



Speaker Bios

Arleen Brown, M.D., Ph.D.



Arleen Brown, M.D., Ph.D., is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research (GIM and HSR) at the University of California, Los Angeles. She serves as Chief of GIM and HSR at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center.

Dr. Brown's research focuses on improving health outcomes, enhancing health care quality, and reducing disparities for adults with chronic conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and stroke, particularly those with complex medical and social needs. She has been PI or co-PI on studies to improve diabetes care for older adults and minority patients and research to understand clinical, socioeconomic,

and health system influences on chronic disease management in under-resourced communities.

Dr. Brown serves as co-director of the NCATS-funded UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) and the CTSI Community Engagement and Research Program (CERP). She is currently a PI on the Healing Our Hearts, Minds, and Bodies (HHMB) study to address clinic and patient-level readiness to address cardiovascular risk in African American and Latino patients with HIV/AIDS. Dr. Brown is contact MPI for the NHLBI-funded "Share, Trust, Organize, Partner: the COVID-19 California Alliance" (STOP COVID-19 CA), a coalition of 11 academic institutions and their networks of community partners across California, and the state-funded Get Out The Vaccine (GOTV) campaign, in which community based organizations canvass door to door, providing information from trusted messengers and assistance with vaccine registration. As PI of the UCLA/UCI END DISPARITIES Center (composed of multiple cores), she aims to reduce cardiometabolic disparities in multi-ethnic communities across Los Angeles County and Orange County.

Leigh F. Callahan, Ph.D.



Dr. Leigh F. Callahan is the Mary Link Briggs Distinguished Professor of Medicine in the School of Medicine and professor in the Department of Orthopaedics. She is an adjunct professor in the Department of Epidemiology in the Gillings School of Global Public Health. She is the Associate Director at Thurston Arthritis Research Center (TARC) and Director of the UNC Core Center for Clinical Research. She is also Director of the Osteoarthritis Action Alliance (OAAA), a coalition of more than 150 organizations committed to elevating osteoarthritis as a national health priority. Dr. Callahan currently serves as a member of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) Advisory Council.

Lindsey A. Criswell, M.D., M.P.H., D.Sc.



Lindsey A. Criswell, M.D., M.P.H., D.Sc., became Director of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) in February 2021. Previously, she served as vice chancellor of research at the University of California, San Francisco, as well as professor of rheumatology and professor of orofacial sciences. Her research focuses on the genetics and epidemiology of human autoimmune disease, particularly rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus. She also has mentored many students and junior faculty to independent research careers. Dr. Criswell earned a bachelor's degree in genetics and a master's degree in public health from the University of California, Berkeley; a D.Sc. in genetic epidemiology from the Netherlands Institute for Health Sciences, Rotterdam; and an M.D. from UCSF. Dr. Criswell is board certified in internal medicine and rheumatology and a member of the Association of American

Physicians (AAP).

Said Ibrahim, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A.



Dr. Said Ibrahim is the Senior Vice President for the Medicine Service Line at Northwell Health, Chair of the Department of Medicine, and David J. Greene Professor of Medicine for the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. Prior to joining Northwell, Dr. Ibrahim held the position of Professor of Population Health Science and was appointed as the founding Chief of the Division of Healthcare Delivery Science and Innovation for the Department of Population Health Science and appointed Weill Cornell Medicine's inaugural Senior Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion. He also previously held a faculty appointment as Professor of Medicine within the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, served as Chief of Medicine at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center, and was the Director of the VA National Center of Innovation for Health Equity Research and Promotion.

Dr. Ibrahim is a National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded physician-scientist. His research on racial/ethnic variation in the use of knee/hip replacement in the management of end-stage osteoarthritis has been continuously federally funded for over 20 years. Dr. Ibrahim is a past recipient of the prestigious NIH K24 award – which supported his role as a mentor for future generations of investigators focused on patient-centered research in health care disparities.

He is currently Associate Editor for The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Health Forum and is also a member of the Advisory Council for the National Institute for Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Disorders (NIAMS) at the NIH.

Patricia Jones, Dr.P.H., M.P.H., M.S., M.B.A.



