

NIMHD

National Institute on Minority Health
and Health Disparities

2023 Health Disparities Among Sexual and Gender Minorities Workshop Speaker Biographies Section I: Moderators and Planning Committee





Rada Dagher, PhD, MPH, Workshop Chair

Dr. Rada Dagher (she/her) is a scientific program director at NIMHD. She manages a diverse portfolio of research, capacity building, and training grants, and is project scientist on cooperative agreement awards. She is the program director for the NRSA Fellowships and the Mentored Career Development Awards and represents NIMHD on NIH-wide committees including the National Research Mentoring Network and the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Taskforce. In 2020, she led a workshop on “The Role of Work in Health Disparities in the United States.” Prior to NIMHD, she worked in academia, conducting research in maternal and child health, mental health, occupational health, and health disparities. Her research focused on determinants of postpartum depression and the impact of this disorder on healthcare use, the impact of employment policies and psychosocial work organization on workers’ health, and gender and racial/ethnic disparities in mental health. She has amassed numerous publications in prestigious journals. She earned her BS in environmental health and her MPH from the American University of Beirut, then her PhD 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 AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellowship. She also received the APHA Young Professional Award for her contributions and leadership in science, program, and policy relating to the health of women, children, and families. Recently, she received the NIH Director’s Award in the scientific/medical category for leading urgent, innovative, mission-critical NIMHD research initiatives to address the impact of SARS-CoV-2 and the COVID-19 pandemic on minority health and health disparities.

Jennifer Alvidrez, PhD



Dr. Jennifer Alvidrez (she/her) is a health scientist administrator in the NIH Office of Disease Prevention (ODP). She joined the ODP in August 2021. Dr. Alvidrez leads ODP efforts to strengthen research to address health disparities in disease prevention. Before joining ODP, Dr. Alvidrez was a Program Official at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). In this role, she managed a diverse portfolio of research, capacity building, and training grants. Dr. Alvidrez also served as the Program Director for the NIMHD Centers of Excellence Program and initiatives on population health in the US-Affiliated Pacific Islands, on risk and resilience in Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands after Hurricanes Irma and Maria, and on youth violence preventive interventions that address racism/discrimination. Prior to the NIMHD, Dr. Alvidrez was an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco. Her research addressed barriers to mental health care

among racial and ethnic minority populations, mental health stigma, mental health treatment for crime victims, and minority inclusion in clinical research. Dr. Alvidrez received a PhD in clinical psychology from the University of California, Berkeley.



Christopher Barnhart, PhD

Dr. Christopher Barnhart (he/they) is currently a health science policy analyst at the NIH Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office (SGMRO). In this position, he promotes the health of sexual and gender minority (SGM) communities through analysis of research portfolios, strategic planning, scientific workshop development, outreach coordination, mentorship, technical assistance, and representation on relevant trans-NIH, -HHS, and -federal committees and working groups. Prior to joining the SGMRO, Christopher was an AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow on detail to the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Within the NICHD's Office of Science Policy, Reporting, and Program Analysis, he analyzed and reported information about NICHD's efforts to promote and protect child and

maternal health and to assess and address health disparities to a diverse array of internal and external stakeholders. He actively participates in and helps to organize outreach efforts to understand and address issues of equity in health, education, and participation in STEM, as well as to encourage and foster the next generation of scientists. Christopher received his doctorate in pharmacology and toxicology from UC Davis in 2015, and then completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, focusing at both institutions on how environmental toxicants and individual genetic factors may interact to affect the developing nervous system.



Deborah E. Linares, PhD, MA

Dr. Deborah E. Linares (she/her) is a health scientist administrator (program official) in the Division of Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). She focuses on promoting research to understand behavioral, environmental, and interpersonal factors contributing to resilience and susceptibility to adverse health conditions across the life course among disadvantaged and underserved populations. She oversees a broad portfolio of research, training, and center-based grants at NIMHD in the areas of behavioral health, the life course, family health, women's health, and child development. Prior to joining NIMHD, Dr. Linares worked as a health scientist/program officer at the Health Resources and Services Administration in the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, where she managed maternal and child health research programs. Dr. Linares holds a Doctor of Philosophy in community health from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where she studied behavioral health,

survey measurement development, and program evaluation. She also holds a Master of Arts in psychology from California State University, Los Angeles. She recently received the HHS Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service and NIH Director's Awards for her efforts in leading and supporting mission-critical NIMHD research initiatives to understand and address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic among populations who experience health disparities.



