the study of various health disparities in the metro Atlanta area, with an emphasis on cancer disparities.

A native of Dayton, Ohio, Dr. Kimbro earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology in 1987 from Washington University in St. Louis and a PhD in molecular and microbiology from Indiana University in 1993. Before his tenure at Emory, he performed research at Harvard University Medical School and at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in Research Triangle Park. His first faculty position was in the Biology Department at Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta.



Dr. Kimbro's research interests include the molecular characterization of hormone-related cancers, such as breast and prostate cancer. His current research addresses the biological function of innate immunity in African-Americans as it relates to prostate and breast cancer risk and outcomes. He has been influential in the continued efforts to increase the number of African-American and Hispanic-American cancer researchers and is the recipient of numerous awards from the American Association for Cancer Research and NIH-NIEHS.

10:35 am – 11:15 am **Ancestry, Health and Disease: Placing Genetic Susceptibility into Context**

This presentation will discuss the biological ambiguity of socially classified race using U.S. data. We also explore genetic ancestry in the Americas and discuss how skin color has racial meaning and how skin color and genetic ancestry can be used to understand health disparities.



**Rick Kittles, PhD**, is Professor and founding director of the Division of Health Equities within the Department of Population Sciences at the City of Hope (COH). He is also Associate Director of Health Equities of COH Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Kittles is well known for his research of prostate cancer and health disparities among African Americans. Dr. Kittles' research has focused on understanding the complex issues surrounding race, genetic ancestry, and health disparities. Dr. Kittles 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.

Over the last twenty years he has been at the forefront of the development of ancestry-informative genetic markers, and how genetic ancestry can be quantified and utilized in genomic studies on disease risk and outcomes. His work has shown the impact of genetic variation across populations in pharmacogenomics, biomarker discovery, and disease gene mapping. Although a major focus of Dr. Kittles' work over the past years has been on measuring and utilizing West African admixture in studies of genetic disease among African Americans, presently he is expanding his research focus to further include Latino and Native American populations to further enhance the robustness of the experimental design of his research studies. Dr. Kittles has NIH-funded projects to study genetic and environmental modifiers of serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels in order to improve our understanding of the role serum Vitamin D plays in health disparities. He is leading a multi-site collaboration studying modifiers of serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D [25(OH)D] levels and their role on prostate cancer susceptibility.

In 2010 Dr. Kittles was named in Ebony magazine's "The Ebony Power 100." Ebony selected the nation's top 100 African-American "power players" in sports, academia, religion, business, environment, science & tech, entertainment, arts and letters, fashion, politics, media, activism and health. In March of 2012 Dr. Kittles presented the Keynote Address to the United Nations General Assembly, "International Day of Remembrance of Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade." Recently Dr. Kittles was named by The Huffington Post as one of "50 Iconic Black Trailblazers Who Represent Every State In America."

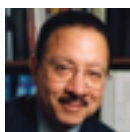
Dr. Kittles has published over 160 research articles on prostate cancer genetics, Race and Genetics, and health disparities.

11:15 am – 11:45 **Questions & Answers**

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm **Lunch** – Grand Hall, Rice Memorial Student Center

## Town Hall Meeting - Where Do We Go From Here - Shell Auditorium

1:30 pm – 1:05 pm Introduction of the Keynote Speaker by George Strait



**George Strait**, is the Assistant Commissioner for Public Affairs at the Food and Drug Administration. In this role, he serves as principal deputy for communications to the FDA Commissioner and director of the Press Office. Mr. Strait comes to the FDA with more than three decades of experience in health care, both as a leading journalist and a communication consultant. Just prior to coming to the Agency he was the Director of Communications and Public Liaison for the National Center on Minority health and Health Disparities at the National Institutes of Health. Mr. Strait spent 22 years as a reporter for ABC NEWS, the last 16 years as its chief medical correspondent.

1:05 pm – 1:55 pm Optimal Health: An Unalienable Right?

The audience will be able to list the 7 components of ideal cardiovascular health, discuss, at least, two critical social factors that affect health status, and describe important demographic trends that will affect population health status over the next 3 decades.

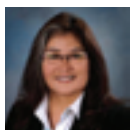


**Eduardo Sanchez, MD, MPH, FAAFP**, serves as chief medical officer (CMO) for Prevention for the American Heart Association (AHA). He brings an interest and experience in prevention and population health to AHA. Prior to joining AHA, he served as Vice President and CMO for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX) where he focused on worker and worksite wellness, clinical prevention, and chronic disease management, particularly diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Eduardo currently serves as Chair of the Partnership for Prevention Board of Directors, the National Commission on Prevention Priorities, and the Texas Public Health Coalition. He also serves on the Institute of Medicine's Roundtable on Obesity Solutions and on the Board of Directors of Trust for America's Health, AcademyHealth, the Public Health Institute, and the CATCH Global Foundation.

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm Panel Discussion - Where Do We Go From Here?

**Moderator: George Strait**

**Closing Panelists** (alphabetical order)



**Gayle Dine Chacon, MD**, received her MD at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine (UNMSOM) in 1993. She was a faculty member at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine from 1996 to 2014 and has worked in rural New Mexico providing health care for the Navajo people of the Checkerboard area in eastern Navajo Nation and for the Pueblo of Sandia. She precepted the Family Medicine residents at the Albuquerque Indian Health Center and served as Medical Director of the Bernalillo County Juvenile Detention Center (BCJDC). She was Principal Investigator for the Native American Research Center for Health (NARCH) Student Development project which brought student pipeline activities to the Navajo communities of Alamo, Ramah, and Tohajilee. Dr. Dine'Chacon was also Principal Investigator for the Indians into Medicine (INMED) program at UNMSOM and continues to be a mentor and role model for Native American health professions students.

Dr. Dine' Chacon is Founder and was Director of the Center for Native American Health (CNAH) at UNM. CNAH was founded in 2001 and is a conduit between the University and NM's 22 tribes and urban communities to meet the health priority needs and

improve the health status of the Native American population. Dr. Dine' Chacon was appointed Surgeon General of the Navajo Nation from 2011 to 2013. Her primary role was to assist in the development and creation of a Navajo Nation Department of Health with public health functions and to provide direction and develop health policy for the Navajo Nation. She advised the Navajo Nation President, Vice President and Tribal Council on health matters pertinent to the Navajo Nation. Dr. Dine' Chacon currently is Medical Director for the Pueblo of Sandia.



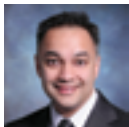
**William (Bill) Jenkins, PhD**, is Professor, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC). Detailed biography provided earlier in the program.



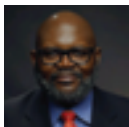
**Guillermo Tortolero -Luna, MD, PhD** is a principal investigator of the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, the Breast Cancer and Cervical Cancer Early Prevention and Detection Program and co-director of the Central Cancer Registry of Puerto Rico.



**Eduardo Sanchez, MD, MPH, FAAFP**, Chief medical officer (CMO) for Prevention for the American Heart Association (AHA). Detailed biography provided earlier in the program.



**Umair A. Shah, MD., MPH** is the Executive Director of the Harris County Public Health (HCPH) and Local Health Authority for Harris County, Texas. Detailed biography provided earlier in the program.



**Stephen L. Williams, MPA**, Director, Houston Health Department. Detailed biography provided earlier in the program.

3:30 pm – 3:45 pm

Closing Comments

**Lovell A. Jones, PhD, FHDR & E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH, FAAHB**

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm

Evaluations & Prize Drawings

4:00 pm

Adjourn

