

# NIMHD

National Institute on Minority Health  
and Health Disparities

## 2020 Role of Work in Health Disparities Workshop Speaker Biographies





## Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, MD

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.



## Sarah Burgard, PhD, MS

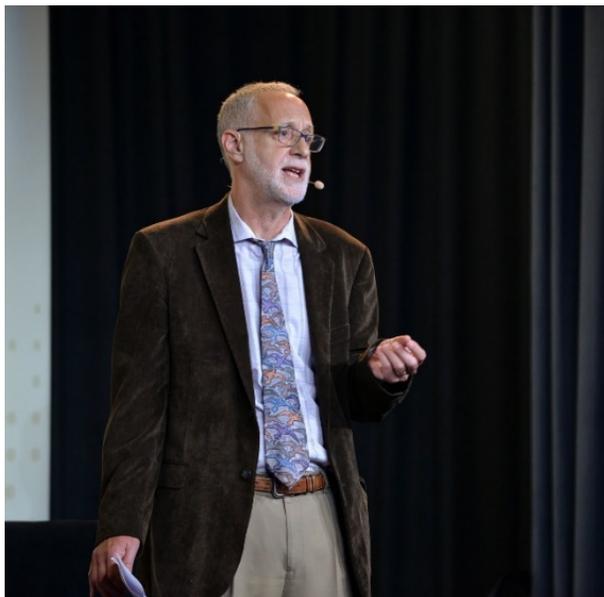
Dr. Sarah Burgard is a Professor of Sociology and, by courtesy, Epidemiology and Public Policy, and a Research Professor in the Population Studies Center, all at the University of Michigan. She received a PhD in Sociology and an MS in Epidemiology from UCLA. Dr. Burgard was a Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholar at Michigan before starting her faculty positions. She is a sociologist, demographer and social epidemiologist who conducts research on the social stratification of aging and health with population-based survey data and has published extensively on the social factors underlying health disparities by socioeconomic status, gender, and race/ethnicity. Much of her recent research and funding has centered on understanding these questions in the context of major shocks like economic recessions, which disrupt career, economic, and health paths for many adults, but especially for socioeconomically marginalized groups. Dr. Burgard is a PI of the Americans' Changing Lives Study, a representative panel of adults followed since 1986, and a PI of the Michigan Recession and Recovery Study, a panel survey in Southeast Michigan that has tracked careers, material hardship, and health in the wake of the Great Recession of 2007-2009. She is the

incoming director of Michigan's Population Studies Center.



## Katherine Chung-Bridges, MD, MPH

Dr. Katherine Chung-Bridges is an Assistant Professor at Florida International University's Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, and in October will join Health Choice Network as their Director of Research. She earned her undergraduate degree in History and Science at Harvard, and her MD degree from UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School. She completed her residency in Family Medicine at Montefiore's Residency Program in Social Medicine. Dr. Chung-Bridges earned a Master in Public Health from UMDNJ-School of Public Health while completing a National Research Service Award Fellowship in Primary Care Research at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She is a researcher, educator, and clinician, having conducted household visits with medical, nursing, and social work students in underserved communities throughout Miami-Dade County. Dr. Chung-Bridges has provided primary care to patients in North Miami on a mobile health center as part of the NeighborhoodHELP program. Her primary research interests are how to engage underserved populations in research and using research to understand and eliminate health disparities.



## Mark Cullen, MD

Dr. Mark Cullen is an occupational and environmental health physician, internist, and epidemiologist, now at the Stanford Center for Population Health Sciences which he founded in 2015. His early career was devoted to clinical research to better characterize diseases caused by environmental exposures. Over the past decade he has been a leader in the applications of new "big data" methods to complex social and environmental health interactions, and strategies to optimize the causal inferences possible from observational studies that exploit the availability of copious biologic, clinical and administrative data. He has focused extensively on the problem of making high-risk data linkable and shareable within the broad research community. He was elected to National Academy of Medicine in 1997.



## Rada Dagher, PhD, MPH

Dr. Rada Dagher is a Scientific Program Director at 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 NIH-wide committees including NRMN/BUILD (National Research Mentoring Network/Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity). 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 healthcare 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 BS in Environmental Health and MPH degrees. She then obtained a 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 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.



