

2019 Vector Summit Speaker Bios

Cynthia Bates, MPH, CPH

Epidemiologist, Oklahoma City-County Health Department

Cynthia Bates is an epidemiologist and assists with coordinating the Mosquito Surveillance Program at the Oklahoma City-County Health Department.

Charles Benjamin (Ben) Beard, MS, PhD

Deputy Director, Division of Vector-Borne Diseases (DVBD), CDC's National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID)

Charles Benjamin (Ben) Beard, MS, PhD, is Deputy Director of the Division of Vector-Borne Diseases (DVBD) in CDC's National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID). Prior to CDC, from 1987 to 1991, he trained as a post-doctoral fellow and then worked as an associate research scientist at Yale University School of Medicine. In 1991, he joined CDC's Division of Parasitic Diseases (DPD), where he conducted research on the prevention and control of malaria and Chagas disease and studied the epidemiology of *Pneumocystis pneumonia* in persons with AIDS. From 1999 to 2003, Dr. Beard served as chief of the Vector Genetics Section in the Entomology Branch of DPD before joining CDC's Division of Vector-borne Infectious Diseases in Fort Collins, Colorado. From 2003 until 2017, he served as chief of the Bacterial Diseases Branch for DVBD where he coordinated CDC's national programs on Lyme disease, plague, and tularemia. From 2011 until 2017, Dr. Beard took on the additional responsibility of Associate Director for Climate Change in NCEZID. In 2018, he was appointed Deputy Director for DVBD.

Jennifer A. Breaux, PhD

Research Entomologist New Orleans Mosquito, Termite, and Rodent Control Board

Dr. Breaux is a Research Entomologist at the New Orleans Mosquito, Termite, and Rodent Control Board (NOMTRCB). She holds a PhD in Biological Sciences from Illinois State University, where her research focused on understanding how ecological processes and environmental factors in the larval habitat influence adult mosquito pathogen resistance. Her postdoctoral work at the Universidade Comunitária da Região de Chapecó in Chapecó, Brazil investigated mosquito predator/prey interactions in the context of biological control and invertebrate community ecology in man-made containers. Dr. Breaux supervises routine surveillance operations at NOMTRCB and manages projects to determine best practices for integrated mosquito management. Some of her additional projects include investigating larval mosquito population dynamics in urban container habitats, mitigating the risk of mosquito-borne diseases from illegally discarded tires, and understanding the potential public health risks associated with urban green infrastructure implementation.

Roxanne Connelly, MS, PhD

Chief Entomologist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Roxanne Connelly is the Chief Entomologist, Entomology and Ecology Team Lead for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, Division of Vector-borne Diseases, Arboviral Disease Branch in Fort Collins, CO. She leads a team of experts focused on public health applied research, control and response in the area of vector surveillance and

control. Prior to moving to Fort Collins, Dr. Connelly spent 17 years on the faculty of the University of Florida working directly with mosquito control programs and county extension agents throughout Florida addressing mosquito research needs as well as training and extension programming centered on mosquito biology and control and medical entomology. She mentored graduate students and taught Mosquito Biology, Mosquito Control, Insecticide Resistance, Mosquito Morphology and Identification, and Integrated Mosquito Management.

Mustapha Debboun, M.S., Ph.D., BCE, ESA Fellow

Director, Mosquito & Vector Control Division, Harris County Public Health, Houston, TX

Dr. Mustapha Debboun is a Medical & Veterinary Entomologist who is currently the Director of Mosquito & Vector Control Division at Harris County Public Health in Houston, TX and has over 28 years of experience in military and public health entomology and vector-borne diseases. This work has taken him to over 35 countries in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Central and South America. He has authored or co-authored over 110 peer-reviewed scientific publications and three books and the fourth is In Press. He also organizes national and international symposia, serves on 8 Journal Editorial Review Boards and a reviewer for 6 peer-reviewed journals.

