



## 2016 Presenters



**Christine Athmann, MD**, is the Assistant Director of the Native American Center of Health Professions (NACHP) within the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. She is also a family physician practicing full spectrum family medicine with obstetrics for UW Health. Dr. Athmann received her medical degree and residency training at the University of Minnesota (UMN) and more recently received her Masters in Healthcare Administration through UMN School of Public Health. She grew up on the White Earth Indian Reservation in Northwest Minnesota and is a descendent of the White Earth Tribe of Ojibwe.

NACHP's mission is to improve the health and wellness of Native communities by increasing the number of graduates of Native health professionals within our UW health professional programs who can then provide care to our people. The Center's programming and grant support advance tribal community engagement and outreach, recruitment and mentorship for students spanning education levels from middle school through health professional training, and providing cultural and academic support for our local Native campus community.



**Michael Bernard-Donals, PhD**, is the UW-Madison Vice Provost for Faculty and Staff Programs and works closely with individuals in administrative offices, deans of schools and colleges, and other units across campus to address issues of concern to faculty and staff. He is also the Nancy Hoefs Professor of English and an affiliate member of the Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies. His research areas include the history and theory of rhetoric, public memory (including museums and memorials), and Jewish Studies. He's written widely, and taught courses, on how we remember events like the Holocaust, the different forms that memory takes, and the consequences—intended and unintended—of those memorial forms on individuals and their communities. Prior to his work in the provost's office, Professor Bernard-Donals was the chair of the English Department, the director of the Mosse/Weinstein Center for

Jewish Studies, the chair of the Arts and Humanities Divisional Executive Committee, and chair of the University Committee.



**Militza Bonet-Vázquez, MPH**, Health Research Coordinator at the United Community Center (UCC), Milwaukee. In her role, she coordinates UCC-academic engaged research partnerships in the Latino community, associated project development and implementation and ensures the quality of collaboratively established research protocols at the UCC.

Ms. Bonet has done extensive work on the impact of social and environmental factors on health, particularly relating to undeserved and vulnerable populations. She has five years of experience working in community-based research development, implementation and evaluation settings, recruitment of potential study participants and interventions. Ms. Bonet has also worked on Patient-Centered Medical Home development and implementation, which is focused on improving the quality of life for persons living with HIV. In addition to research development and implementation, she also developed content for and managed the development of a website in both English and Spanish focused on addressing the needs of underserved HIV clients with limited health and technology literacy.

Ms. Bonet holds a B.S. in Biology from Inter American University- San Juan, PR., and a MPH in Health Promotion and Diseases Prevention from University of Missouri-Columbia. She has been with the United Community Center since 2013.



**James Butler III, DrPH, MEd**, is an Assistant Professor of Behavioral and Community Health in the School of Public Health at the University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Butler also holds a leadership position as an Associate Director in the University of Maryland Center for Health Equity (M-CHE). As a researcher, Dr. Butler anchors his research in an ecological framework that incorporates individual, social structure and environmental influences in eliminating tobacco-related health disparities to achieve health equity. Specifically, he utilizes community engagement as a means to build ongoing, permanent relationships with African American residents of low income housing for the purpose of applying a collective vision to develop and implement culturally relevant smoking cessation interventions. To this end, Dr. Butler received of a 5-year (2009-2014) National Cancer Institute Mentored Career Development Award to Promote

Diversity titled, Smoking Cessation among Residents of Public Housing. Dr. Butler has published in numerous professional journals including, but not limited to *Contemporary Clinical Trials*, *Public Health Reports*, *Health Promotion Practice*, *Journal of Health Psychology*, and the *Annual Review of Public Health*. He serves as a reviewer for *Nicotine and Tobacco Research*, *Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action*, the *American Journal of Public Health*, *Health Promotion Practice*, and the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. After completing his undergraduate degree in clinical laboratory science at Gwynedd Mercy University, Dr. Butler went on to earn his master's degree in community health education at Temple University and later earned a doctorate in public health from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public Health. He then completed a postdoctoral fellowship in preventative medicine and public health, concentrating on tobacco control and prevention, at the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Dr. Butler has been HELI Faculty since 2010.



**Angela Byars-Winston, PhD**, is a counseling psychologist and Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine at the UW-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health. She is a nationally-recognized expert on cultural influences on career development and mentoring, especially for racial and ethnic minorities and women in the sciences and medicine. Her research has focused on testing the validity of theoretical models to explain and predict academic and career outcomes using social cognitive theoretical approaches.

She is currently co-leading a four-year NIH grant to assess how mentors and mentees define cultural diversity awareness and how important this awareness is to the mentoring relationship. She is also part of a national team that has been awarded a five-year grant from NIH to establish a national research mentoring network (NRMN). She has co-developed and facilitated several

mentor and mentee trainings, focusing specifically on trainings to build culturally responsive mentoring and mentee research self-efficacy.



**Al Castro, MS, BSSW**, is Program Director at the United Community Center (UCC) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In his role, Mr. Castro manages the Health Research Department at the UCC. UCC collaborates with various academic research universities (such as UW-Madison, Medical College of Wisconsin, Marquette University, UW-Milwaukee) in conducting community-engaged research in areas of health issues and inequities among the Latino community, to lead towards development of programs and services that addresses these issues and needs. Mr. Castro serves as the primary liaison with a wide range of university partners. Prior to this position, Mr. Castro had been the director of the UCC Latino Geriatric Center, which is composed of a memory diagnostic clinic for Latinos and an adult day center designed

for Latinos with dementia care needs and to provide support to Latino family caregivers. Mr. Castro has been with UCC for over 17 years.