Patricia Jones, Dr.P.H., M.P.H., M.S., M.B.A., leads the National Institute on Aging's (NIA) efforts in stimulating health disparities research related to aging. As the Director of the Office of Special Populations, she advances the science of eliminating health disparities, facilitates addressing health disparities through basic, clinical and translational and behavioral and social science research, supports developing initiatives that strengthens NIA's research and training opportunities available to underrepresented persons, including minoritized population and women, and advises other senior staff on health research related to underrepresented populations. Dr. Jones also directs the NIA Butler-Williams Scholars Program for early career aging

researchers, serves as the Executive Secretary for the Task Force on Minority Aging Research, and has a leadership role in a NIH initiative to end structural racism in biomedical and behavioral research.

Prior to NIA, Dr. Jones was a Health Scientist Administrator for the Division of Clinical Innovation at NCATS. In that role she served as a Program Director and Project Scientist for awards to enhance recruitment and retention of underrepresented persons in clinical trials, address health disparities, promote Dissemination and Implementation Science, and facilitate Collaboration and Team Science. Dr. Jones has also worked as a Senior Health Specialist with NIAID and as the Deputy Lead for the Research Synthesis and Translation Team in the Prevention Research Branch, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention at the CDC. Dr. Jones has taught courses including research methods and translational health sciences. Prior to beginning a federal career, Dr. Jones worked in practice settings as well as academic research centers in Los Angeles, CA.

Dr. Jones completed a doctoral degree in Public Health at Loma Linda University School of Public Health, a Master of Public Health at UCLA, a Master of Science in Biotechnology and a Master of Business Administration at the University of Maryland Global Campus, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Women's Studies at UC Berkeley.

Jeffrey N. Katz, M.D., M.S.



Jeffrey N. Katz, M.D., M.S., graduated from Princeton University in 1980, attended Yale Medical School, and completed a medical residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital and a Rheumatology fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital. He received a master's degree in 1990 at Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Katz is Professor of Medicine and Orthopaedic Surgery at Harvard Medical School and Professor of Epidemiology at Harvard School of Public Health. He holds the Clement B. Sledge and Thomas S. Thornhill Distinguished Chair in Orthopedic Surgery at BWH. Dr. Katz is Director of the

Orthopaedic and Arthritis Center for Outcomes Research in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Dr. Katz has focused his research over the past three decades on the evaluation and outcomes of musculoskeletal disorders including carpal tunnel syndrome, lumbar spinal stenosis, osteoarthritis, meniscal tear, and orthopedic interventions for these conditions including knee arthroscopy and joint replacement. He is Principal Investigator of two NIH funded multicenter trials of therapies for patients with meniscal tear and osteoarthritis – the MeTeOR and TeMPO trials. He has mentored many trainees and is co-PI of a NIAMS funded T32 clinical research training program. Dr. Katz is Deputy Editor for Methodology of the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery and Associate Editor of Osteoarthritis and Cartilage, Open. Dr. Katz lives in Brookline, MA with his wife Susan Zeiger, Ph.D., a 20th Century American historian. They have two adult sons and a much-loved Springer Spaniel.

Hyunjee Kim, Ph.D.



Dr. Hyunjee Kim is a health economist in the Center for Health Systems Effectiveness at Oregon Health & Science University. Dr. Kim's research interests include racial/ethnic disparities in healthcare and Medicare/Medicaid payment reform. Dr. Kim has been leading a project that examined how Medicare's first mandatory bundled payment program affected well-documented racial disparities in joint replacement care.

C. Kent Kwoh, M.D.



Dr. C. Kent Kwoh is Professor of Medicine and Medical Imaging, Chief of the Division of Rheumatology, the Charles A.L. and Suzanne M. Stephens Chair of Rheumatology, Program Director of the Rheumatology Fellowship Program, and Director of the University of Arizona Arthritis Center. Prior to joining the University of Arizona, Dr. Kwoh has held faculty appointments at the University of Pittsburgh and at Case Western University.

He and his collaborators have had a longstanding interest in the epidemiology of a broad spectrum of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases, with a particular focus on the epidemiology of and outcome assessment in osteoarthritis; and in promoting equity in the management of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases, with a particular emphasis on reducing/eliminating disparities in the utilization of joint replacement and other treatment options for osteoarthritis.

Major research contributions include the identification of the role of patients' preferences in the management of osteoarthritis, particularly in the utilization of knee or hip replacement; the design and evaluation of interventions to reduce disparities in osteoarthritis outcomes; the earlier detection of knee osteoarthritis onset and/or progression through the use of MRI imaging biomarkers; the characterization of knee pain location and spatial patterns; and the identification of predictive factors for outcomes following knee replacement. Dr. Kwoh has served as a member on committees for the development of guidelines for the management of hand, hip, and knee osteoarthritis with the American College of Rheumatology, Osteoarthritis Research Society International, and American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

Gayle Lester, Ph.D.