Sandra L. Fisher-Grainger, MPH

Director, Hernando County Mosquito Control Department

Sandra L. Fisher-Grainger is the current director of the Hernando County Mosquito Control department working in mosquito control for some 15 years. She holds a Master of Public Health Degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School and a Bachelor of Science from Old Dominion University. She began her career in mosquito control as an intern for City of Norfolk Vector Control in Virginia during her senior year at ODU. After completing her undergrad, she took a fellowship at the Centers for Disease Control where she worked on a project involving Varicella (herpes) zoster, as well as increasing protein production in yeasts. After her fellowship she returned to Norfolk Vector Control as a biologist and also worked as a biologist for the City of Hampton. She relocated to Homestead FL in 2006 and served as the director of Miami-Dade County Mosquito Control before moving to Hernando. Her interests lie in surveillance of vector-borne diseases and the epidemiology and ecology of hosts and vectors. When not studying mosquitoes and infectious diseases she enjoys crafting, reading, and spending time with her 4-legged "kids" Sydney, Jax, Hope and Téa.

Jason Edinger

Sanitarian Supervisor, Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDHP) - Vector Control Services

Jason Edinger graduated from Temple University with a BS in Public Health in 2001. He has been working with PDHP in Environmental Services Division since 2003, Vector Control Unit since 2008.

Karen Hacker, MD, MPH

Director of the Allegheny County Health Department

Karen Hacker, MD MPH has been the Director of the Allegheny County Health Department since 2013 and is responsible for overseeing the health of the 1.2 million residents of Allegheny County. Under her leadership, Allegheny County launched its first ever health improvement plan and achieved national public health accreditation. Using collective action to improve population health is a key focus of her agenda. Dr. Hacker is widely published and has extensive experience in community engagement,

participatory and health services research, collaboration between health care and public health and administration. She is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health and a Clinical Professor at the University of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine. She is a primary care internist and adolescent medicine specialist.

S. Kayleigh Hall, MPH

ORISE Fellow, CDC-NCEH/ORISE

Kayleigh is an ORISE fellow at the Water, Food, and Environmental Health Services Branch in CDC's National Center for Environmental Health. At CDC, Kayleigh works to support environmental health practice. Before coming to CDC, she worked as an Environmental Health Specialist in central Georgia.

Laura Harrington, PhD

Professor and NEVBD Director, Cornell University

Dr. Harrington is a Professor in the Department of Entomology at Cornell University and Director of the Northeast Regional Center for Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases. She earned her MS from North Carolina State University and then worked in industry as an agricultural biologist developing bio-rational pesticides for BASF. She went on to complete her PhD in Entomology with a focus on mosquito biology and public health from the University of Massachusetts and she completed her postdoctoral training at the University of California at Davis. Professor Harrington's research focuses on the biology, ecology and behavior of mosquitoes that transmit human diseases. Her current projects address feeding and mating behavior of the mosquito vectors of dengue, Zika and chikungunya viruses. She also investigates acoustic mating behavior and flight range of disease vectors, human-mosquito interactions, and the role of climate change and globalization on emerging vector borne diseases. She is an award-winning mentor and teacher, offering courses at Cornell University in the fields of vector biology and global health. Her research has been supported by continuous funding from the NIH/NIAID, Gates foundation, USDA and CDC. More information is available on her website <http://blogs.cornell.edu/harrington/> and <http://neregionalvectorcenter.com/>.

Ayana Jones, MPH

Project Coordinator, National Environmental Health Association

Ayana Jones is a project coordinator at the National Environmental Health Association. Her specialty areas include Health in All Policies, vector control, and Model Aquatic Health Code. Ayana completed her Master of Public Health with a concentration in Health Equity at the University of Maryland in 2018. Her areas of expertise are environmental justice and health equity.

Dustin Kent, MPH, RS

Residential Services Manager, Delaware General Health District

Dustin Kent has a BS from Heidelberg University in Tiffin, OH and an MPH from The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. He has been in Public Health over 15 years with three different agencies. He has been the manager of Residential Services for just over a year, working on Sewage Treatment, Private Water Systems, Rabies Exposures and Vector Disease.

