National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

10th Anniversary Scientific Symposium: Innovations to Promote Health Equity

March 3, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. ET
NIH Main Campus, Natcher (Building 45)
Ruth Kirschstein Auditorium
Bethesda, MD
Welcome to the NIMHD 10th Anniversary Scientific Symposium

On behalf of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) leadership and staff, I welcome you to the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) 10th Anniversary Scientific Symposium: Innovations to Promote Health Equity. Thank you for joining us today to highlight the latest research in minority health and health disparities, and to engage in strategic discussions as we work toward achieving health equity.

NIH’s mission is to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability for everyone, and that means supporting research on minority health and health disparities. NIMHD is an NIH-wide Institute that works with other NIH Institutes and Centers to set the course for minority health and health disparities research. Over the past 30 years, NIMHD and its predecessors—along with our partners and collaborators—have proven that health disparities exist and require multilevel interventions.

Health disparities challenge the American sense of fairness. Everyone deserves an equal opportunity to live a healthy life. Decades of research have shown that people in minority and health disparity groups experience a greater burden of disease—including higher health care costs, higher rates of premature deaths and emergency room visits, decreased productivity, and ultimately, reduced quality of life—compared to the general population.

NIMHD is a crucial part of NIH’s efforts to advance health through genomics research. Advances in genomics are poised to make health care more personalized, with genetic testing and whole-genome sequencing now available. However, for study findings to apply to everyone, all populations must be involved in developing that research. The All of Us Research Program is a historic effort to collect and study data from one million or more people living in the United States. The All of Us Research Program aims to create a diverse cohort of one million people across the United States. NIMHD has helped shape the All of Us Research Program from the very beginning, providing expertise on community engagement and health disparities.

Diversity in the scientific workforce makes science stronger, as each of us brings our own unique perspective to our research. NIMHD seeks to foster this unique perspective. The NIMHD Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) program was created to cultivate the next generation of researchers from underrepresented populations. This is one of many ways that NIH is working to increase the diversity of the biomedical workforce.

Today, we celebrate the science advances that NIMHD has achieved as an Institute dedicated to improving health equity. I am excited to hear about the research being shared today, and I look forward to continuing to work together with all of you to eliminate health disparities.

Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, NIH
Welcome to the NIMHD 10th Anniversary Scientific Symposium

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) welcomes you to the NIMHD 10th Anniversary Scientific Symposium: Innovations to Promote Health Equity. We are proud to present our latest science advances in minority health and health disparities, and look forward to discussing strategies for future directions.

NIMHD is proud to celebrate 10 years as an Institute at the National Institutes of Health, continuing to work towards an America in which all populations will have an equal opportunity to live long, healthy, and productive lives. NIMHD has made great progress over the past 30 years since its inception as the NIH Office of Minority Programs in 1990 and then a legislative elevation to the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities in 2000. Re-designated as an NIH Institute in 2010, and now a leading voice in minority health and health disparities research, NIMHD has since developed a refined research agenda.

NIMHD’s Scientific Advancement Plan is enhancing the fields of minority health and health disparities research. It will ensure that people in minority and health disparity groups both contribute to and benefit from the scientific advances that are improving clinical care and public health. Programs and activities emerging from the plan are strengthening research in causes and interventions, increasing opportunities for investigator-initiated research, supporting the expansion of workforce diversity, and strengthening the evaluation and reporting of minority health and health disparities research. NIMHD is creating a transformative research agenda that will define the minority health and health disparities fields for the next decade.

In alignment with NIMHD’s research interest areas, this symposium features panels on integrative biological and behavioral sciences, community health and population sciences, and clinical and health services research. These research areas focus on influencing the health determinants that contribute to poor health outcomes and to health disparity conditions. We also have a panel on the exciting multidisciplinary intramural research at NIH on minority health and health disparities.

NIMHD is excited to welcome the next generation of collaborators, partners, researchers and scientists, as we continue to innovate and lead the way for improved health equity over the next decade and beyond. Join our discussions onsite and on social media using the hashtag #Innovate4HealthEquity. Let your voices be heard and have a seat at the table to help make health equity a reality for all!

Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D.
Director, NIMHD
### Symposium Agenda

#### Opening Session

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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome Remarks</td>
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<td><strong>Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D.,</strong> National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)</td>
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<td><strong>Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.,</strong> National Institutes of Health (NIH)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Address</td>
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<td><strong>Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D.,</strong> NIMHD</td>
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#### Panel 1: Division of Intramural Research

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<tr>
<td>9:45 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.</td>
<td>Introductions</td>
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<td>Moderator: <strong>Anna María Nápoles, Ph.D., M.P.H.,</strong> NIMHD</td>
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<td>9:50 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Kelvin Choi, Ph.D., M.P.H.,</strong> NIMHD</td>
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<td>Why Are Social determinants Linked to Health Risk Behaviors? Insights From Tobacco Use Epidemiology</td>
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<td>10:10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Michele Evans, M.D.,</strong> National Institute on Aging (NIA)</td>
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<td>The Complex Interplay of Biology and Social Determinates of Health: Stories From the Streets of Baltimore</td>
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<td>10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Sherine El-Toukhy, Ph.D., M.A.,</strong> NIMHD</td>
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<td>Lessons on Leveraging Digital Technologies to Improve Minority Health and Reduce Health Disparities</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:50 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
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#### Panel 2: Community Health and Population Sciences

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<td>11:15 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.</td>
<td>Introductions</td>
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<td>Moderator: <strong>Nathaniel Stinson, Jr., Ph.D., M.D., M.P.H.,</strong> NIMHD</td>
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<td>11:20 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>José A. Bauermeister, Ph.D., M.P.H.,</strong> University of Pennsylvania</td>
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<td>Ending the HIV Epidemic Among Vulnerable Youth: The Potential of Multilevel Interventions</td>
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<td>11:40 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Fang Fang Zhang, Ph.D.,</strong> Tufts University</td>
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<td>Diet-Associated Cancer Burden and Disparities in the United States</td>
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<td>12:00 p.m. – 12:20 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Tiffany Haynes, Ph.D.,</strong> University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences</td>
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<td>Promoting Emotional Wellness in Rural African American Churches: Lessons Learned From REJOICE</td>
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<td>12:20 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A</td>
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### Panel 3: Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences

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<td>1:30 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Introductions</strong></td>
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<td>Moderator:</td>
<td><strong>Michael Sayre, Ph.D., NIMHD</strong></td>
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| 1:35 p.m. – 1:55 p.m. | **Spero Manson, Ph.D.,** University of Colorado Denver’s Anschutz Medical Center  
**Health Disparities, Exemplary Science, and Local Benefit: NIMHD Leads the Way in Indian Country** |
| 1:55 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. | **Colter Mitchell, Ph.D.,** University of Michigan, Ann Arbor    
**Social Epigenetic Approaches to Examining Health Inequalities** |
| 2:15 p.m. – 2:35 p.m. | **Marcella Nuñez-Smith, M.D., M.H.S.,** Yale University 
**The Eastern Caribbean Health Outcomes Research Network (ECHORN): What We Can Learn About Precision Health From Our Island Neighbors** |
| 2:35 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. | **Q & A**                                                               |

### Panel 4: Clinical and Health Services Research

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<td><strong>Introductions</strong></td>
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<td>Moderator:</td>
<td><strong>Rada Dagher, Ph.D., M.P.H., NIMHD</strong></td>
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| 2:50 p.m. – 3:10 p.m. | **Elizabeth A. Howell, M.D., M.P.P.,** Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
**Maternal Healthcare Crisis for Women of Color** |
| 3:10 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | **Thu Nguyen, Sc.D., M.S.P.H.,** University of California, San Francisco 
**Twitter-Derived Measures of Area-Level Racial Bias and Birth Outcomes** |
| 3:30 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. | **Jennifer Cooper, Ph.D., M.S., M.A.,** Ohio State University    
**Impact of the Affordable Care Act Medicaid Expansion on Racial/Ethnic and Socioeconomic Disparities in Trauma Care and Outcomes in Young Adults** |
| 3:50 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | **Q & A**                                                               |

### Closing Session

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| 4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | **Closing Remarks and Future Directions**  
Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D., NIMHD  
Michele Evans, M.D., NIA |

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Join the social media conversation using **#NIMHD2020** and **#Innovate4HealthEquity**
Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
National Institutes of Health

Dr. Francis S. Collins was appointed the 16th director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the Senate. He was sworn in on August 17, 2009. On June 6, 2017, President Donald Trump announced his selection of Dr. Collins to continue to serve as the NIH director. In this role, Dr. Collins oversees the work of the largest supporter of biomedical research in the world, spanning the spectrum from basic to clinical research. Dr. Collins is a physician-geneticist noted for his landmark discoveries of disease genes and his leadership of the international Human Genome Project, which culminated in April 2003 with the completion of a finished sequence of the human DNA instruction book. He served as director of the National Human Genome Research Institute at NIH from 1993-2008. Before coming to NIH, Dr. Collins was a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator at the University of Michigan. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and the National Academy of Sciences, was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in November 2007, and received the National Medal of Science in 2009.