Dr. Gayle Lester is director of the Division of Extramural Research (DER) at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) at the NIH. Dr. Lester held the position in an acting role following the reorganization of the NIAMS extramural program in April 2018. She assumed the director position in March 2020 and oversees both DER and the Office of Extramural Operations (OEO).

Catherine H. MacLean, M.D., Ph.D.



Catherine MacLean, M.D., Ph.D., professor of medicine at the Weill Cornell Medical College, is the Chief Value Medical Officer at Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS) where she leads the development and execution of strategies to measure, report, and improve health care quality and value. As part of this role, she directs the HSS Center for the Advancement of Value in Musculoskeletal Care, which pulls together expertise from across the organization to rapidly develop and deploy programs, systems, and tools that will fast-track the delivery of high value musculoskeletal care at HSS and beyond.

Dr. MacLean is a nationally recognized expert on healthcare quality and value with a diverse leadership experience including strategic planning, implementation, and evaluation of population health, quality, and value programs. She has previously served as the executive leader of quality and care management programs at Anthem/WellPoint; principal investigator on numerous academic research projects at UCLA and RAND; and as a director, chair, or participant on numerous national committees and panels related to health care quality and value. She currently co-chairs the National Quality Forum's patient reported outcome measures roadmap panel and serves on the performance measures committee for the American College of Physicians. She is a prior chair for the ACR's performance measures committee and led the development of the first set of quality measures for rheumatology through the Arthritis Foundation's Quality Measures Project.

Dr. MacLean obtained her M.D. from Washington University, St. Louis. She completed training in internal medicine at the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, and in rheumatology at UCLA's Center for the Health Sciences. She obtained her Ph.D. in health services from UCLA's School of Public Health.

Stephen P. Messier, Ph.D.



Dr. Messier is Professor and Director of the J.B Snow Biomechanics Laboratory at Wake Forest University. He has been at Wake Forest for 41 years and has 31 years of experience in clinical trials research specifically related to knee osteoarthritis (OA). Currently, Dr. Messier is the principal investigator of the Weight loss and Exercise for Communities with Arthritis in North Carolina (WE-CAN) trial and The Osteoarthritis Prevention Trial (TOPS). WE-CAN is a pragmatic randomized clinical trial of 823 older adults with knee OA and overweight and obesity that is designed to determine if the diet and exercise intervention implemented in a highly controlled efficacy trial (IDEA) could be successfully implemented in diverse community settings. TOPS is the planning grant for this proposed prevention study for people at risk for knee OA. These studies are funded with grants from

the National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal, and Skin Diseases (NIAMS). Dr. Messier has received the lifetime achievement award from the Osteoarthritis Research Society International (2022), the Borelli Award from the American Society of Biomechanics (2020) for outstanding career accomplishment through exemplary research in biomechanics, and the career achievement award from the American College of Sports Medicine Biomechanics Group (2009).

Ernest Moy, M.D., M.P.H.



Ernest Moy, M.D., M.P.H., is the Executive Director of the Office of Health Equity of the Veterans' Health Administration (VHA). This office manages and supports efforts to understand and reduce disparities in health and health care affecting Veterans. Currently, the office is coordinating analyses and messaging related to disparities in COVID-19 testing and treatment among Veterans and building tools to address structural bias, discrimination, and social determinants of health.

Prior to joining VHA, he was a Medical Officer in the Office of Analysis and Epidemiology at the National Center for Health Statistics of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). At CDC, he studied rural health disparities, analyzed linked hospital-vital statistics data to identify care patterns that placed patients at high risk for opioid poisoning death, and developed new data visualizations and partnerships for

disseminating health statistics.

Prior to CDC, he was Director of the Division in the Center for Quality Improvement and Patient Safety at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) that designed and produced the National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report, submitted annually to Congress, and related web tools. He has also worked as a Director of Research and Assistant Vice President at the Association of American Medical Colleges, Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and Emergency Care Physician at the Baltimore VAMC. He was selected to serve as the first Academy Health Innovator-in-Residence.

Amanda Nelson, M.D., M.S.C.R.



Dr. Nelson is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Rheumatology, Allergy, and Immunology and the Thurston Arthritis Research Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a rheumatologist, epidemiologist, and co-PI of the Johnston County studies, with a focus on clinical research in osteoarthritis (OA). Her research interests include imaging, particularly ultrasound and radiography, novel methodologies such as AI and machine learning and their application to OA research, whole body burden of OA, systemic biomarkers of disease, non-pharmacologic management, and sex and race differences in OA.