Karen L. Parker, PhD, MSW

Dr. Karen L. Parker (she/her) currently serves as director of the Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office (SGMRO) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Dr. Parker was instrumental in the formation of the office in fall of 2015 and was appointed director in June 2016. Dr. Parker is also a member of the NIH Anti-Harassment Steering Committee and serves as the co-chair of the NIH Office of the Director Equity Council. Additionally, she sits as an ad-hoc member on the Advisory Committee to the NIH Director Working Group on Diversity. Dr. Parker is involved in several SGM-related initiatives beyond NIH. She serves as co-chair of the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Working Group of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology as well as an Executive Director for the Department of Health and Human Services LGBTQI+ Coordinating Committee. She began her career

at NIH in 2001 as a Presidential Management Fellow. Dr. Parker received her Bachelor of Arts in English from Indiana University and her Master of Social Work from the University of Michigan. She subsequently completed her PhD at the University of Maryland, School of Social Work.



Erik J. Rodriguez, PhD, MPH

Dr. Erik J. Rodriguez (he/they) is a biobehavioral epidemiologist and staff scientist in the Division of Intramural Research at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, where he conducts population health research in the Minority Health and Health Disparities Population Laboratory. He specializes in tobacco use behaviors, social determinants of health behaviors, and behavior-related health disparities among racial/ethnic minority and immigrant populations. His past research has investigated relationships between acculturation-, stress-, mental health-, and age-related factors and health behavior or cardiometabolic health. Dr. Rodriguez received his MPH degree from Loma Linda University; postgraduate training from the California Department of Public Health; his PhD from the University of California, Davis; and postdoctoral training from the University of California, San Francisco.



Miya Whitaker, PsyD, MA

Dr. Miya Whitaker (she/her) is a health scientist administrator/program officer at ORWH. She came to ORWH with a background in cognitive behavioral therapy and research on environmental influences on health and disease development and progression among health disparity populations. As a social and behavioral scientist, Dr. Whitaker is passionate about geographic analysis of disease and disease risk for underserved racial and ethnic groups and low-income communities, the elimination of neighborhood incivility, addressing income inequality and food insecurity, and the advancement of integrated health equity solutions. Dr. Whitaker supports the U3 Administrative Supplement Program—which supports research on women from populations that are understudied, underrepresented, and underreported (U3) in

biomedical research—for ORWH's Clinical Research Section. Dr. Whitaker has a doctorate and master's degree in clinical psychology from the Forest Institute of Professional Psychology and a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. Dr. Whitaker completed a postdoctoral fellowship in drug dependence epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and within the Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics Research Branch at the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

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Madina Agénor, ScD, MPH

Dr. Madina Agénor (she/her) is assistant professor in the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Center for Health Promotion and Health Equity at Brown University School of Public Health. She is also adjunct faculty at The Fenway Institute and leads the Sexual Health and Reproductive Experiences (SHARE) Lab at Brown University. As a social epidemiologist, Dr. Agénor investigates the structural and social determinants of health inequities related to sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, and gender identity using an intersectional lens and mixed-methods research approach. Using quantitative and qualitative research methods, she examines how multilevel social, economic, health care, and policy factors shape sexual and reproductive health and cancer screening and prevention among diverse marginalized sexual orientation, racial/ethnic, and gender identity groups in the U.S. Her current research elucidates how multiple intersecting forms of structural, institutional, and interpersonal discrimination, including racism, heterosexism, sexism, and

cisgenderism, differentially and simultaneously influence sexual and reproductive health care among multiply marginalized U.S. populations, especially Black and Latina women and sexual and gender minoritized people of color. Dr. Agénor completed postdoctoral research training in cancer prevention equity at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and was Visiting Research Faculty at the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS at Yale University. She holds a Doctor of Science (ScD) in Social and Behavioral Sciences with a concentration in Women, Gender, and Health from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, a Master of Public Health (MPH) in Sociomedical Sciences from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, and a bachelor's degree (AB) in Community Health and Gender Studies from Brown University.