## Rina Das, PhD

Dr. Rina Das is a Scientific Program Director at NIMHD in Integrative Biological and Behavioral Sciences. She focuses on promoting research to understand and address the various factors that play a role in health disparities among different populations. She lends her expertise to a wide array of NIMHD programs that seek to improve minority health and health disparities, including translational sciences, cancer health disparities, research on the intersection of biological and social sciences, social epigenomics, sleep health disparities, community-based interventions and immigrant health. At NIMHD she initiated the social epigenomics program to understand how the social environment influences our biology which provided an opportunity to bring together two different disciplines- social sciences and molecular biology, to improve our understanding of the underlying mechanism of health disparities. Dr. Das also manages the Clinical Research Education and Career Development (CRECD) R25 program at NIMHD, which is a training program for clinical researchers to conduct minority health and health disparities research. Prior to joining NIMHD, Dr. Das

served as a Program Director at the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities at the National Cancer Institute. She managed programs on cancer health disparities research that focused on community-based interventions among various racial/ethnic minority populations, the role biological factors play in cancer disparities, and grants that enable training to improve diversity in the research workforce. Dr. Das also served as a Scientific Review Officer (SRO) at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Dr. Das earned her PhD in biochemistry from Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi, India in 1987, specifically in molecular biology and signaling pathways. She conducted postdoctoral training in breast cancer research at the National Cancer Institute from 1988 to 1996.



## Ana Diez Roux, MD, PhD, MPH

Dr. Ana Diez Roux is Dean & Distinguished Professor of Epidemiology at the Drexel Dornsife School of Public Health. Originally trained as a pediatrician in Buenos Aires, she completed an MPH and PhD at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. Before Drexel, she served on the faculties of Columbia University and the University of Michigan, where she was Chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Director of the Center for Social Epidemiology and Population Health. She is internationally known for her research on the social determinants of health and the study of how neighborhoods affect health. Her research areas also include environmental and psychosocial health effects, cardiovascular disease epidemiology, and the use of multilevel methods and complex systems approaches in population health. She has led large NIH and foundation funded research and training programs. She currently directs the Drexel Urban Health Collaborative and is Principal Investigator of the Wellcome Trust –funded SALURBAL (Salud Urbana

en America Latina/Urban Health in Latin America) project. She has served on numerous editorial boards, review panels and committees including most recently the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee of the EPA (as Chair). She was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2009.



## Bryan Dowd, PhD

Dr. Bryan Dowd is a Professor in the Division of Health Policy and Management, School of Public Health, at the University of Minnesota. His research interests include markets for health insurance and health care services and econometric methods. He was the founding chair of the Methods Council of AcademyHealth and is a Senior Associate Editor for Health Services Research where he initiated the Methods Corner. He is the current chair of the Health Systems and Value Research study section at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Dr. Dowd teaches courses in advanced research methods, health policy analysis, and writing for research in the HPM doctoral program. He has over 200 publications in refereed journals, two books, and three “Article of the Year” awards. His current research includes analysis of tiered clinic cost-sharing and evaluation of CMS/CMMI’s Next Generation ACOs with NORC at the University of Chicago. He is a licensed architect and holds a PhD in Public Policy Analysis from the University of Pennsylvania.



## Wen Fan, PhD, MS

Dr. Wen Fan is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Boston College. She received her PhD in Sociology in 2015 and an MS in Statistics in 2014, both from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Fan's research focuses on the ways in which social factors—especially work environments, family dynamics, and gender norms—intersect to shape health and well-being over the life course, in different historical moments, and across social contexts. One line of her research focuses on heterosexual couples, examining how husbands' and wives' working conditions operate along with home demands/resources to shape their own and each other's health and well-being. A second line of her research investigates how occupational segregation—by immigrant status or by gender—affects one's physical, psychological, and emotional well-being. A third line of her research examines the extent to which population health and health disparities—as well as changes therein—are shaped by macro-level demographic processes. Along with Dr. Phyllis Moen, she is working on a project that investigates remote work in the

time of COVID-19. Dr. Fan's research has appeared in *American Sociological Review*, *Demography*, *European Sociological Review*, *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Social Science Research*, *Society and Mental Health*, and elsewhere. In 2018, Dr. Fan received the Early Career Work and Family Fellowship from the Work and Family Researchers Network.