José A. Bauermeister, Ph.D., M.P.H.
University of Pennsylvania

Dr. José A. Bauermeister is a Penn Presidential Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, with appointments at the School of Nursing's Department of Family and Community Health and at the Department of Psychiatry at the Perelman School of Medicine. His career has focused on developing community-engaged health promotion programs for racial/ethnic and sexual and gender minority youth. He has secured an international reputation as a top scholar in HIV/STI prevention and care, as evidenced by over 200 scientific publications and a funding track-record of over $25 million as principal investigator and over $115 million as co-investigator in federally funded research. Dr. Bauermeister holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University of Puerto Rico, and a joint master’s and doctorate in public health from the University of Michigan. Dr. Bauermeister is a Fellow of the Aspen Institute’s 2019 class of Health Innovators Fellows, and member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network.

Kelvin Choi, Ph.D., M.P.H.
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

Dr. Kelvin Choi is an Earl Stadtman Investigator at the Division of Intramural Research, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). Prior to joining NIMHD, he was an assistant professor at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Choi holds a Master of Public Health degree in community health education and doctorate in social and behavioral epidemiology from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Choi’s research focuses on three objectives: (1) examining the interrelationship between social determinants and tobacco use in the U.S.; (2) investigating factors that reduce or worsen tobacco use disparities, e.g., tobacco marketing; and (3) developing, evaluating, and forecasting the impact of tobacco control intervention on tobacco use disparities. His research has been published in over 80 articles in peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Choi currently serves as the co-chair of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Health Disparities Network, and a member of the California Tobacco Control Program Evaluation Task Force. In 2019, Dr. Choi received the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Jarvik-Russell Early Career Award for his extraordinary contributions to the field of nicotine and tobacco research. Additionally, he has been recognized by Tobacco Control and Nicotine & Tobacco Research, the top two journals in the field of tobacco research, as Reviewer of the Year, and currently serves as a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of Tobacco Control.

Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
National Institutes of Health

Dr. Francis S. Collins was appointed the 16th director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the Senate. He was sworn in on August 17, 2009. On June 6, 2017, President Donald Trump announced his selection of Dr. Collins to continue to serve as the NIH director. In this role, Dr. Collins oversees the work of the largest supporter of biomedical research in the world, spanning the spectrum from basic to clinical research. Dr. Collins is a physician-geneticist noted for his landmark discoveries of disease genes and his leadership of the international Human Genome Project, which culminated in April 2003 with the completion of a finished sequence of the human DNA instruction book. He served as director of the National Human Genome Research Institute at NIH from 1993-2008. Before coming to NIH, Dr. Collins was a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator at the University of Michigan. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and the National Academy of Sciences, was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in November 2007, and received the National Medal of Science in 2009.
Jennifer Cooper, Ph.D., M.S., M.A.
Ohio State University

Dr. Jennifer Cooper is an assistant professor of pediatrics and epidemiology at The Ohio State University and a principal investigator in the Center for Innovation in Pediatric Practice and Center for Surgical Outcomes Research at the Abigail Wexner Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital. She received a doctorate in epidemiology and master’s in biostatistics from the Graduate School of Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh in 2012. Since 2012, Dr. Cooper has worked at the Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, initially serving as a senior research scientist before joining the faculty in 2016. Dr. Cooper studies health care access and outcomes in children and young adults with surgical diseases and injuries, and works to design multi-level interventions to reduce racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and geographic disparities in health care access and outcomes in this population. Her work involves the use of large clinical and administrative databases, the design and analysis of clinical trials and observational studies, and the application of novel data science methods. She currently serves as a principal investigator or co-investigator on several National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)-funded projects in these areas.

Rada K. Dagher, Ph.D., M.P.H.
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

Dr. Rada K. Dagher is a scientific program director at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). She manages a diverse portfolio of research, capacity building, and training grants, and is a project scientist on several cooperative agreement awards. Dr. Dagher is the program director for the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Fellowships as well as the Mentored Career Development Awards, and represents NIMHD on multiple National Institutes of Health (NIH)-wide committees, including National Research Mentoring Network/Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity (NRMN/BUILD). Prior to joining NIMHD, Dr. Dagher worked in academia where she conducted research in maternal and child health, mental health, occupational health, and health disparities. Her research focused on the determinants of postpartum depression and the impact of this disorder on health care use. She also studied the impact of employment policies and psychosocial work organization on workers’ mental and physical health, and gender and racial/ethnic disparities in mental health and mental health services. She has amassed numerous publications in prestigious journals.