Mr. Castro has 38 years of experience in social work or management positions in various county social services and community services roles, with populations ranging from young children, teenagers, and families to elderly individuals. Mr. Castro has over 18 years of experience implementing and managing various human services programs and research projects in the greater Milwaukee area. He is a member of the UW-Milwaukee Helen Bader School of Social Welfare Advisory Council and a frequent lecturer in various social work classes. Since 1978, Mr. Castro has been a field placement supervisor for numerous social worker students from UW-Milwaukee, Carroll University, Mt. Mary College, Loyola University and Ottawa University, with special dedication to helping Latino students develop their careers in social work. In 2014 UW-Milwaukee recognized Mr. Castro with the Outstanding Social Work Field Instructor Award. In 2015, the Medical College of Wisconsin recognized his efforts with the President's Award for Inclusion and Diversity. Mr. Castro is an advisory board member for the following groups: the UW-Madison/Community-Academics Advisory Research Network Board, the Training in Urban Medicine and Public

Health Program, the UW-Milwaukee Helen Bader School of Social Welfare, and the Alzheimer's Association of SE Wisconsin. He is a frequent presenter at local, state and national conferences, workshops and seminars.

Mr. Castro holds a BS degree in Social Work (1972) from Carroll University in Waukesha WI, and a MS degree in Business Management (2009) from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee, WI. He is a licensed social worker in the State of Wisconsin, and is fluent in Spanish. Originally from Texas, Mr. Castro has made Wisconsin his home over 40 years.



**Pelin Cengiz, MD**, is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health. She is a pediatric intensivist and her research focuses on finding novel neuroprotective strategies after neonatal brain injury. She finished her pediatric residency at Louisiana State University followed by her pediatric critical care fellowship at the Seattle Children's Hospital-University of Washington. After joining the UW-Madison Department of Pediatrics as a faculty she was granted the Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award (KL2) from the University of Wisconsin Institute for Clinical and Translational Research. She currently holds a Mentored Clinical Scientist Development Award (K08)

from National Institutes for Neurological Disorders and Stroke. Dr. Cengiz's clinical duties include serving as an attending in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and in the Outpatient Sedation Clinic at American Family Children's Hospital in Madison. Abroad, she is an active member of the international health community.



**Terron Edwards**

For most of his adult life, Terron has devoted his career to empowering underrepresented men and families. Beating many obstacles and statistics himself, Terron works to be living proof that there is hope to break the cycle of fatherless-ness not only in his community but throughout America. Terron has worked with men and fathers in the Milwaukee community for over thirteen years. As a result of his experience, he has implemented, facilitated and coached others in various successful fatherhood, manhood, reentry and workforce models on both local and national levels. In addition to his primary men's advocacy roles, over the years Terron has also served as a youth football coach using sports as a chance to serve as a "community

father" to many young men as he tries to teach manhood values right alongside techniques for the playing field. Terron is certified in various facilitation methods and curricula and in taking his role as Walnut Way Men's Wellness Project Coordinator, he takes the lead in facilitating wellness groups as well as developing a toolkit for the project.



**Dorothy Farrar-Edwards, PhD**, is Director of the ICTR Collaborative Center for Health Equity, Chair of the UW Department of Kinesiology, and is Professor in the School of Education with an appointment in the Department of Medicine at the School of Medicine and Public Health. In 2016, she was named to Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professorship, an award recognizing distinguished scholarship as well as standout efforts in teaching and service. Her multidisciplinary research addresses the effects of aging on functional independence and quality of life. The central goal of her research is to contribute to the understanding of quality of life and well-being in older adults by examining the impact of cognitive and physical impairment on performance of complex activities of everyday life. Her research explores questions of functional performance, caregiver burden, and treatment outcomes in a

variety of populations ranging from normal aging to neurological diseases such as Alzheimer's disease and stroke. She is particularly interested in the aging process in African Americans, via her role in community engagement and outreach with the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute and Alzheimer's disease Research Center. The ultimate aim of these studies is to support the development and implementation of more effective interventions for persons with cognitive loss and their families.



**Tisha Felder, PhD, MSW, (HELI 2011 Alumni)**, received her BA in sociology, with a minor in Spanish, from Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC in 2001. She received her Master of Social Work from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, with specializations in social policy and evaluation (practice method concentration) and community and social systems (practice area concentration) in 2002. In 2010, she graduated with a PhD in behavioral sciences, with minors in epidemiology and health policy, from the University of Texas (UT) School of Public Health in Houston. After receiving her doctorate, Dr. Felder received additional research training as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of South Carolina, jointly affiliated with the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Outcomes Sciences in the SC

College of Pharmacy, and the Cancer Prevention and Control Program of the Arnold School of Public Health. The long-term goal of Dr. Felder's research is to identify approaches that address racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in health, with an emphasis on disadvantaged populations diagnosed with cancer. She also has strong research interests in the mentoring and training on junior faculty from underrepresented backgrounds in biomedical science.



**Tim Frandy, PhD**, is a folklorist and a CCHE Research Ambassador who partners with multiple tribal communities in Northern Wisconsin. Dr. Frandy's work spans five countries and two continents. He has a Ph.D. in Scandinavian Studies and Folklore Studies, and his research involves indigenous communities, health and wellness, and cultural worldview. With his most recent work, Dr. Frandy has been developing culturally-responsive educational programs to improve health and wellness in indigenous communities. These include the Wiigwaasi-Jiimaan – These Canoes Carry Culture projects: full details, photos, and video of the project work is available at the project website: [wiigwaasijiimaan.wordpress.com](http://wiigwaasijiimaan.wordpress.com). In Fall 2016, Dr. Frandy will be starting a faculty position as an Assistant Professor at Northland College in

Ashland, Wisconsin.