## Gilbert C. Gee, PhD

Dr. Gilbert C. Gee is a Professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences at the Fielding School of Public Health at UCLA. He received his bachelor's degree in neuroscience from Oberlin College, his doctorate in Health Policy and Management from the Johns Hopkins University, and post-doctoral training in sociology from Indiana University. His research focuses on the social determinants of health inequities of racial, ethnic, and immigrant minority populations using a multi-level and life course perspective. A primary line of his research focuses on conceptualizing and measuring racial discrimination, and in understanding how discrimination may be related to illness. He has also

published more broadly on the topics of stress, neighborhoods, immigration, environmental exposures, occupational health, and on Asian American populations. His research has been honored with a group Merit Award from the National Institutes of Health for the development of a multicultural measures of discrimination for health surveys. In addition, he received two Scientific and Technical Achievement Awards from the Environmental Protection Agency for development of the Stress-Exposure-Disease Framework. Dr. Gee shared the Delta Omega Award for Innovative Public Health Curriculum with student leaders from the CHS Grads for Racial Justice: Amelia Fay-Berquist, Elida Ledesma, Ashley Lewis, Sarah Jane Smith, and Marisol Torres. Dr. Gee was Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. He has also been a guest editor for *Child Development*, *Asian American and Pacific Islander Nexus Journal*, and the *Asian American Journal of Psychology*.



## Jeff Hayes, PhD

Dr. Jeff Hayes is a sociologist and Scholar in Residence at American University and works on research examining women's and men's employment, job quality, and economic security over the life course, including retirement. He currently oversees IWPR's work analyzing usage and cost of paid family and medical leave in the United States and provides technical assistance to several states and localities considering how they might improve workers' access to paid leave for their own health needs or to care for family members. He is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance and recently served on their study committee for Universal Family Care. He was previously a member of the Maryland Task Force to Study Family and Medical Leave Insurance. Prior to joining IWPR, Dr. Hayes worked at the McGill Institute for Health and Social Policy and the Harvard Project on Global Working Families, analyzing how labor conditions affect children's health and development around the world, and taught research methods at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He holds master's and doctoral degrees in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a bachelor's degree in Sociology and Religious Studies from the University of Virginia.



## Nancy Jones, PhD, MA

Dr. Nancy Jones is a Program Officer at NIMHD in Community Health and Population Sciences. Dr. Jones's research interests include the ethical, legal, and social ramifications that research, medicine, and healthcare have on underserved populations. Examples include making explicit underlying norms, values, and philosophies to improve cultural congruence and lessen group harms. Another interest is to support research to improve the ability of theoretical constructs and conceptual models to explain the causes of health disparities. Dr. Jones's background spans basic and translational biomedical research; medical ethics; legal and social implications of research, healthcare, and policy; and design of curricula and scientific programs. She developed a code of ethics for life sciences and a curriculum to teach ethics and professionalism for biomedical science and engineering graduate students. Dr. Jones lectures on the ethics of health disparities and serves as an adjunct professor of bioethics at Trinity International University. Dr. Jones graduated with a BS in Biochemistry in 1981 from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. She earned her PhD in Biochemistry from Wake Forest

University School of Medicine in 1987 before receiving an MA in Bioethics from Trinity International University in 2003. Dr. Jones joined NIMHD in 2012 and served as co-chair on the Etiology of Health Disparities for the Science Visioning as well as several trans-NIH committees on bioethics.



## Pamela Joshi, PhD, MPP

Dr. Pamela Joshi is a Senior Scientist and the Associate Director of the Institute for Child, Youth and Family Policy at the Heller for School of Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. She received her PhD in Social Policy from Brandeis University and a Master of Public Policy from the University of Michigan. Prior to joining Brandeis, Dr. Joshi was a Research Scientist at RTI International and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Her research focuses broadly on family economic security and specifically on how: 1) job quality varies among workers; 2) working conditions influence parents' and children's health and economic outcomes; 3) state social policy variation affects families and children; 4) racial/ethnic disparities in employment structure and social determinants of health contribute to differential impacts and 5) the

relationship between health and employment. Dr. Joshi's work seeks to identify effective policies and service delivery practices that improve outcomes and reduce racial/ethnic disparities. In 2015, Dr. Joshi and colleagues received the Lawrence R. Klein Award from the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics for their research documenting differential job quality of working parents by race, ethnicity and nativity.