Dr. Dagher’s education in public health began at the American University of Beirut where she received both her bachelor’s degree and Master of Public Health in environmental health. She then obtained a doctorate in health services research, policy, and administration from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Dagher has earned numerous accolades including being inducted in the Delta Omega Honorary Society of Public Health and being selected for the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science and Technology Policy Fellowship. She also received the American Public Health Association’s Young Professional Award for her contributions and leadership in science, program, and policy relating to the health of women, children, and families.
Michele K. Evans, M.D.
National Institute on Aging

Dr. Michele K. Evans, an internist and medical oncologist, received her undergraduate degree in biology from Barnard College, Columbia University and her medical degree from the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School of the Rutgers University. She received her postgraduate training in internal medicine at Emory University School of Medicine and fellowship training in medical oncology within the Medicine Branch of the Clinical Oncology Program at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Dr. Evans, a tenured senior investigator, also serves as deputy scientific director of the Intramural Research Program (IRP) of the National Institute on Aging (NIA), and is the training director for the NIA IRP. A previous National Health Service Corp Scholarship recipient, Dr. Evans served as a scholar internist in the South Bronx and Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn where she practiced in a storefront and in the basement of a public housing development. She is the recipient of numerous awards, author of over 200 publications, and currently serves on the editorial board of *The New England Journal of Medicine*. Trained as a physician scientist, she conducts epidemiologic clinical research in health disparities and basic bench research on the biology of health disparities.

Sherine El-Toukhy, Ph.D., M.A.
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

Dr. Sherine El-Toukhy is an Earl Stadtman tenure-track investigator and a National Institute of Health (NIH) Distinguished Scholar at the Division of Intramural Research (DIR) of The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). Dr. El-Toukhy's research is aimed at leveraging health information technologies to improve minority health and reduce health disparities. She uses both quantitative and qualitative research methods to advance her research agenda. Examples of her ongoing work include developing a just-in-time adaptive intervention targeting low socioeconomic young adult smokers and examining disparities in access and use of electronic medical records.

Prior to joining NIMHD, she was an Intramural Research Training Award (IRTA) postdoctoral fellow in the Intramural Research Programs of The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and NIMHD. She received her doctorate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in mass communication where she also earned a graduate certificate in interdisciplinary health communication. She holds a master's degree in mass communication and a bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism from Cairo University, Egypt. Dr. El-Toukhy has a decade’s worth of experience in health communication campaigns and interventions funded by national and international organizations. She is a recipient of several research awards including a visiting scholar award from Cairo University, Egypt; a William R. Kenan Jr. fellowship from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and the 2013 Health Dissertation of the Year award from the National Communication Association and the International Communication Association. Her research has been funded by The National Science Foundation and The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.
Tiffany Haynes, Ph.D.
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Dr. Tiffany Haynes is a clinical psychologist with expertise in mental health services research, intervention development, and community-based participatory research (CBPR). Dr. Haynes completed a master’s degree and doctorate in psychology at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She later completed a postdoctoral fellowship in advanced psychology at the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System in Little Rock, Arkansas. Dr. Haynes is currently an assistant professor at the Department of Health Behavior and Health Education at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health. As a faculty member, Dr. Haynes has dedicated her career to improving access to and use of mental health services within underserved communities, with a specific emphasis on building partnerships with faith-based communities. Dr. Haynes received a KL2 Mentored Career Development Award to examine the relationship between religious beliefs and attitudes about mental health service. Findings from that study were used to develop a faith-based mental health intervention that is currently being tested through a National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) funded U01. Additionally, Dr. Haynes is the co-founder of the Arkansas Faith-Academic Initiatives for Transforming Health (FAITH) Network, a coalition of places of worship, health care organizations, and health researchers, that partner together to reduce health disparities.