Jason Kinley, M.Sc.*President, American Mosquito Control Association*

Jason Kinley holds a Master of Science in Entomology, with emphasis in medical entomology from Iowa State University. He has managed the Gem County Mosquito Abatement District for 14 years and has over 20 years of mosquito control experience, specializing in integrated mosquito management for "small-entity" programs. Jason is the current president of the American Mosquito Control Association. He helped establish the Idaho Mosquito and Vector Control Association in 2005 (president in 2006) and has held several leadership roles within the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association (president in 2008, executive director from 2009-2017). Jason served on the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security committee formed by the governor to develop best management practices and appropriate protocols for responding to an arbovirus epidemic. He assisted in spearheading a substantial successful legislative change to the Idaho Abatement Act of 1958 that resulted in the doubling of mosquito control programs in Idaho from 12 active programs in 2006 to 23 active programs currently.

Leah Lamonte, M.S.*Vector Control Specialist, Allegheny County Health Department*

Leah Lamonte has served as a Vector Control Specialist with Allegheny County Health Department's Vector Control Program in Pittsburgh, PA for 13 years. Her primary duties are mosquito and tick-borne disease surveillance and control, public health education, and code enforcement. Leah obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Science degree in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public Health. Leah's experience also includes the Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) Laboratory Fellowship Program at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, GA and past President of the PA Vector Control Association.

Kristine Lindell*Public Health Advisor, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

Kristine Lindell is a Public Health Advisor with CDC's Arboviral Diseases Branch, Division of Vector-borne Diseases at the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases. She serves as a program consultant for the vector-borne disease program, which is part of the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) cooperative agreement, in addition to serving as a technical monitor for a number of research contracts. With a background in biology and biomedical studies, Kristine has experience working in a variety of public health capacities, including local and state-level health departments, health-related nonprofit organizations with domestic and international focuses, as well as nationally with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Aaron Lloyd, Master of Science, Medical Entomology*Assistant Director/Dodd Committee Chair, Pasco County Mosquito Control Association/FMCA*

Aaron Lloyd, MSc is the Assistant Director for Pasco County Mosquito Control District in Odessa, Florida. He served on the Florida Mosquito Control Association board as the SW representative. He is the lead chair for the FMCA-Dodd short courses committee, an annual week long training event where mosquito control personnel obtain their required state Ce Us to maintain their professional licenses. Aaron also serves on the Florida Mosquito Control Association Research Advisory committee and co-chairs the FMCA Dengue/ChikV Ad Hoc committee. Aaron served as the editor of the 2018 Florida Mosquito

Control White Paper and has authored/co-authored over a dozen scientific publications. Prior to joining Pasco County Mosquito Control District in 2012, Aaron worked as a research entomologist for the Navy Entomology Center of Excellence (NECE), US Navy, NAS JAX in Jacksonville, Florida. He was a part of a larger research group that dedicated their time and effort to developing novel vector control techniques and equipment to protect the troops while deployed domestically and internationally. Before joining NECE he worked with the United States Department of Agriculture, Mosquito and Fly Research Unit. He has vast experience with operational mosquito control, trap testing and development that targets medically important insects.

Phillip Maytubby, BS Biology University of Central Oklahoma/ RPS/RPES/CA

Director Public Health Protection, Oklahoma City-County Health Department

Phil Maytubby is the current Director of Public Health Protection at Oklahoma City-County Health Department(OCCHD). Phil provides oversight to The Emergency Preparedness and Response, Consumer Protection/Environmental, Epidemiology, Wellness Now coalition, and Security programs at OCCHD. Phil received a bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Central Oklahoma and has been employed at OCCHD for 28 years. His passion is protecting people by whatever means is possible whether it be disease investigation, response planning, coalition building, communications, or vector control. He is very active in policy development and improvement and makes frequent visits to Washington DC to inform Congress on relevant issues. He recently received the National Advocate of the Year award from NACCHO in 2019 and is member of the National Academy of Sciences Medicine and Preparedness Forum. He works with others to increase the awareness of vector control with programs throughout the country and has created a vector control program using existing staff and collaborating with local partners.