Rodrigo Aguayo-Romero, PhD

Dr. Rodrigo Aguayo-Romero (they/them) is a research scientist at the Whitman-Walker Institute. They recently completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Transgender Health Research at Brigham and Women's Hospital, with affiliations at Harvard Medical School and the Fenway Institute. They are the co-chair of the joint task force of the American Psychological Association's Division 44 and the Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity revising the Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming People. Their research focuses on understanding how intersectional experiences of discrimination faced by gender, sexual, ethno-racial, and socioeconomically disadvantaged groups impact health overall. Their

research examines risk behaviors and health disparities—with an emphasis on HIV—using epidemiologic quantitative methods and principles of Participatory Action Research. They draw from systems approaches that apply modified social-ecological models, intersectionality, and syndemics frameworks. They are establishing a research agenda addressing health disparities among Latinx sexual and gender minorities in the Americas starting with the United States, Colombia, Peru, and Ecuador.



Stefan Baral, MD

Dr. Stefan Baral (he/him) is the director of the Key Populations Program at the Center for Public Health and Human Rights and a professor in the Department of Epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. Dr. Baral completed his training at the University of Toronto in Community Medicine as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and Family medicine with the Canadian Council of Family Physicians. In addition, Dr. Baral is a population health and family physician working with the Inner City Health Associates providing clinical care and population health services in the shelter system. Through his role as the Director of the Key Populations Program in the Center for Public Health and Human Rights, Dr. Baral has focused on trying to understand why people

continue to be at risk for acquiring and transmitting HIV with a focus on the interactions of structural and network level determinants with individual-level proximal risks for HIV infection. Together with colleagues, Dr. Baral focuses on using all scientific tools available to characterize the distribution of HIV risks including in countries with broadly generalized HIV epidemics. Consequently, this work has included studying the burden of HIV and HIV-related vulnerabilities among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men, transgender women, people who use drugs, and sex workers in a range of HIV epidemic settings. In response to the disproportionate burden of HIV among historically marginalized populations, Dr. Baral has participated in advancing the measurement of stigma and stigma mitigation interventions as central to an effective HIV response.



José A. Bauermeister, PhD, MPH

Dr. José Arturo Bauermeister (he/him) is the Albert M. Greenfield Professor of Human Relations, chair of the Family and Community Health Department at the School of Nursing, and director of the Eidos LGBTQ+ Health Initiative at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bauermeister's interdisciplinary research relies on mobile health (mHealth) strategies to strengthen LGBTQ+ health prevention and care service delivery. He has pioneered the integration of community-based, action-oriented strategies and tailoring technologies to improve the reach and impact of mHealth applications for adolescents and young adults. Currently, Dr. Bauermeister is principal investigator of several intervention projects seeking to improve the HIV prevention and care continuum by addressing health-seeking behaviors, sexual behaviors, alcohol and other drug

use, and psychological well-being. He is chair of the HIV Special Interest Group of the Society for Behavioral Medicine and serves on the National Institutes of Health's Sexual and Gender Research Working Group committee.



John R. Blosnich, PhD, MPH

Dr. John R. Blosnich (he/him) is an assistant professor and director of the Center for LGBTQ+ Health Equity in the Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work at the University of Southern California. He is also a research health scientist with the Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion in the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). His research focuses on health equity for LGBT individuals, with specific emphasis on social determinants of health and suicide risk. Dr. Blosnich has earned several research awards from both the VA and the National Institutes of Health. Most recently, Dr. Blosnich was a 2021 recipient of an NIH Director's New Innovator Award, which supports his efforts to expand research into non-clinical sectors in which adverse social factors and acute life crises can be targeted for upstream suicide prevention.



Billy A. Caceres, PhD, RN

Dr. Billy A. Caceres (he/him) is an assistant professor in the Center for Sexual and Gender Minority Health Research at Columbia University School of Nursing. His program of research examines social determinants of cardiovascular health among sexual and gender minority populations across the lifespan. His NIH-funded career development award investigates risk and protective factors for cardiovascular disease among sexual minority women and their heterosexual sisters. In 2020, Dr. Caceres was the recipient of the NIH's Sexual and Gender Minority Early-Stage Investigator Award.