**David Frazer, MPH**, received his Master of Public Health from Tulane University's School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine; his focus of study included program management and evaluation. He has worked in public health for 18 years and his experience ranges from forging grassroots community based organization collaborations to providing technical assistance to the World Health Organization. His work experience and interests are in population health including: environmental health; behavioral health including substance abuse, HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, and hepatitis. He has served on dozens of community and regional health workgroups and coalitions including the Wisconsin HIV Prevention Planning Council and the Milwaukee-based Syphilis Elimination committee. He currently facilitates the Milwaukee Regional Cancer Care Network and is part of the core planning team of the Lindsay Heights Wellness Commons. David has worked extensively in Latin America and is proficient in Spanish.

Mr. Frazer leads the expansion and sustainment of community partnerships and coordinating community-based research and initiatives. He facilitates collaborative, equitable involvement of the community in local research and is the link between the community at large and the Center. Mr. Frazer has experience in creating environments where community and academic partners can digest evidence and adapt what works into local solutions. He supports and provides a menu of approaches to engage with community or academia depending on the stage of research or program development.

As the Interim Director of the Center for Urban Population Health (CUPH) in Milwaukee, WI, David works on strategic planning, leadership of the Center and is supporting the Center's Institutional Leadership Committee in planning and transitioning between directors.



**Craig S. Fryer, DrPH, MPH**, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health at the University of Maryland, School of Public Health and holds a leadership position as an Associate Director of the Maryland Center for Health Equity (M-CHE). Dr. Fryer obtained his MPH from the University of Pittsburgh in Behavioral and Community Health Sciences with a concentration in child welfare and his DrPH in Sociomedical Sciences from Columbia University with an emphasis in the social determinants of health behavior and health outcomes.

Trained as behavioral scientist, Dr. Fryer utilizes mixed methods research designs to examine the sociocultural context of health and health status, with an emphasis in community-engaged research. His work focuses on racial and ethnic health disparities in substance use and dependence, specifically tobacco and marijuana use among urban youth and young adult populations.

Dr. Fryer is the Principal Investigator of the five-year, NIH-funded (National Cancer Institute) K01 career development award, *Correlates of Nicotine Dependence among Urban African American Youth*. Additionally, he is a Co-Investigator on a FDA/NCI-funded, *Assessing Risk Perceptions for Small Cigars/Cigarillos among Young Adults* and three grants within the Center for Health Equity funded by the National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). Collateral research endeavors include: African American men's health; behavioral intervention research; and the respectful, recruitment and retention of underrepresented communities in research.



**Mary Garza, PhD, MPH**, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health at the University of Maryland, School of Public Health and holds a leadership position as Associate Director in the Maryland Center for Health Equity. Dr. Garza received her MPH from the School of Public Health at San Diego State University with an emphasis in health education and health promotion. Post MPH degree, Dr. Garza worked as health coordinator for a federally qualified health center in Coachella Valley, CA where she gained valuable community-level experience working with low-income migrant farm workers (primarily Latinos and African Americans). She coordinated local, state, and federal community education and medical treatment programs with a focus on diabetes, cancer screening, hypertension, STDs, and HIV/AIDS. Dr. Garza returned to graduate school, and received her PhD in Health Policy and Management with a focus in Social and Behavioral Sciences from the Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University

where she also completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Cancer Epidemiology. Overall, Dr. Garza's research activities embrace the full spectrum of the intervention research process—from planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating, to dissemination of research findings – using a community-based participatory research approach. She has a strong interest in health disparities research, including understanding the interplay of psychosocial, behavioral, and neighborhood-level factors associated with health behavior; specifically, the factors related to sustained compliance with cancer screening and health-related decision making. Her research interests also include the role and influence of religion and

spirituality on health outcomes. Currently, Dr. Garza is the principal investigator of a NCI-funded, K01 Mentored Research Scientist Development Award to Promote Diversity (K01), titled “African Americans and Colorectal Cancer: A Multilevel Model to Assess Factors for Screening.” The objective of the K01 is to characterize individual and neighborhood-level risk and protective factors associated with colorectal cancer screening behavior among African-Americans. Additionally, Dr. Garza’s research involves assessing the prevailing perceptions, knowledge and attitudes toward participation in biomedical research, including clinical trials. Moreover, she is working with the Health Advocates in Reach and Research (HAIR) network, a barbershop initiative, to promote cancer screening in barbershops. Dr. Garza has been HELI faculty since 2010.



**Bob Golden, MD**, received his BA cum laude with honors in psychology from Yale in 1975, and his MD from Boston University School of Medicine in 1979. He completed an internship, residency, and chief residency in psychiatry at the University of North Carolina. From 1983 to 1985 he was a Medical Staff Fellow in the Clinical Pharmacology Section of the National Institute of Mental Health Intramural Research Program. He returned to UNC-Chapel Hill in 1985, where he served as the founding Director of both the Clinical Psychobiology & Pharmacology Research Training Program and the ECT Service, and as Associate Director of both the General Clinical Research Center and the Mental Health Clinical Research Center. From 1994 through 2005 he served as Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at UNC School of Medicine. In 2004, Dr. Golden assumed the additional role of Vice Dean for the School of Medicine, with

responsibilities for the school’s research and educational programs, faculty development and academic affairs, and Area Health Education Centers.

In July 2006, Dr. Golden became the 9th Dean of the School of Medicine and Public Health and the Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He also serves as Chair of the Board of the UW Medical Foundation, an academic group practice comprised of more than 1100 physicians, and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Authority Board of UW Hospital and Clinics.