Elizabeth A. Howell, M.D., M.P.P.
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Dr. Elizabeth A. Howell is a professor at the Departments of Population Health Science and Policy, Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Science, and Psychiatry; system vice chair for research at the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Science; and director of the Blavatnik Family Women’s Health Research Institute at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She is a National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded OB/GYN health services researcher and her major research interests are the intersection between quality of care and disparities in maternal and infant mortality and morbidity, and postpartum depression and its impact on underserved communities. She has served on several expert committees, including the Institute of Medicine, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Joint Commission, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), and international external scientific advisory boards. She co-chaired the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health Working Group on Reduction of Peripartum Racial Disparities, served on the Governor’s Taskforce on Maternal Mortality and Disparate Racial Outcomes for New York state, and served on the New York City Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Steering Committee for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Her research has impacted national policy and helped to foster a national conversation on maternal mortality through interviews with major media sources (e.g., NPR, ProPublica, NBC Nightly News, The Today Show, and New York Times), Congressional testimony on maternal health care legislation, a roundtable discussion with the secretary of Health and Human Services, and being featured in a TEDMED talk that has garnered over 1.5 million views. Dr. Howell received her undergraduate degree from Stanford University and received her medical and public policy degrees at Harvard Medical School and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. She received her residency training at Cornell/New York Hospital and is a board-certified obstetrician gynecologist. Dr. Howell received her post-doctoral training in clinical epidemiology as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at Yale Medical School.
Spero Manson, Ph.D. (Pembina Chippewa)

University of Colorado Denver’s Anschutz Medical Center

Dr. Spero Manson (Pembina Chippewa) is distinguished professor of Public Health and Psychiatry, occupies the Colorado Trust Chair in American Indian Health, and directs the Centers for American Indian and Alaska Native Health in the Colorado School of Public Health at the University of Colorado Denver’s Anschutz Medical Center. His programs include 10 national centers which pursue research, program development, training, and collaboration with 250 native communities, spanning rural, reservation, urban, and village settings across the country. Dr. Manson has acquired $250 million in sponsored research to support this work, and published 250 articles on the assessment, epidemiology, treatment, and prevention of physical, alcohol, drug, as well as mental health problems over the developmental life span of native people. His numerous awards include the American Public Health Association’s prestigious Rema Lapouse Mental Health Epidemiology Award (1998); 3 special recognition awards from the Indian Health Service (1996, 2004, 2011); election to the National Academy of Medicine (2002); 2 Distinguished Mentor Awards from the Gerontological Society of America (2006; 2007); the Association of American Medical Colleges’ Nickens Award (2006); the George Foster Award for Excellence from the Society for Medical Anthropology (2006); the National Institutes of Health, Health Disparities Award for Excellence (2008); the Bronislaw Malinowski Award from the Society for Applied Anthropology (2019), and the Carl Taube Lifetime Award for Lifetime Contribution to Mental Health from the American Public Health Association (2019). Dr. Manson received his bachelor’s degree in anthropology from the University of Washington (1972), as well as master’s (1975) and doctorate degree (1980) in anthropology from the University of Minnesota. He is widely acknowledged as one of the nation’s leading authorities regarding American Indian and Alaska Native health.

Colter Mitchell, Ph.D.

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Dr. Colter Mitchell is a research assistant professor at the Institute for Social Research (ISR) at the University of Michigan (UM), and is the director of the ISR Biospecimen Lab, the associate director of the Biosocial Methods Collaborative, and co-directs National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded courses on Genomics for Social Scientists. He received a doctorate in sociology and master’s degree in statistics from the University of Michigan. Prior to joining UM as faculty, Dr. Mitchell was a postdoctoral fellow in biodemography at the Center for Research on Child Wellbeing at the Princeton University. Dr. Mitchell has a broad background in sociology, demography, statistics, and molecular biology. His research utilizes population-based studies to examine the influences of demographic, individual, family, and social environmental influences on health and behavior—especially focusing on development over the life course. He examines how social contextual factors such as family instability, poverty, incarceration, childhood trauma, neighborhood characteristics, parenting, and toxicants interact with and influence genetic, epigenetic, and neurodevelopment data, and how those, in turn, predict later life health. He was awarded a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers for work funded by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). He leads the collection and analysis of the biological data for the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing project.
Dr. Anna María Nápoles assumed the position of scientific director of the Division of Intramural Research at NIMHD in November 2017. Prior to that, she was a professor and behavioral epidemiologist at the Department of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) for 27 years, where she served as the director of the UCSF Center for Aging in Diverse Communities (CADC). Her research focuses on cancer health disparities, psycho-oncology, patient-clinician communication, quality of life of family caregivers, and community-based models of research in ethnically and socioeconomically diverse groups. She has built community-academic research partnerships to develop and test evidence-based behavioral interventions for ethnically diverse adults in community-based settings. This work has included community-based randomized controlled trials (RCTs) of peer-delivered cognitive-behavioral stress management interventions for urban and rural Latinas with breast cancer called, Nuevo Amanecer, that improved quality of life and reduced depressive and somatic symptoms. She is also developing and testing mHealth interventions to improve symptom management among ethnically diverse, low-income cancer survivors through cognitive-behavioral stress management and/or walking. She has a particular interest in development of scientifically sound research methods for conducting health disparities research, i.e., recruitment and retention, health measurement, and translation methods that are appropriate for diverse populations.