Cory J. Cascalheira, PhD Candidate, LSAA

Cory J. Cascalheira (he/they) is a doctoral candidate in counseling psychology at New Mexico State University and an NIH Minority Biomedical Research Support Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement (RISE) Fellow. He also works on research teams at Syracuse University, Northwestern University, and the University of California Los Angeles to study sexual and gender minority (SGM) health disparities. His research program has two foci: (1) the examination of stress-based, multilevel determinants and mechanisms conferring risk for SGM health disparities (e.g., substance misuse); and (2) the use of computational methods (i.e., artificial intelligence) and big data to understand SGM health behaviors and outcomes, aiming to use this line of work in the development and implementation of automated, scalable, and technology-delivered interventions. Cory's work has been funded by the American Psychological Association, Psi Chi, Sigma Xi, Phi Kappa Phi, and internal university mechanisms. In 2021, the American Psychological Association awarded him the prestigious Early Graduate Student Researcher Award for his work in machine learning and SGM health.



Susan D. Cochran, PhD

Dr. Susan D. Cochran is a practicing clinical psychologist and a professor of epidemiology in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and a professor of statistics in the UCLA College of Letters and Science. Her research focuses on how stigma and social disadvantage affects the health of marginalized populations such as sexual, racial, and ethnic minorities. She has an extensive record of significant contributions in both methodological and theory-driven aspects of the science of mental health, substance abuse and health disparities experienced by marginalized populations. Her work identified the population attributable risk of discrimination in mental health burdens among sexual minorities, the costs of not providing health insurance to sexual minorities in California, and lifetime prevalence of suicide symptoms and affective disorders among men reporting same-sex partners. She was the PI of a K Award from NIMH and an R01 grant that supported secondary data analysis of population data used to establish that sexual minorities experienced elevated risk for mental health and substance use morbidity. As a

NIDA PI, her grants supported establishment of the California Quality of Life Surveys, state representative studies of mental health and substance use disparities of sexual minorities. Her recent PI work funded by NIMH focuses on developing machine learning methods to identify LGBT populations in suicide/homicide surveillance reports. She was also one of the lead chairs of the WHO workgroup on removal of homosexuality from the ICD. Her work has garnered awards and is cited in court cases including at the U.S. Supreme Court supporting the rights of LGBT populations.



Lisa M. Diamond, PhD

Dr. Lisa M. Diamond (she/her) is Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Gender Studies at the University of Utah. She earned her PhD in Human Development from Cornell University in 1999. For nearly three decades, Dr. Diamond has studied the development and expression of gender and sexual diversity over the lifespan. She is best known for her research on sexual fluidity, which describes the capacity for individuals to experience unexpected shifts in sexual identity and expression over time. More recently, she has turned her attention to the evolved psychobiological mechanisms through which stigma harms the mental and physical health of sexually diverse and gender diverse (LGBTQ+) populations by reducing their access to social safety (unconditional social connection, inclusion, belonging and

protection). Her 2008 book, *Sexual Fluidity*, published by Harvard University Press, has been awarded the Distinguished Book Award from the American Psychological Association's Society for the Study of LGBTQ Issues. Dr. Diamond is also co-editor of the first ever APA Handbook of Sexuality and Psychology, published in 2014, and is a fellow of two divisions of the APA. She has published over 140 articles and book chapters and has been invited to present her research at over 150 national and international Universities and conferences. Dr. Diamond has received awards for her work from the Developmental Psychology and LGBT Psychology Divisions of the APA, the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, the International Association for Relationship Research, the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, and the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues.



Bethany Everett, PhD

Dr. Bethany Everett (she/her) is an associate professor of Sociology and Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Utah and an affiliate of the Center for Sexual and Gender Minority Health Research at Columbia University. She completed her PhD at the University of Colorado at Boulder and an NIH Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) Fellowship while she was an assistant professor at the University of Illinois-Chicago from 2012-2015. She is currently PI of an NICHD-funded R01 study on sexual orientation disparities in maternal, infant, and child health and her work focuses on the social determinants of health and, more specifically, the relationships between orientation and sexual and reproductive health.