Janet McAllister, PHD, BCE

Research Entomologist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Janet McAllister is a Board-Certified Medical Entomologist. She received her undergraduate and master's degrees from LSU. Her PhD in Entomology is from the University of Arkansas. She currently works at the Centers of Disease Control in Ft. Collins CO where she is a Research Entomologist with the Division of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases. Dr. McAllister conducts field and laboratory research on vector control and insecticide resistance in important vectors of arboviruses. In addition, Dr. McAllister serves as the subject matter expert and point of contact for vector control after disasters, deploying to Texas and US Virgin Islands in response to Hurricanes Harvey and Maria. Dr. McAllister also served as vector control team lead for the CDC Zika virus response. Dr. McAllister is active in the American Mosquito Control Association and Entomological Society of America. She has served as the President of the American Mosquito Control Association, West Central Mosquito and Vector Control Association, and Louisiana Mosquito Control Association.

Kaci McCoy, MPH&TM

Center Program Coordinator, CDC Southeastern Center of Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases

Kaci completed her Master of Public Health and Tropical Medicine at Tulane University and her Bachelor's in Biology at the College of Saint Benedict. She previously interned with the Collier Mosquito Control District and currently serves as the Program Coordinator for the Southeastern Center of Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases.

Scott Meador

Vector Control Program Coordinator, Tulsa Health Department

Scott Meador is the Vector Control Program Coordinator at the Tulsa Health Department. He has been with THD since 2007 and the program coordinator since 2010. Before working at the THD, Scott was an environmental specialist at the Mesquite, Texas health department. He has worked in public health since 2003. Scott received his B.S. in Conservation/Wildlife Science from Southeastern Oklahoma State University and continued his education in Environmental Science at Texas A&M University-Commerce. While working for the Tulsa Health Department, he has overseen several projects and collaborations. Scott is responsible for all equipment, scheduling and data for the program. Under his leadership, THD has become a leader for mosquito control in the State of Oklahoma. At home, Scott is a father of three and busy in all his children's activities. He is a passionate football official and has a vast collection of WWII military items.

Andrea Morrison, PhD

Vector-Borne Disease Surveillance Coordinator, Florida Department of Health

Dr. Morrison has served as the Vector-Borne Disease Surveillance Coordinator at the Florida Department of Health for the past four years. In that role, she was heavily involved throughout the entire Zika virus response and was also deployed to Miami-Dade County to assist in the investigation of locally acquired Zika cases. She is a graduate of the PhD program at the University of South Florida, with a concentration in Global Communicable Diseases. During her doctoral work, her research interests focused on arboviruses of importance in Florida, such as Eastern equine encephalitis, West Nile, and dengue viruses.

John-Paul Mutebi, PhD

Research Entomologist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Research Entomologist, Aborviral Diseases Branch (ADB), Division of Vector–Borne Diseases (DVBD). Dr. Mutebi is a Principal Investigator (PI) and Subject Matter Expert (SME) in the Entomology Ecology Activity (EEA) within the ADB. He was trained in Medical Entomologist and Vector Biology and holds a Doctorate in Biological Sciences (Medical Entomology and Vector Biology) from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN. He continued his training as a Post-Doctoral fellowship at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, TX, with a focus in Population Genetics, Arbovirology and Vector Biology. Dr. Mutebi was the Chief Medical Entomologist for the City of Chicago and the director for the West Nile Surveillance and Control Program from 2003 to 2008. Dr. Mutebi joined the CDC as an Entomologist in 2008. Dr. Mutebi has published more than 50 articles in peer-reviewed journals and periodicals and has played major roles in responding to vector-borne disease outbreaks especially West Nile, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika.