## Jay S. Kaufman, PhD

Dr. Jay S. Kaufman is Professor and Graduate Program Director in the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health at McGill University (Montreal, Quebec). He also holds current appointments at the University of Chile, The University of Michigan and The University of North Carolina. Dr. Kaufman earned a doctorate in epidemiologic science from the University of Michigan (1995). After a post-doctoral position at Loyola Stritch School of Medicine (Chicago, IL) from 1995-1997, he was Medical Epidemiologist at Carolinas Medical Center (Charlotte, NC) from 1997 to 1999. From 1999 through 2008 he held positions as Assistant and Associate Professor at the University of North Carolina School of Public Health at Chapel Hill and as Faculty Fellow of the Carolina Population Center before beginning his current position at

McGill, where he also held a Canada Research Chair in Health Disparities (2010-2017). Dr. Kaufman's work focuses on social epidemiology, analytic methodology, causal inference and on a variety of health outcomes including perinatal outcomes and cardiovascular, psychiatric and infectious diseases. He is an editor at the journal "Epidemiology" and co-editor of the textbook "Methods in Social Epidemiology" (2nd Edition, 2017). He is currently serving (2020-2021) as the President of the Society for Epidemiologic Research.



## Paul Landsbergis, PhD, EdD, MPH

Dr. Paul Landsbergis is an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, State University of New York (SUNY)-Downstate Health Sciences University School of Public Health. He received a PhD in Epidemiology from Columbia University and an EdD in Labor Studies from Rutgers University. Dr. Landsbergis has more than 35 years of research and teaching experience on social epidemiology, work organization, work stress, workplace interventions, lean production, socioeconomic health inequities, hypertension, cardiovascular disease, musculoskeletal disorders and psychological disorders. He has helped to develop a website for the public with educational material on work organization and health, including case studies of a variety of work organization interventions. Dr. Landsbergis served as a member of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's (NIOSH's) Intervention Effectiveness Research Team and was a member of the National Research Council's Committee on the Health and Safety Needs of Older Workers. He co-edited two books on work stress and health (*The Workplace and Cardiovascular Disease*, 2000; *Unhealthy Work*, 2009), and is Deputy Editor of the *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*.



## Bruce Link, PhD, MS

Dr. Bruce Link is Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and Sociology at the University of California Riverside and Professor Emeritus of Epidemiology and Sociomedical Sciences at the Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University. Dr. Link received his PhD in Sociology (1980) and a Master of Science in Biostatistics (1982) from Columbia University. He received the Leonard Pearlman Award for career achievement from the Mental Health Section of the American Sociological Association in 2002. In 2007 he received the Leo G. Reeder Award from the Medical Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association and the Rema Lapouse Award from the Mental Health Section of the American Public Health Association. He was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Medicine in 2002. Dr. Link's interests are centered on topics in psychiatric and social epidemiology as they bear on policy issues. He has written on the connection

between socioeconomic status and health, homelessness, violence, stigma, and discrimination. With Jo Phelan, he has advanced the theory of social conditions as fundamental causes of disease. Currently he is conducting research on the life course origins of health inequalities by race/ethnicity and socioeconomic status, the consequences of social stigma for the life chances of people who are subject to stigma, and on evaluating intervention efforts aimed at reducing mental illness stigma in children attending middle school.



## Patricia McGovern, PhD, MPH

Dr. Pat McGovern is the Bond Professor of Occupational and Environmental Health Policy at the School of Public Health, University of Minnesota (UMN). She earned a PhD in Health Services Research and Policy and an MPH in Public/Occupational Health Nursing at the UMN. Before earning her graduate degrees, Dr. McGovern worked with the American Medical Student Association Foundation in Washington, D.C., supporting resident and medical student training for service in medically underserved communities and as a public health nurse in Yellowstone City County Health Department, Montana. Dr. McGovern is a health services and policy researcher investigating occupational and environmental policies that influence the health of women and children. Early studies investigated the impact of family and medical leave policies on women's access to childbirth-related leave and the associated health implications. Subsequent studies investigated work-related violence including risk factors for verbal and physical abuse and sexual harassment in the healthcare industry, and the cost of work-related physical assaults by

occupation in Minnesota. Most recently, Dr. McGovern and colleagues worked with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry to evaluate a state legislative proposal to lower the age for minors working in construction from age 18 to age 16.