Corey Flanders, PhD

Dr. Corey Flanders (she/her, they/them) is an associate professor in the Department of Psychology and Education at Mount Holyoke College. She earned a PhD in social psychology and a graduate certificate in women's studies from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. As an applied social psychologist, Dr. Flanders' work focuses on addressing social issues and promoting positive social change. They implement mixed-methods and community-based research approaches to identify mental and sexual health disparities experienced by gender and sexual minority people, as well as to explore potential pathways for promoting health equity in these areas. Her work often utilizes a social ecological model with an intersectional focus to

understand how interrelationships between individual, interpersonal, community, and societal factors can promote and inhibit mental and sexual wellbeing.



Jeremy T. Goldbach, PhD, LMSW

Dr. Jeremy T. Goldbach (he/him) is the Masters & Johnson Distinguished Professor in Sexual Health and Education at the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis. His work is primarily focused on measuring, understanding, and intervening upon experiences of minority stress and discrimination among LGBTQ+ children and adolescents. Dr. Goldbach's work has been continuously funded since 2012 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the Department of Defense (DOD), and through foundations.



Ian W. Holloway, PhD, LCSW, MPH

Dr. Ian W. Holloway (he/him) is a licensed clinical social worker and professor of social welfare in the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. Professor Holloway's applied behavioral health research examines the contextual factors that contribute to health inequities among sexual and gender minority communities. He is an expert in social network analysis and is particularly interested in how social media and new technologies, such as machine learning, can be harnessed for health promotion and disease prevention. Dr. Holloway has been a principal investigator on research studies funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the Department of Defense, and the California HIV/AIDS Research Program. He currently directs the UCLA Hub for Health Intervention, Policy, and Practice, which co-creates research to inform programs and policies that address intersecting oppressions in order to improve community health and well-being.



Skyler Jackson, PhD

Dr. Skyler Jackson (he/him) is an assistant professor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Yale School of Public Health and a faculty affiliate of Yale's Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS. He conducts research focusing on the ways individuals' social identities (e.g., race, gender, sexual orientation) shape their everyday lives and influence health and well-being. In particular, he is interested in how experiences of stigma—if not adequately coped with—interfere with psychological functioning and contribute to health disparities. Relying on a broad range of methodological approaches (e.g., microlongitudinal, experimental, qualitative), Dr. Jackson's current projects examine complex, understudied manifestations of stigma across sexual, racial, and gender minority populations, including (a) intersectional stress among individuals holding multiple marginalized identities (e.g., LGBTQ+ people of color, Black women), (b) border identity stress among populations holding identities that defy binary categorization (e.g., bisexual people, multiracial people, gender nonbinary people), and (c) the study of stigma-coping interventions that aim to improve the health of marginalized populations by enhancing their ability to

understand, navigate, and cope with societal oppression. Blending his clinical expertise as a psychologist with his research training in public health, Dr. Jackson received NIH funding to culturally adapt and test a stigma-coping treatment to improve the mental and sexual health of gay, bisexual, and queer men of color in the South.



Poorna Kushalnagar, PhD, MA

Dr. Poorna Kushalnagar (she/her) is the director of the Center for Deaf Health Equity at Gallaudet University. She joined the university in 2016, bringing over 20 years of experience in deaf-related research and grantsmanship. Dr. Kushalnagar received over \$10 million in contracts and federal grant awards, and her team has published over 100 papers and given countless presentations nationwide and internationally. She conducts research on the population health and health disparities in the deaf and hard of hearing community. She also serves as a dean of research, with the functional role of a chief research officer. Dr. Kushalnagar served as a Deaf and Hard of Hearing Institute Fellow at the Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risks at the University of Texas at Austin in 2015, was selected as featured grantee by the Health Communications and

Informatics Branch of the National Cancer Institute in 2017, and was honored by the American Psychological Association as one of the 25 women of color psychologists firsts unveiled at the Sixth Annual STEAM Fair and Reception hosted by the Women's Congressional Policy Institute in conjunction with the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues in 2018. In 2021, she was invited to serve as an expert panelist on people with disabilities as part of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's national effort to transform public health data systems. Last year, GUAA selected Dr. Kushalnagar as the recipient of Gertrude Galloway Social Justice Award. She is a strategist, implementer, and change-maker.