Dr. Golden’s research and clinical interests have focused on psychobiological and psychopharmacologic aspects of mood disorders. He has published more than 200 papers, chapters, and books. He has served on several editorial boards, review panels, and advisory committees, was Field Editor for Clinical Psychobiology for Neuropsychopharmacology, and is currently Associate Editor for Psychosomatic Medicine. He has served on the Board of Regents of the American College of Psychiatrists, and is currently a Director of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. His honors include selection as a Ginsburg Fellow of the Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry, a Laughlin Fellow of the American College of Psychiatrists, a Jefferson Pilot Fellow in Academic Medicine, recipient of the Eugene Hargrove Mental Health Research Award and the American College of Psychiatrists Mood Disorders Research Award, appointment as the inaugural Stuart Bondurant Distinguished Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and recipient of the Distinguished Medical Alumnus Award from the UNC School of Medicine and the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Boston University School of Medicine.



**Bridgette Hansen** is on the finance team of the University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center and has over eight years of experience in Grants and Contracts Administration. Before moving to the Cancer Center, Ms. Hansen was the Grants Manager at the Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) in the UW School of Medicine and Public Health. She provided support to ICTR faculty and staff with proposal planning, budget development, and other pre-award activities relating to extramural funding. She provided financial management for federal awards administered through ICTR, and communicated with leadership and staff on federal grant policies. Prior to joining ICTR in 2013, she worked at the UW Waisman Center and within the UW Department of Biomedical Engineering.



**Amy Harley, PhD, MPH**, is an Associate Professor of Community & Behavioral Health Promotion at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Zilber School of Public Health. Dr. Harley is a Registered Dietitian with Master's and doctoral degrees in public health, specifically in community health education and health promotion/behavior change. Her research program incorporates both observational and intervention methods to address the social context of healthy lifestyle, specifically physical activity participation and healthy food consumption. She is particularly interested in the social context of healthy lifestyle for low-income and racial/ethnic minority communities. Her studies incorporate both mixed methods and community engagement. She has special interests in innovative participatory research methods and research designs that address health equity. She is the Academic Partner on the 'Developing a Men's Wellness Network to Improve Community Health Outcomes' Project with the Lindsay Heights Neighborhood Alliance, Walnut Way Conservation Corps in Milwaukee.



**Caprice Greenberg, MD, MPH**, is a Professor of Surgery and the Morgridge Endowed Chair in Health Services Research at the University of Wisconsin. She is a surgical oncologist specializing in breast cancer and a health services researcher focused on improving patient safety and quality of care. Other leadership roles include Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Surgery and Director of the Wisconsin Surgical Outcomes Research (WiSOR) Program. She completed a general surgery residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital Center and Masters of Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, as well as a surgical oncology fellowship at the Partners-Dana Farber Cancer. Her multi-disciplinary research program in comparative effectiveness and patient centered outcomes research in cancer care, as well performance and quality measurement and improvement in surgery, has been funded by a variety of agencies, including NIH, AHRQ, and PCORI. Dr. Greenberg is past President of the Surgical Outcomes Club, as well as past Recorder and current President of the Association for Academic Surgery.



**Stephanie Houston, MBA** Through a partnership between the Center for Urban Population Health and the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institutes (WAI), Ms. Houston provides social work assistance to cognitively impaired medically underserved African American older adults referred to the UW MAPP (Milwaukee Alzheimer's Prevention Program) in Milwaukee County. Ms. Houston serves as a resource and service link for minority elders and their families who are in need of proper assessment and diagnosis, and education and support for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. In addition, she is actively involved in research recruitment and retention of minority participants in UW sponsored Alzheimer's disease research projects as well as community education and outreach activities. Also, she is responsible for coordinating ongoing support groups and linking families with the Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer's Prevention (WRAP). For over 13 years Ms.

Houston has provided community-based coordinated services to disadvantaged individuals and minorities in Milwaukee County. She has furnished a wide range of services to individuals, including: counseling, advocacy, case management, training, supervision, and resource referrals. Ms. Houston has worked with the most vulnerable populations in Milwaukee County, including: older adults, homeless, low-income families, displaced homemakers, and cognitively impaired and disabled adults. She also assisted in managing an in-home caregiver provider service that serviced nearly 300 older adults in Milwaukee County.

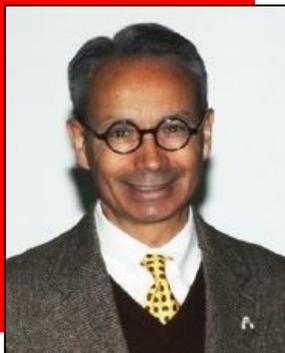


**Brian Jackson** worked for Great Lakes Native American Research Center for Health (GLNARCH) & Health Career Education in Lac Du Flambeau for 11 years. His primary role was to facilitate the continued development of the GLNARCH program. He provided support for the administration, coordination and evaluation of the GLNARCH program planning and staff development.

Mr. Jackson started a new position January 4, 2016. He is currently the Lac Du Flambeau Public School Cultural Connections-Community Engagement Director and part of the Administration Cabinet Responsible for facilitating a comprehensive approach to Wisconsin Act 31, promoting and integrating education about Wisconsin Native American cultures in the school, community, and the Lakeland area. He coordinates and assists with cultural field experiences, cultural speakers and resources, and cultural connection initiatives. He collaborates with the tribal language community along with a variety of parties (e.g. district personnel, community organizations, parents, businesses, local, state, and federal governments) for the purpose of securing funding to maintain and enhance culturally responsive educational services and programs.