Dr. Thu Nguyen is an assistant professor at the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Nguyen received her bachelor's degree in human biology from the Stanford University, her Master of Science in Public Health degree in epidemiology from the University of North Carolina (UNC) Gillings School of Global Public Health, and her Doctor of Science degree in social epidemiology from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. As a social epidemiologist, she investigates the impact of discrimination, race and ethnicity, and socioeconomic factors on health and development. Dr. Nguyen has a strong background in epidemiologic methods and health disparities. She completed the American Heart Association postdoctoral fellowship using 2008-2014 data from the Health and Retirement Study, a national longitudinal study of older adults, to prospectively examine the influence of discrimination in the health care setting on biomarkers of cardiometabolic risk--HbA1c, cholesterol, blood pressure, and C-reactive protein (CRP). She is the principal investigator of a Pathway to Independence Award (NIH K99/R00) from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), working to create a novel state and county-level indicator of racial attitudes and bias using Twitter data, and to examine its associations with birth outcomes and racial/ethnic disparities in birth outcomes.
Dr. Marcella Nuñez-Smith is an associate professor of medicine, public health, and management and founding director of the Equity Research and Innovation Center (ERIC) at Yale University. ERIC’s research focuses on promoting health and health care equity for structurally marginalized populations with an emphasis on supporting health care workforce diversity and development, developing patient reported measurements of health care quality, and identifying regional strategies to reduce the global burden of non-communicable diseases. She is the principal investigator on several National Institutes of Health (NIH) and foundation-funded grants. Dr. Nuñez-Smith is also deputy director of the Yale Center for Clinical Investigation, core faculty in the National Clinician Scholars Program, director of the Pozen-Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Leadership, co-director of the Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship, and director of the Center for Research Engagement (CRE) at Yale University. Dr. Nuñez-Smith is board certified in internal medicine, having completed residency training at Harvard University’s Brigham and Women’s Hospital and fellowship at the Yale Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars program (RWJF CSP), where she also received a master’s in health sciences. Originally from the U.S. Virgin Islands, she attended Jefferson Medical College, where she was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society; she earned a bachelor’s degree in biological anthropology and psychology at Swarthmore College.

Dr. Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable is director of the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), which seeks to advance the science of minority health and health disparities research through research, training, research capacity development, public education, and information dissemination. Dr. Pérez-Stable practiced general internal medicine for 37 years at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) before moving to NIH in September 2015. He was professor of medicine at UCSF and chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine for 17 years. His research interests include improving the health of racial and ethnic minorities and underserved populations, advancing patient-centered care, improving cross-cultural communication skills among clinicians, and promoting diversity in the biomedical research workforce. For more than 30 years, Dr. Pérez-Stable has led research on Latino smoking cessation and tobacco control policy in the United States and Latin America, addressing clinical and prevention issues in cancer screening, and mentoring over 70 minority investigators. He has published over 300 peer-reviewed articles and was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2001.
Michael Sayre, Ph.D.
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

Dr. Michael Sayre is the director of Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). Dr. Sayre oversees a broad research portfolio focused on minority health and health disparities, including research on the potential of precision medicine to address care gaps for underserved populations. He also serves on advisory and leadership committees in partnership with the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Prior to joining NIMHD, Dr. Sayre was the deputy director of the Division of Research Infrastructure in NIH’s National Center for Research Resources, which later became the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS). Earlier in his career, he conducted independent research on fundamental mechanisms of gene regulation as a faculty member at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Sayre earned his bachelor’s degree in botany and plant pathology from Oregon State University in 1983 and a doctorate in molecular genetics from the University of California, San Diego, in 1989. He completed postdoctoral training at Stanford University School of Medicine, studying molecular mechanisms of gene regulation in the yeast Saccharomyces cerevisiae. Dr. Sayre has published 30 peer-reviewed journal articles.

Nathaniel Stinson, Jr., Ph.D., M.D., M.P.H.
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

Dr. Nathaniel Stinson Jr. serves as director of the Division of Scientific Programs (DSP) at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), where he oversees the extramural scientific programs on minority health and health disparities. He began his federal career in Arizona as a medical officer with the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps, where he practiced family medicine at the Indian Health Service’s Chinle Comprehensive Health Care Facility on the Navajo reservation. Dr. Stinson later served as deputy director of the Division of Community and Migrant Health and as director of the Division of Programs for Special Populations in the Bureau of Primary Health Care, Health Resources, and Services Administration within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). In 1999, he was appointed deputy assistant secretary for Minority Health and director of the Office of Minority Health at HHS. During that tenure, he served as a senior advisor to the assistant secretary for Health and the secretary of HHS. Dr. Stinson also served as the president of the Health Literacy Foundation in Munster, Indiana, and the director of the Center for Optimal Health and a professor of family and community medicine at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee.