Vickie M. Mays, PhD, MSPH

Dr. Vickie M. Mays, a clinical psychologist and health policy expert, is a Distinguished Professor of Psychology in the UCLA College of Letters and Science and a Distinguished Professor of Health Policy & Management in the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. She served as a P60 NIMHD Center Director overseeing a research agenda in health disparities that identified pathways and mechanisms of how social vulnerabilities and race-based discrimination are translated into physical and mental health disparities in several different racial/ethnic and sexual orientation populations. She has published HIV-related papers ranging from a focus on race differences in diverse Black subpopulations examining immunologic differences, how social determinants of health intersect in risk and risk factors, and the implications of mental health for HIV prevention. As a pioneer in LGB research, she conducted (with UCLA Professor Susan Cochran) the first national HIV risk behaviors study of over 850 Black MSM, and the first national survey of Black lesbians reaching approximately 600 women. They pioneered pride event data collection of LB women that provided answers to questions that ranged from mental health concerns to assessment of the risk of HIV. She was awarded a Lifetime Achievement

Award for her HIV research on women from the American AIDS Foundation (AMFAR) and recently the Carl Taube Award from the American Public Health Association for her mental health research. She and UCLA researchers—with funding from NIMH—developed using AI big data methods to illuminate LGBT suicide and homicide experiences in the NVDRS.



Sarah M. Murray, PhD, MSPH

Dr. Sarah M. Murray (she/her) is a psychiatric epidemiologist and assistant professor in the Department of Mental Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her primary research interest is in using mixed methods to understand the multifaceted relationship between violence, stigma, and common mental disorders to inform the development of effective strategies to promote the mental health and psychosocial well-being of individuals living in situations of complex adversity in high-, middle- and low-income country contexts. She has a particular interest and passion for research grounded in lived experience that seeks to understand stigma related to sexuality and gender, including a focus on measurement strategies that are informed by intersectionality, stigma as a social determinant of poor mental health, and formative research to inform stigma mitigation and reduction strategies for sexual and gender diverse communities in the U.S. and globally.



Brian Mustanski, PhD

Dr. Brian Mustanski (he/him) is tenured professor of Medical Social Sciences, Psychology, and Infectious Diseases at Northwestern University, founding director of the Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing, and director of the Third Coast Center for AIDS Research (CFAR). His research focuses on the health and development of LGBTQ youth and the application of new media and technology to sexual health promotion and HIV prevention. He has been a principal investigator of over \$60 million in federal and foundation grants and has published over 350 journal articles that, according to Clarivate, place him as one of the most highly cited researchers globally. He is a frequent advisor to federal agencies and other organizations on LGBTQ health and HIV

prevention, including serving as an appointed member of the National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities, the NIH Council of Councils Sexual and Gender Minority Research Working Group, and many health clinics and research centers. He was named a William T Grant Scholar and was selected by NBC News in 2017—from 1,600 nominees—to their inaugural list of 30 changemakers and innovators making a positive difference in the LGBTQ community. In 2020, he served as the 46th president of the International Academy of Sex Research.



John Pachankis, PhD

Dr. John Pachankis is the Susan Dwight Bliss Professor of Public Health and Psychiatry at Yale University. As director of Yale's LGBTQ Mental Health Initiative, his goal is to bring effective mental health treatments to LGBTQ people in the U.S. and around the world and to identify strategies to getting such treatment to LGBTQ people in greatest need. His NIH-funded studies examine the efficacy of LGBTQ-affirmative interventions delivered via diverse technologies, settings, and community members. These interventions have shown efficacy for reducing the co-occurring mental health risks commonly affecting LGBTQ people (e.g., depression, anxiety, suicidality, substance use disorders) across several randomized controlled trials. He has published 150+ scientific papers on LGBTQ mental health and stigma and co-edited the Handbook of Evidence-Based Mental Health Practice with Sexual and Gender Minorities, published by Oxford University Press. He has received several awards for his research, including APA's Distinguished Contribution to Psychology

in the Public Interest award, Distinguished Contribution to the Advancement of Psychotherapy award, and awards for Distinguished Book and Distinguished Scientific Contribution to LGBTQ scholarship.



Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, MD

Dr. Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable is director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities at the National Institutes of Health. He earned his BA in chemistry in 1974 and MD in 1978 from the University of Miami. He then completed his primary care internal medicine residency and a research fellowship in general internal medicine at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) before joining the faculty as an assistant professor in 1983. Dr. Pérez-Stable practiced primary care internal medicine for 37 years at UCSF. His research interests have centered on improving the health of individuals from racial and ethnic minority communities through effective prevention interventions, understanding underlying causes of health disparities, and advancing patient-centered care for underserved populations. Recognized as a leader in Latino health care and disparities research, he spent 32 years leading research on smoking cessation and tobacco control in Latino populations in the United States and Latin America. Dr. Pérez-Stable has published more than 300 peer-reviewed papers.



Morgan Philbin, PhD, MHS

Dr. Morgan Philbin (she/her) is an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of California San Francisco. Dr. Philbin uses mixed methods to examine how social policies and clinical practices shape inclusion and health equity, with a focus on sexual and gender minority (SGM) young people and pregnant people. She has worked in the field of health equity for over 15 years conducting research that explores how community-, institutional-, and state-level factors drive substance use and sexual and reproductive health outcomes. She is co-PI of a mixed-methods NIDA-funded R01 that is exploring the impact of general and pregnancy-specific opioid policies on substance use outcomes among pregnant people and their newborns. She is also PI of an R34 that is developing a patient decision aid to help minoritized women and their providers choose between oral and long-acting injectable HIV medication. She is co-I on multiple NIH-funded projects focused on how state-level social policies impact mental health and substance use outcomes for racial, ethnic, and sexual and gender minority youth. Dr. Philbin completed her MHS and PhD at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and her postdoctoral fellowship in the Division of Gender, Sexuality and

Health (HIV Center for Clinical and Behavioral Studies) at Columbia University. She was recently awarded the 2021 NIH Office of Disease Prevention Early-Stage Investigator Lecture Award.



Gregory Phillips II, PhD, MS

Dr. Gregory Phillips II (he/him) is an assistant professor in the Departments of Medical Social Sciences and Preventive Medicine at Northwestern University, and founder of the Evaluation, Data Integration, and Technical Assistance (EDIT) Program. He is an infectious diseases epidemiologist whose career spans over a decade of exploring the complex factors that disproportionately impact the health of minoritized individuals, particularly sexual and gender minority (SGM) individuals. Dr. Phillips has served as PI or MPI on multiple NIH grants focused on SGM, including a RADx-UP project looking at the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on SGM and racial/ethnic minority youth and young adults, an R01 focused on improving measurement of sex, sexual orientation and gender identity, and two secondary data analysis R01s to explore the disparities in alcohol use and HIV risk between sexual minority and majority youth within the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. He is also a leader in the field of program evaluation—he led the development of

the LGBTQ+ Evaluation framework, was a guest editor of a special issue of *New Directions for Evaluation* focused on LGBTQ+ Evaluation, and is the former chair of the LGBTQ Topical Interest Group within the American Evaluation Association. Across all his work, he seeks to use community-led methods and approaches.



Mandi Pratt-Chapman, PhD, MA

Dr. Mandi Pratt-Chapman (she/her) is associate professor of Medicine for the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences, associate professor of prevention and community health for the GW Milken Institute School of Public Health, and associate center director of community outreach, engagement and equity for the GW Cancer Center. Her personal mission is to make evidence-based health care and disease prevention strategies available to more people as quickly as possible. Her research focuses on patient navigation, cancer survivorship, evidence-based cancer control, and health equity for intersectional lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex communities. She recently founded a nonprofit called Inclusivity that supports diversity, equity, inclusion and healing to reduce polarization and foster inclusive perspectives to solve challenging social problems. Learn more at radicalinclusivity.net.