CCHE has worked closely with Mr. Jackson since 2008, when we co-produced the annual UW Indigenous Health and Wellness Day, a 3-day immersion experience for 7th-12<sup>th</sup> grade Native students to explore pathways to college and careers in the health sciences.

Mr. Jackson is an Ojibwe enrolled in Lac Du Flambeau with Family in Bad River and Lac Vieux Desert communities as well. He takes being a family man and being a positive role model very seriously. He is a Doctoral Candidate in Indigenous Education at University Minnesota Duluth. Other roles include Army National Guard Veteran and Wisconsin Indian Education Association Board President. His work is dedicated to promoting educational and healthy equity among American Indian people, particularly within the tribal communities of Wisconsin.



**Jared Jobe, PhD, FABMR**, is retired from Federal service and is now a consultant to universities and research organizations on clinical trials and research funding for biomedical sciences (May 2009 – present).

He received his Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma in 1976. Dr. Jobe has been a peer reviewer for 30 scientific/medical journals and for 12 government and private funding agencies. He has over 300 publications and conference presentations. He was a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, a Fellow of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, and a Fellow of the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research. Selected Awards and Honors: 2000 Outstanding

Scientists of the 20th Century; Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare; International Who's Who in Medicine; NHLBI Director's Award (2007); NIH Award of Merit (2007); NHLBI EEO Special Achievement Award (2007); NCHS Director's Award (1989).

During Dr. Jobe's military career, he was Director, Health and Performance Division, US Army Research Institute for Environmental Medicine, in Natick, Massachusetts, and was principal investigator on a series of small-scale randomized controlled trials on treatments for Raynaud's Disease. After 8 years at CDC, he spent 5 years at NIA as a branch chief, where he initiated and led a national clinical trial on cognitive interventions for older adults and a mentorship program for junior faculty at 4-year colleges. He then spent 10 years at NHLBI as a program director, where he led 5 clinical trials on CVD prevention in Native communities. Dr. Jobe was also involved in a number of training and mentorship programs, including the Summer Institute Program to Increase Diversity in Health-Related Research (SIPID), now called PRIDE, which he began. Following his retirement, he worked as a research scientist, under contract for the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health (NIH) (May 2009 – January 2013). He was deputy project officer for the Centers for Population Health and Health Disparities, and developed the program, "Interventions for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Native American Populations."

Dr. Jobe was a member of the Steering Committee for the Indian Health Service Special Diabetes Program for Indians Prevention Initiative Competitive Grant Program. He was a founding member of the NIH American Indian-Alaska Native Employee Council, serving as President in 2004, 2005, 2007, and 2008, and Vice-President in 2002, 2003, and 2006. He was also a founding member of the NIH Community-Based Participatory Research Scientific Interest Group, a member of the Interagency Committee on Smoking and Health, a member of the NHLBI Committee for Recruitment and Retention of Minorities in Biomedical Research, and a member of the NHLBI Training Committee. He was a member of the NIH Technical Merit Evaluation Committee for Evaluation Proposals, and was a member of the NIH Diversity Council. He was a senior scientific reviewer for the 2009 Surgeon General's Report, "How Tobacco Causes Disease: The Biological and Behavioral Basis for Tobacco-Attributable Disease."



**Michelle Johnson-Jennings, PhD, EdM, (HELI 2011 Alumni)**, is an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation in Oklahoma. She presently serves as tenure-track faculty and graduate faculty (Social and Administrative Pharmacy) in the College of Pharmacy at the University of Minnesota (UMN). Dr. Johnson-Jennings also serves as the Research for Indigenous Community Health (RICH) founding co-Director. RICH is an interdisciplinary College of Pharmacy and School of Medicine center and developed from motivation to reduce AIAN health disparities and promote protective factors. Dr. Johnson-Jennings' expertise lies in biopsychosocial health interventions (including brief cognitive behavioral therapy, motivational interviewing, and providing integrated care)

and in understanding the cultural health beliefs among Indigenous peoples, including traditional healing practices, that serve as protective factors for trauma and stress coping. She has served, or currently serves, as co-PI and co-investigator on several NIH, NIDA funded grants involving identifying protective and risk factors and developing Indigenous cultural health interventions and effectiveness in reducing substance abuse use and, or food addiction/obesity in Indigenous communities. Dr. Johnson-Jennings offers expertise in cultural health beliefs and behavioral interventions regarding addiction such as misuse of medicines, reducing obesity, decreasing tobacco use and substance use for tribal participants. She further has drawn from her expertise as an integrated primary care psychotherapist, and trainings in qualitative and quantitative research.

Dr. Johnson-Jennings is Associate to the Dean for Indigenous Health, and Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice and Pharmaceutical Services, University of Minnesota, Duluth.



**Amy JH Kind, MD, PhD**, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Geriatrics at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. She completed medical school and a geriatrics fellowship at the University of Wisconsin, and internal medicine residency at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Dr. Kind also has a PhD in Population Health (emphasis on Health Services Research and Implementation Science) from the University of Wisconsin and is board certified in internal medicine and geriatrics. She currently serves as Associate Director-Clinical of the VA Geriatrics Research, Education and Clinical Center (GRECC), Co-Directs the Memory Assessment Clinic and attends on the geriatrics consult service at the William S Middleton VA Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin.

Dr. Kind's research focuses on assessing, understanding and improving care system fragmentation, particularly for highly vulnerable and disadvantaged older adult populations.