Dr. Stinson has a doctorate in environmental biology from the University of Colorado, a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, and a Master of Public Health degree in health care administration from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Dr. Stinson has received numerous honors including the Louis B. Stokes Leadership Award – National Medical Association, Silver and Gold Award for Excellence in Humanitarianism, Citizenship, and Professionalism – University of Colorado, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director’s Awards, U.S. Surgeon General’s Exemplary Service Medal, Outstanding Service Medal, Commendation Medal, Achievement Medal, and Crises Response Service Award – USPHS.
Dr. Fang Fang Zhang is an associate professor of Epidemiology at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University. She received her doctorate in epidemiology with distinction, from Columbia University and Doctor of Medicine degree from Fudan University Shanghai Medical School. Dr. Zhang is a nutrition and cancer epidemiologist conducting population-based studies to investigate the role of nutrition in cancer prevention and control. Her research focuses on identifying dietary intake patterns in association with survival and health in children and adults diagnosed with cancer and conducting and evaluating nutrition intervention programs to improve the health outcomes of cancer survivors. Dr. Zhang’s research interests also include quantifying preventable cancer burden associated with suboptimal diet and assessing the cost-effectiveness of population strategies to improve diet and reduce cancer burden and disparities in the U.S. Findings from Dr. Zhang’s work have revealed persisted and worsened disparities in Americans’ diet and suggest that national policies to improve diet could be cost-effective strategies for primary cancer prevention. Dr. Zhang is a recipient of the Eileen O’Neil Citation for Excellence in Teaching and an inaugural recipient of the Miriam E. Nelson Tisch Faculty Fellow from Tufts University.
The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) envisions an America in which all populations will have an equal opportunity to live long, healthy, and productive lives. Since the Heckler Report was published 35 years ago, NIMHD and its predecessors have been establishing a minority health and health disparities research agenda, building the capacity of institutions and organizations to conduct scientific research on health disparities, and fostering the training and career development of individuals from underrepresented populations in the fields of science and medicine.

1985
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Report of the Secretary’s Task Force on Black and Minority Health (the Heckler Report) documents the existence of health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities in the United States.

1990
The Office of Minority Programs (OMP) is established within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of the Director. The OMP convenes town hall meetings nationwide to gather input for the Minority Health Initiative, a multi-year research and training program.

Dr. Ruffin was appointed associate director of Minority Programs to direct the OMP in 1990, associate director for Research on Minority Health in 1993, director of the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities in 2001, and director of NIMHD in 2010.

1993
The Office of Research on Minority Health (ORMH) is established within HHS. It develops a research agenda for minority health at NIH and launches the D.C. Infant Mortality Initiative, reducing African American infant mortality in the nation’s capital by 28%.

1997
The Advisory Committee on Research on Minority Health is established to advise the Directors of ORMH and NIH on minority health research and research training.

2000
Congress elevates ORMH to become the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD), which launches programs to support minority health and health disparities research, training, and information dissemination and encourages diversity in scientific workforce recruitment (P.L. 106-525).
2001
NCMHD launches the Research Endowment Program, which awards grants to promote institutional capacity-building in minority health and health disparities research.

NCMHD launches the Loan Repayment Program for Health Disparities Research and the Extramural Clinical Research Loan Repayment Program for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds to support health professionals engaged in basic, clinical, behavioral, social sciences, or health services research addressing health disparities.

2002
NCMHD establishes the Centers of Excellence for Research Education and Training in colleges and universities to address health disparities through research, research training and education, and community engagement and to increase the number of investigators from populations subject to health disparities.

2008
NCMHD holds the first NIH Science of Eliminating Health Disparities Summit and announces the Intramural Research Program to create training and mentorship opportunities for early stage and seasoned investigators to enhance NIH’s diversity of scientists and research disciplines.

2010
Through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148), NCMHD becomes the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), highlighting the law’s emphasis on health disparities and minority health.

NIMHD launches a 2-week intensive Translational Health Disparities Course, “Integrating Principles of Science, Practice, and Policy in Health Disparities Research.”

2011
NIMHD appoints William G. Coleman Jr., Ph.D., as its first permanent scientific director. He is the first African American scientific director in the history of the NIH Intramural Research Program.