Megan S. Schuler, PhD, MS

Dr. Megan S. Schuler (she/her) is an applied statistician at the RAND Corporation. She has a dual focus on both statistical methodology, as well as substance use and mental health policy. As a co-investigator affiliated with the RAND Opioid Policy Tools and Information Center (OPTIC), much of her current work relates to opioid policy research, specifically identifying optimal methods for causal inference in the context of state policy evaluation studies. Another central research interest is heterogeneity in substance use and mental health behaviors, disorders, and treatment, with respect to variation across age and population subgroups. Her ongoing work focuses on variation among sexual minority adults regarding substance use and mental health disparities and potential factors driving these disparities. Guided by intersectional theory, she has identified important variation in substance use disparities among LGB individuals by race/ethnicity, gender, and age. In conjunction with OPTIC, she has also led projects examining inequities in access to treatment for opioid use disorder, particularly buprenorphine. Megan earned her PhD in mental health from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Prior to

joining RAND, she was a postdoctoral fellow at Penn State's Methodology Center and a research fellow at Harvard's Health Care Policy Department.



Daphna Stroumsa, MD, MPH

Dr. Daphna Stroumsa (they/them) is an assistant professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Stroumsa is a health services researcher and a graduate of the National Clinician Scholars Program at the University of Michigan, whose work focuses on sexual, reproductive and gender-affirming care for gender and sexual minorities. Dr. Stroumsa is a recipient of an NIH K23 Career Development award; their goal is to improve transgender and nonbinary people's access to and quality of care through the development of interventions that improve gender-affirming care.



Amy C. Tishelman, PhD

Dr. Amy C. Tishelman (she/her) is a clinical and research psychologist, and a research associate professor at Boston College in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience. Her research focuses on promoting well-being in children, adolescents, and adults with vulnerabilities to trauma, stigma, and marginalization. Currently, her research is designed to support the well-being and beneficial clinical care practices for youth and young adults who identify as intersex and/or have been diagnosed with a sex trait variation (also referred to as a difference of sex development [DSD]) and their families, and to support the well-being of trans/gender diverse children, adolescents, young adults, and their families. Dr. Tishelman previously worked at Boston Children's Hospital (BCH) and Harvard Medical School for close to three decades, where she last held the position as director of clinical research in the Behavioral Health, Endocrinology, and Urology (BE-U) Program and Gender Multispecialty Service (GeMS). These programs provide clinical care related to sex trait variations/intersex care, as well as transgender/gender diversity care, respectively. Dr. Tishelman has

also worked extensively in the areas of child maltreatment and trauma and is the former director of child protection clinical services and former training and research director in the BCH Child Protection Program. She has been awarded several NIH grants as MPI or co-I, investigating well-being and/or gender development in children and adolescents, and youth/young adults with sex trait variations. She also co-authored a clinical report for the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) providing guidance on fertility and sexual function counseling for at-risk pediatric patients. Dr. Tishelman was selected by the World Association of Transgender Health to be the international leader in developing new global standards of care for prepubescent children, and serves as co-chair of an American Psychological Association Task Force on sex trait variations/intersex (DSD).



Karina L. Walters, PhD

Dr. Karina L. Walters (she/her), an enrolled citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is a Katherine Hall Chambers University Professor at the University of Washington School of Social Work, an adjunct professor in the Department of Global Health at the University of Washington School of Public Health, and the co-director of the Indigenous Wellness Research Institute (IWRI) at the University of Washington (UW). Dr. Walters has over 28 years of experience in social epidemiological research on the social determinants of Native American and Two-Spirit health, well as expertise in designing culturally derived chronic disease prevention studies (substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, obesity, and diabetes prevention). She has written landmark papers in the field of traumatic stress and health, historical and intergenerational trauma, and developed the Indigenist Stress-

Coping model. Methodologically, she has expertise in Indigenist methodologies and in designing community and land-based, culturally derived interventions. Dr. Walters has served as principal investigator or co-investigator on over 35 NIH studies (23 as PI) from diverse NIH institutes. Dr. Walters earned her BA (sociology) in 1987, her MSW in 1990, and her PhD in 1995 from the University of California, Los Angeles. Prior to UW, Dr. Walters served on faculty at Columbia University School of Social Work from 1995-2001.