Dr. Kind designs, leads and assesses systems interventions which improve care transitions and between-facility communication at the time of hospital discharge for high-risk older adult patients, including those with dementia and those discharged to nursing homes. One of these interventions, the Coordinated-Transitional Care (C-TraC) Program, is a low-cost, nurse-led, mostly phone-based intervention designed to improve hospital-to-home transitions and to be particularly applicable in low-resource, rural and safety-net hospital settings. Originally developed at Madison VA Hospital, C-TraC was named a "VA Best Practice" in 2014, has disseminated to multiple VA and non-VA hospitals, and is the focus of a 5-year NIH-funded randomized controlled trial targeting patients with dementia.

Dr. Kind is also performing studies to examine the role of neighborhood socioeconomic contextual disadvantage in the health of older adults. This work employs a composite US Census-based index, the Area Deprivation Index (ADI), developed in 2003 by Singh for the county/Census tract level. Dr. Kind's group recreated this index for the full US at the more geographically discrete Census block group (i.e., neighborhood) level and have been studying its association with health utilization and outcomes. The first paper from this work entitled "Neighborhood Socioeconomic Disadvantage and 30-Day Rehospitalization: A Retrospective Cohort Study" was published in *Annals of Internal Medicine* in December 2014. Since then, Dr. Kind has served as a consultant on this topic to the State of Maryland's Health Services and Cost Review Commission, has given US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Grand Rounds, and was awarded a 5-year NIH R01 to further this research.

Dr. Kind receives research funding through the NIH/National Institute on Aging (including a Paul B. Beeson Career Development Award), the NIH/National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, the Department of Veterans Affairs and multiple non-profit foundations.



**Kristen Malecki, PhD, MPH**, is the Co-Director of the Survey of the Health of Wisconsin (SHOW) and an assistant professor in the Department of Population Health Sciences at UW-Madison. She has a PhD in environmental epidemiology and health policy and master of public health from Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.

With the Survey of the Health of Wisconsin (SHOW), Dr. Malecki oversees survey implementation efforts and ancillary study development. She has been a leader in the development and evaluation of indicators for environmental health risk assessment and policy. Dr. Malecki is lead co-investigator for the Network for

Health Equity in Wisconsin, a program using SHOW as a tool for evaluating the impact of multilevel "natural experiments" such as the economic downturn, health care reform and community driven prevention efforts on population health and health disparities. Dr. Malecki also works to bridge applied public health practice with academic research focusing on environmental health and health disparities using a social determinants of health model. She also serves as the Principal Investigator for a number of SHOW ancillary studies involving community-academic partnerships.

Before coming to UW-Madison she served as the lead epidemiologist for the state Environmental Public Health Tracking Program. In these roles she has gained extensive experience in leading and managing multi-disciplinary teams of researchers, practitioners and policy makers in development of environmental health surveillance and epidemiologic data for addressing chronic diseases and disparities in the state of Wisconsin and the nation.



**Beth Meyerand, MS, PhD**, is the Chair of the UW-Madison Department of Biomedical Engineering and Professor in the Departments of Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering. She is also the Co-Director of the UW-Madison Institute for Clinical and Translational Research (ICTR) TL1 Training Program and a Principal Investigator of the ICTR TL1 grant.

Her research lab focuses on the the field of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the human brain. Their goal is the development and application of new MR methods to visualize the structure and function of the brain and to translate these methods to the hospital for clinical diagnosis. One of the areas upon which they concentrate their research is functional MRI (fMRI). FMRI allows them to visualize both the temporal and spatial patterns of brain activity in response to different

stimuli. They are particularly interested in the development of new analysis methods to improve our understanding of brain function.

In addition to analyzing brain activation, they are also developing techniques to explore brain connectivity using diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) and the concept of effective connectivity. As implemented in MRI, DTI is a noninvasive imaging technique that can be used to probe the intrinsic diffusion characteristics of tissue. Brain tissue where diffusion is restricted or anisotropic (white matter) will appear at a different level of

brightness in a DTI image than tissue with isotropic diffusion (gray matter). As a result, DTI is extremely useful for providing exquisitely detailed in vivo maps of major white matter fiber pathways. Techniques for diffusion imaging are evolving rapidly. Diffusion MRI research has been shown to have important applications, especially in stroke, the effects of tumors, degenerative diseases and brain injury. Effective connectivity describes the integration within and between functionally specialized areas of the brain. Regions of the brain are located using fMRI. Integration of these regions is achieved through the information gained from DTI. They explore effective connectivity in a variety of large-scale neurocognitive networks using different mathematical modeling techniques, including dynamic causal modeling. Their clinical emphasis is in Parkinson's disease, patients with schizophrenia and patients with balance disorders.



**Nia Norris, MA**, supports the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute's (WAI) Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer's Prevention (WRAP) project, a longitudinal cohort study of adult children of persons with Alzheimer's disease and the Aging and Chronic Disease research initiatives of the Center for Urban Population Health, Milwaukee. In addition, she is actively involved in research recruitment and retention of minority participants in UW sponsored Alzheimer's disease research projects as well as community education and outreach activities. Ms. Norris brings a wealth of experience in both volunteer and professional work in outreach and research. She received her B.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Master's Degree in Public Service specializing in Health Care Administration from Marquette University.



**Ameea Perkins**

Regarded by many as the personification of self-determination, Ameea Perkins survived a profoundly difficult and unstable childhood to establish himself as a respected social activist and genuine representative of the rose that can blossom from the disparities faced not only from growing up in Milwaukee Wisconsin but in the world. Ameea has spent the last 20 years volunteering his services to the non-profit organization, BYG Seven Reign Corporation. The organization's goal is to utilize education as a tool for motivation, change and liberation. Ameea now hold the title, Men's Wellness Navigator for Walnut Way Conservation Corporation and continues his mission to positively impact the lives of children, families and

communities who are also at the forefront of societal injustices and inequalities.