## Phyllis Moen, PhD, MA

Dr. Phyllis Moen directs the [Life Course Center](#), an NIA Center on the Demography and Economics of Aging, at the University of Minnesota, where she holds a McKnight Presidential Endowed Chair and is Professor of Sociology. She received her PhD in Sociology at Minnesota, and was recruited back, after 25 years at Cornell University, in 2003. Dr. Moen is a life course scholar investigating the timing, duration and sequencing of work, family, and retirement pathways in tandem with the health and well-being of women and men of different ages, life stages, race/ethnicities, and social classes. Her award-winning book, [Encore Adulthood: Boomers on the Edge of Risk, Renewal, and Purpose](#) (2016), emphasizes the possibilities as well as risks and inequalities characterizing this new life stage. She encourages policy-makers,

organizations, and communities to recognize and respond to both the promise and vulnerabilities of this historically unprecedented space opened up by the longevity revolution, the period after the conventional years of family- and career-building but prior to the often postponed fragilities associated with conventional old age. Her latest book (with Erin Kelly) is *Overload: How Good Jobs Went Bad and What We Can Do About It* (Princeton University Press; 2020). Dr. Moen launched the [University of Minnesota Advanced Careers Initiative](#) (UMAC) in 2017, bringing Boomers and others back to campus to illustrate how public universities can serve as catalysts promoting multi-generational education and purposive encores for older Americans.



## Trevor Peckham, PhD, MPA

Dr. Trevor Peckham is a Research Scientist at the King County Hazardous Waste Management Program and affiliate faculty at the University of Washington School of Public Health. He recently finished his PhD in environmental and occupational health at the University of Washington, where he also received master's degrees in public health and public policy. His research attempts to integrate the principles of environmental and occupational health with theory and methods from the social sciences and social epidemiology, specifically focusing on two overlapping lines of research: 1) understanding the relationship between non-standard and precarious employment and workers' health; and 2) characterizing the contribution of employment conditions in creating and perpetuating disparities in health across social groups.



## Sonya Rastogi Porter, PhD

Dr. Sonya R. Porter is a Principal Sociologist and Demographer in the Center for Economic Studies at the United States Census Bureau. Dr. Porter's research focuses on racial and ethnic measurement, identification, and identity and using linked data to conduct research on racial and ethnic inequality and mobility in the United States. Her research interests also include using linked administrative records and census data to study correlations and determinants of intra-generational and inter-generational mobility, to answer key questions related to educational policy, and to study social and economic pre- and post-incarceration experiences of formerly incarcerated individuals. She received her PhD and MA in Sociology from the University of Maryland.



## Erik J. Rodriguez, PhD, MPH

Dr. Erik J. Rodriguez 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. His experience also includes research in the fields of premature mortality, occupational health, and applied public health. Dr. Rodriguez's immediate work includes: 1) identifying modifiable mechanisms between behavioral and biological factors that explain the relationship between chronic stress and depressive symptoms among a diverse cohort of Latinos; 2) determining optimal levels of tobacco-related biomarkers to distinguish heavier smokers from lower levels of tobacco use and exposure among Latinos and individual Latino national backgrounds; and 3) investigating the relationships between individual-level neighborhood factors and health promoting and risk behaviors among Latinos living in four large U.S. communities. Dr. Rodriguez received his MPH 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.



## Nadra Tyus, DrPH, MPH

CDR Nadra Tyus is a Health Scientist Administrator at NIMHD. Her role focuses on promoting research to understand the various domains of influence and biopsychosocial factors contributing to health disparities in the areas of population health, behavioral health, and well-being. She provides her 15-year expertise to NIMHD programs in the areas of implementation science, evidence-based behavioral health and substance-use interventions, community-based participatory research, program evaluation, and health innovation. Before coming to NIMHD, CDR Tyus worked over 9 years at the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) in the Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) and at the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis. In her position as a Team Lead in BPHC, she led the development of evidence-based training and technical assistance activities on the primary care integration of HIV/AIDS, oral health, behavioral health, and substance/opioid use in the health center setting. CDR Tyus earned a DrPH in Behavioral and Community Health Sciences from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health, an MPH

from the Medical University of Ohio, and a BS in Biological Sciences from Ohio University. Her postdoctoral training at the Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute focused on addressing health disparities using community-based participatory research.