2012
NIMHD hosts the second Science of Eliminating Health Disparities Summit in partnership with the NIH Institutes and Centers, HHS agencies, and 14 of 15 federal executive departments, highlighting strategies, policies, and models from around the world to combat social, economic, and environmental factors that cause health disparities.

2014
Dr. Ruffin retires as the first director of NIMHD. Yvonne T. Maddox, Ph.D., becomes acting director.

NIMHD co-sponsors the on-campus residential NIH Medical Research Scholars Program for medical, dental, and veterinary students.

NIMHD signs on to the trans-NIH R01 Research Project Grant Program, thrusting investigator-initiated research on minority health and health disparities into the spotlight.
2015
Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D., becomes the second director of NIMHD.

NIH Director Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D., hosts Valerie Jarrett, J.D., senior advisor to President Barack Obama and assistant to the president for intergovernmental affairs and public engagement, for a conversation at Masur Auditorium as part of NIMHD’s recognition of National Minority Health Month.

2016
NIMHD releases a new funding opportunity announcement (FOA) for its flagship program, Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI). The new FOA capitalizes on the program’s capacity to generate new scientific discoveries in minority health and health disparities research and to stimulate the next generation of researchers from underrepresented populations in institutions that are committed to this mission.

NIMHD Director Dr. Pérez-Stable announces the formal designation of sexual and gender minorities (SGMs) as a health disparity population for NIH research with support from Andrew Bindman, M.D., director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

2017
NIMHD holds its inaugural Minority Health 5K Walk/Run at on the NIH Bethesda campus on April 12 in recognition of National Minority Health Month. The event engages hundreds of NIH employees.

NIMHD announces the appointment of Anna María Nápoles, Ph.D., M.P.H., as scientific director of its Division of Intramural Research (DIR), making her the first Latina named to the position at NIH.

2018
The NIMHD Scientific Advancement Plan is established to improve health equity by advancing the science of minority health and health disparities. The Scientific Advancement Plan outlines NIMHD’s approach to champion the fields of minority health and health disparities research to both contribute to and benefit from these advances in the interest of health disparity populations and to foster the next generation of researchers to lead discoveries that will promote health equity.

2019
Dr. Pérez-Stable attends the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies hearing on Investments in Medical Research at Five Institutes and Centers of the National Institutes of Health with NIH Director Dr. Francis S. Collins and Directors Christopher Austin, M.D. (National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences); Patricia Flatley Brennan, Ph.D., RN (National Library of Medicine); Helene Langevin, M.D. (National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health); and Bruce Tromberg, Ph.D. (National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering).

2020
NIMHD celebrates 10 years as an Institute at NIH, 20 years since being established as a Center, and 30 years since becoming the Office of Minority Programs in the NIH Office of the Director.
### March 12
**NIMHD Director's Seminar Series**  
*L. Ebony Boulware, M.D., M.P.H.*  
Duke University School of Medicine  
Location: NIH Campus, Lipsett Amphitheater (Building 10), Bethesda, Maryland 20892  
Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. E.T.  
NIH Videocast

### April (all month)
**National Minority Health Month**  
Theme: “Active & Healthy”

### April (all month)
**Virtual Active and Healthy Community Walk/Run/Roll**  
Join the conversation #Walk/Run/Roll4Health

### April 25-26
**NIH at the 2020 USA Science and Engineering Festival**  
Theme: “Vision for STEM”  
Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.  
Time: April 25, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. E.T. and April 26, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. E.T.

### April 29
Minority 5K and Fitness Fair  
National Minority Health Month  
Location: NIH Campus, Building 1, Front Lawn, Bethesda, Maryland 20892  
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. E.T.

### May 12
**National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities**  
Location: Building 31 – Conference Room 6 and overflow rooms 7, 8 and 9, Bethesda, Maryland 20892  
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. E.T.  
NIH Videocast

### August 3 - 7
**NIMHD Health Disparities Research Institute**  
Applications Due: March 9  
Location: NIH Campus, Bethesda, Maryland 20892

### September 4
**National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities**  
Location: Building 31 – Conference Room 6 and overflow rooms 5, 7 and 9, Bethesda, Maryland 20892  
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. E.T.  
NIH Videocast

### October 8
**NIMHD Director’s Seminar Series**  
*Ricardo Muñoz, Ph.D.*  
Palo Alto University  
Location: NIH Campus, Lipsett Amphitheater (Building 10), Bethesda, Maryland 20892  
Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. E.T.  
NIH Videocast

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