**Sandra Quinn, PhD**, is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Professor in the Department of Family Science, and Senior Associate Director of the Center for Health Equity at the School of Public Health, University of Maryland at College Park. She is the Principal Investigator (with Dr. Stephen Thomas) on the Center of Excellence in Race, Ethnicity and Health Disparities Research, funded by the National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). Dr. Quinn is a co-investigator on the National Research Mentoring Network grant from the NIH. Since beginning her academic career, she has been committed to mentoring young scholars, who because of race, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation, may experience additional challenges in building and succeeding in their research careers. She is a founding member of two institutes focused on

the career development of URM post-doctoral fellows and junior faculty: the Summer Research Career Development Institute, and HELI.



**Stephanie Robert, MSW, PhD**, is Professor and Director of the UW-Madison School of Social Work. Her research focuses on how social and economic aspects of people's lives affect their health and well-being over the life course. She demonstrates how socioeconomic status and race affect health over the life course and into old age. Many of her publications focus on how neighborhood context affects the health of residents and contributes to health disparities. She is co-director of the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholars program](#), which trains postdoctoral researchers from a range of fields to conduct research on population health, and to translate that knowledge into practice and policy.

One of her current research projects examines the general public's views about health disparities by race, income, and education. She aims to see to what degree people recognize that health is affected by a range of factors, not just medical care and individual health behaviors. She examines the public's willingness to consider new social and economic policy as mechanisms to improve physical health and reduce health disparities.

Another current project examines the time use of older adults, examining racial and educational differences in time spent on caregiving and volunteer activities. Yet another project examines whether the social environment contributes to birth outcomes and racial disparities in birth outcomes in Wisconsin. Her ongoing research also examines multiple facets of neighborhood environments and how they can promote or inhibit health among residents, particularly older adults.



**Olayinka Shiyabola, PhD, B.Pharm, (HELI 2014 Alumni)** is Assistant Professor in the UW-Madison School of Pharmacy, Social and Administrative Sciences Division. Her research examines patient perceptions and roles in the quality of medication use and its impact on medication adherence, health literacy and the elimination of health disparities. Specifically, Dr. Shiyabola studies the perceptions of illness and medicines among underserved populations. She explores how to utilize and interweave patient perspectives into the development of tailored patient-centered medication use interventions. In her other areas of interests, Dr. Shiyabola is empirically redesigning prescription warnings and is exploring how pharmacy quality measures can be utilized by patients. She utilizes sociobehavioral and health psychology theories in her studies and employs qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches in her work. Dr. Shiyabola was a 2015-2016 NIH Mixed Methods Research Training Program Scholar. In 2016, she received a NIH KL2 Career Development Award through the UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research.



**Christine Sorkness, RPh, PharmD**, is ICTR Senior Associate Executive Director and oversees the Community-Academic Partnerships core and the Pilot Grants program. She is Associate Director of the ICTR Collaborative Center for Health Equity (CCHE), and is co-PI on the P60 NIMHD Center of Excellence grant that funds CCHE. She has a special interest in health disparities in asthma, in which she has conducted clinical efficacy, cost effectiveness and comparative effectiveness trials.

Dr. Sorkness has a clinical practice in the Anticoagulation Clinic at the VA Hospital-Madison, and also is affiliated with the UW Allergy, Pulmonary, and Critical Care Division, with more than 20 years of NHLBI-funding as either a co-investigator or co-principal investigator. A long-standing member of the UW Health Sciences IRB, she has also served on several NHLBI-appointed Data and Safety Monitoring Boards for large multi-center national trials.

Today, Dr. Sorkness holds professorships in both the School of Pharmacy and the School of Medicine and Public Health. Having guided the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum through the UW academic approval process, she had the expertise to manage approvals in 2009 for the ICTR graduate programs in clinical investigation. She serves on the ICTR Faculty Governance Committee and teaches two graduate courses. Dr. Sorkness also has a particular interest in expanding mentor training for clinical and translational researchers.



**Stephen B. Thomas, PhD**, is Founding Director of the Maryland Center for Health Equity and Professor of Health Services Administration in the School of Public Health. Dr. Thomas is one of the nation's leading scholars on community-based interventions to eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities including obesity, diabetes, hypertension, HIV AIDS and violence. He is Principal Investigator (with Dr. Sandra Quinn) of the **Center of Excellence on Race, Ethnicity and Disparities Research** funded by the NIH-National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). This \$5.9M grant award, launched in August 2012, includes teams of scientists conducting targeted research on obesity, vaccine acceptance and Black men's health. Dr. Thomas is also Principal Investigator (with Dr. Quinn) on the NIH-NIMHD National Bioethics Research Infrastructure Initiative "**Building Trust Between Minorities and Researchers**" focused on delivery of scientifically sound and culturally relevant research with racial and ethnic minority populations. His work in the state of Maryland was instrumental to passage of the Maryland Health Improvement and Disparities Act of 2012, creating public policy solutions for addressing health disparities through creation of Health Enterprise Zones in communities at greatest risk for hypertension, asthma and type 2 diabetes.