Tuhina Neogi, M.D., Ph.D.



Dr. Tuhina Neogi is Professor of Medicine and of Epidemiology at Boston University Schools of Medicine and of Public Health, the endowed Alan S. Cohen Professor of Rheumatology, and Chief of Rheumatology at Boston Medical Center. As a rheumatologist and Ph.D.-trained epidemiologist, she focuses her research on osteoarthritis and gout, with a particular focus on pain mechanisms in recent years. She is a past chair of the FDA Arthritis Advisory Committee, serves or has served on the boards of international societies (Crystal-Associated Diseases Network (G-CAN), Osteoarthritis Research Society International (OARSI)), and on committees for the American College of Rheumatology (ACR) and International Association for the Study Pain (IASP), among others. Her work was recognized with the 2014 ACR Henry Kunkel Young Investigator Award for outstanding and promising independent contributions to rheumatology research, the 2022 OARSI Clinical Research Award in recognition of her contributions to osteoarthritis research, and an honorary doctorate from Lund University in Sweden.

She has led or engaged in development of new classification criteria for a number of rheumatic diseases and has led national ACR treatment guidelines for gout and osteoarthritis. In addition to research and clinical care, Dr. Neogi mentors early-stage researchers. In recognition for her mentoring excellence, she was awarded the 2016 Robert Dawson Evans Research Mentoring Award.

Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D.



Dr. Eliseo Pérez-Stable is Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He earned his B.A. in chemistry in 1974 and M.D. 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 following a panel of about 200 patients and supervised and taught students and residents in the ambulatory care and hospital settings. Dr. Pérez-Stable's research interests have centered on improving the health of racial and ethnic minorities 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, addressing clinical and prevention issues in cancer control research, supporting early career scientists in research on

minority aging in clinical and community settings, and addressing research questions in clinical conditions such as hypertension, asthma, diabetes, and dementia. He has published more than 300 peer-reviewed papers and was continuously funded by NIH grants for 30 years prior to becoming NIMHD Director. Dr. Pérez-Stable was elected to the National Academy of Medicine (formerly Institute of Medicine) of the National Academy of Science in 2001 and the American Society of Clinical Investigation in 1996.

Jennifer Raymond, J.D., M.B.A.



Jennifer Raymond, J.D., M.B.A., is the Chief Strategy Officer for AgeSpan (formerly Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley and North Shore), an Area Agency on Aging serving 28 cities and towns in Massachusetts. She is an experienced strategic thinker, coalition builder, and change leader. Driven by the desire to create healthy communities for all, she takes pride in aligning social missions with business acumen, providing the best approaches to sustainability possible. As Chief Strategy Officer, she builds cross-sector partnerships, creates shared alignment around a vision, and translates that vision into

action. Much of her integration work focused on contracting with health care entities to address health

related social needs. Jennifer holds a juris doctorate and a master's in business administration and serves on the Executive Committee of the Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative, the Steering Committee for Food is Medicine – Massachusetts (FIMMA) and the board of directors for the Evidence Based Leadership Collaborative.

Sandra Soto, Ph.D.



Sandra Soto, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing and Thurston Arthritis Research Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research examines the social influences of health behaviors among Latinos. By incorporating Latino cultural values, Dr. Soto aims to develop effective behavioral modification interventions to prevent and manage chronic diseases including osteoarthritis.

Caroline Thirukumaran, Ph.D.



Dr. Caroline Thirukumaran is an Assistant Professor in Orthopaedics, Public Health Sciences, and the Center for Musculoskeletal Research at the University of Rochester Medical Center. She is a Health Services Researcher by training. Her research interests are at the intersection of health policy, orthopaedic outcomes, and disparities in orthopaedic outcomes. Her NIMHD and NIA-funded research examine the association of Medicare’s bundled payment reform – the Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacements – with disparities in the use and outcomes of joint replacement surgeries. Her work has been published in JAMA, Health Affairs, JBJS, and other leading journals. She chairs the Surgical and Perioperative Care Interest Group at AcademyHealth and the Clinic Research Topic Section at the Orthopaedic Research Society and also serves as the Disparities Section Editor for Current Osteoporosis Reports. Dr. Thirukumaran completed her medical education and Masters in Hospital Administration in India; and earned her Ph.D. in Health Services Research and Policy from the

University of Rochester, New York.