From 2000-2010 he was the endowed Philip Hallen Professor of Community Health and Social Justice at the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public Health and Director of the Center for Minority Health. In 2010, he received the Dorothy Nyswander Social Justice Award from the Society for Public Health Education. He was awarded the 2005 **David Satcher Award** from the Directors of Health Promotion and Education for his leadership in reducing health disparities through the improvement of health promotion and health education programs at the state and local levels and received the 2004 **Alonzo Smyth Yerby Award** from the Harvard School of Public Health for his work with people suffering the health effects of poverty. Stephen earned his BS degree from The Ohio State University, his MS degree from Illinois State University and his Ph.D. from Southern Illinois University. He believes that the elimination of racial and ethnic health disparities must be a national priority for the nation to achieve health equity for all.



**Carmen Valdez, PhD, (2012 HELI Alumni)**, is a licensed professional psychologist with a primary affiliation to the UW Department of Counseling Psychology. She is also an affiliate of the Wisconsin Center for Education Research and the UW Institute for Clinical and Translational Research and is a research investigator with the UW CCHE. In her role with CCHE, she serves as faculty director for the Advancing Health Equity and Diversity (AHEAD) initiative. AHEAD is aimed at providing networking, mentoring, and access to shared resources to early career scholars and investigators in health disparities research. A highlight of her professional service is serving on the American Psychological Association Committee on Children, Youth and Families (2013-2015), under the auspices of the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest.

Dr. Valdez's research is on the impact of family stress and sociocultural context on Latino children's academic, social, and emotional functioning. First, she has been a co-Investigator on an NICHD-funded project (Adam Gamoran, PI) examining the effects of social capital on Latino children's socioemotional and

academic functioning in Texas and Arizona. As part of this project, she developed a special interest in the role of anti-immigration climate in Arizona on children's life course development. She recently submitted an R01 application for a mixed-methods project to continue to follow the children in the Arizona sample into adolescence, with a direct focus on anti-immigration climate. Dr. Valdez's second line of research entails developing community-based, family-focused interventions for Latino immigrant families experiencing stress. Prior to her position at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, she co-developed the Keeping Families Strong program for low-income families affected by maternal depression. At UW, she conducted a linguistic and cultural adaptation of KFS for Latino immigrant families, called "Fortalezas Familiares" (Family Strengths). Dr. Valdez has piloted the intervention with families in the community, and is preparing an R01 application to conduct an effectiveness study of the intervention.



**Edward Vargas, PhD, (HELI 2015 Alumni)**, obtained his Ph.D. in Public Affairs from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University (2010). Since then, he has held postdoctoral positions at the University of North Carolina and the Robert W. Johnson Center for Health Policy at the University of New Mexico. He has also held a visiting lecturer position at Indiana University. His research interests include the effects of poverty and inequality on the quality of life, focusing specifically on health, education, and social policy, and how these factors contribute to the well-being of vulnerable families. He also investigates the methodological issues involved in the quantitative study of race and ethnicity. As an Health Disparities Research postdoctoral Scholar, Dr. Vargas is investigating how socio-political, familial, and personal contexts that make up the Latino/a experience affect their physical and mental health. In particular, he is examining the effects of immigration policy and deportations on health, health hardships on the well-being of Latino/a families.



**José F. Vásquez** has approximately 40 years of management experience in the private sector, county government, and education, both at the technical college and university level. He has worked for Waukesha County Technical College, the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Milwaukee County Government, Neighborhood House, St. Joseph Academy, and La Casa de Esperanza among others. He has managed organizations at all stages of development, from small to large and new to well-established. The variety of services provided by these organizations have been from early childhood and elementary education, technical college and university education, community-based organizations, medical services, elderly serving organizations and others.

Mr. Vásquez has also served on the board of directors for organizations such as Milwaukee Area Technical College, St. Francis de Sales Catholic Seminary, and Red Cross of Greater Milwaukee. He also served on the University of Wisconsin System Board Of Regents, and on the Wisconsin Technical College System Board of Directors. One of his longest board services has been for the United Community Center Board of Directors in Milwaukee. He has held all leadership positions typical of nonprofit board directors.

At present, Mr. Vásquez is the president of St. Anthony School in Milwaukee. This school is the largest parish-affiliated Catholic school in the United States. St. Anthony School serves over 2,000 students from nursery school through high school. The school is divided into five campuses on the south side of Milwaukee. Mr. Vásquez holds a bachelor's degree (1968) in sociology from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas and a master's degree (1975) in educational rehabilitation counseling from UW-Milwaukee. He is also a professionally trained consultant specializing in serving nonprofit board directors and executive directors.



**Tyler Weber, MPH**, received his Master of Public Health in Maternal and Child Health from the University of Minnesota, and during this same time he worked the Minnesota Department of Health with the Refugee Health Program. He moved to Milwaukee, WI upon graduation after becoming a Wisconsin Population Health Fellow where he was placed with the City of Milwaukee Health Department and the Lindsay Heights Neighborhood Health Alliance (LHNHA), a program of Walnut Way Conversation Corp. Now he's a Neighborhood Program Manager at Walnut Way working on community engagement, health and wellness, and development projects. He believes

that listening is a required step for authentic and impactful community-based population health, and that listening is an act of love.



**Lance Weinhardt, MS, PhD**, serves as a Professor and Associate Dean for Research, Community & Behavioral Health Promotion in the UW-Milwaukee Zilber School of Public Health. Dr. Lance Weinhardt's primary research focus is in developing effective primary and secondary HIV-prevention interventions that can be implemented widely in resource-poor settings. His work has been conducted in Milwaukee, South Africa, and Malawi. In a recent study, he is examining the effects of sustainable economic development programs on food security and health outcomes in sub Saharan Africa. Dr. Weinhardt's wider interests include how social, economic, and behavioral approaches can be combined to increase resilience and reduce disease in resource-poor settings.

He has also begun focusing his efforts on LGBT health, particularly with transgender and gender nonconforming youth.