Roger S. Nasci, PhD

Consultant, Vector-Borne Disease Consulting, LLC

Dr. Nasci received B.S. and M.S. degrees in Zoology from Ohio University, and a Ph.D. in Entomology from the University of Massachusetts. He was an Associate Professor in the Dept. of Biological and Environmental Sciences at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, LA. In 1991, Dr. Nasci went to the CDC Division of Vector-Borne Diseases as a research entomologist, and had the opportunity to work on numerous CDC responses to floods, hurricanes, and vector-borne disease outbreaks, including the first

Western Hemisphere outbreak of West Nile virus in New York during 1999, and the 2013 region-wide outbreak of Chikungunya virus in the Western Hemisphere. He retired from CDC in 2015 after serving as Chief of the Arboviral Diseases Branch. He then became Director of the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District, an integrated vector management program serving the northern suburbs of Chicago in Cook County, Illinois. In 2018, he started Vector-Borne Disease Consulting and provides expert consultation on vector-borne disease surveillance and control projects. Dr. Nasci has published over 120 research papers on mosquitoes and the viruses they transmit and has participated in developing several national and international arbovirus surveillance and response programs.

Glen Needham, PhD

Associate Professor Emeritus, Entomology, The Ohio State University

Glen Needham is an Associate Professor Emeritus of Entomology at Ohio State, where he was on the faculty for 35 years, retiring in 2013. His formal education was in entomology, earning a MS and PhD from Oklahoma State University where he studied tick physiology. Glen is past president of the Acarological Society of America, co-organized an annual Acarology (ticks and mites) Summer Program at OSU, and is a member of the Ohio Public Health Association. He is co-author of more than 50 publications on ticks and co-edited three books on mites and ticks. In 2010 he found the first established Ohio populations of blacklegged 'deer' ticks. In 2014 he was hired as a contractor for the US Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to help validate a new test that detects multiple pathogens in an individual tick. He currently has contracts with Columbus and Franklin County MetroParks and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for tick surveillance.

Kellie Nestrud

Contract Director, Vector Disease Control International

Kellie Nestrud is a Contract Director for Vector Disease Control International (VDCI) in the Delta Region, and she has been a member of the VDCI family since 2002. Kellie holds a degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry from Louisiana Tech University. She is one of the few privileged to study mosquito identification under the late Dr. Richard Darsie Jr. (Co-author of Identification and Geographical Distribution of the Mosquitoes of North America, North of Mexico) at Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory (FMEL). Her industry experience includes running a fully integrated mosquito management program, research trials for new chemicals, bottle bioassays for tracking chemical resistance in mosquito populations, and participating in Emergency Response missions following hurricanes or major flooding. Kellie appreciates the varied responsibilities and opportunities of her position. Public education is a passion piece of her job. She enjoys providing outreach at libraries and during festivals as well as taking on larger projects, such as coordinating a local tire drive to properly discarded abandoned tires. Outside of work, Kellie loves lots of family time, gardening, and cooking.

Jim Occi, MA, MS

Microbiologist, New Jersey Department of Health

Jim is a research microbiologist by training and profession, but has been studying ticks as well since the 1990s. Jim just started a new position as a microbiologist at the NJ Department of Health. There, he hopes to help implement a state-wide tick surveillance program. Jim is also a PhD candidate at the Center for Vector Biology (Rutgers University) studying ticks and tick-borne diseases.

Anna Perea, M.S.

Policy and Communications Lead, Bacterial Diseases Branch/Division of Vector-borne Diseases/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Anna Perea, MS is the Policy and Communications Lead with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Vector-Borne Diseases, Bacterial Diseases Branch in Fort Collins, Colorado. Her work involves disseminating science- and audience-based products, tools, and messages to prevent tickborne diseases and providing policy support to the Division. Ms. Perea holds master's degree in technical communication from Colorado State University.

Jennifer Reid

Director, BLAST Tickborne Disease Prevention Program, Ridgefield Health Dept., Ridgefield, CT

Jennifer Reid is Director of the BLAST Tickborne Disease Prevention Program at the Ridgefield Health Department in Ridgefield, Connecticut. Ms. Reid was instrumental in creating the program in 2008 and spent the past decade developing educational materials and presentations focused on evidence-based prevention research. She served as co-chair of Ridgefield's Lyme Disease Task Force from 2003 to 2016, on the Western Connecticut Council of Governments' Tick Task Force from 2008 to 2018 and is a member of the Tick IPM Working Group. Ms. Reid regularly collaborates with the scientists at the Tickborne Disease Prevention Laboratory at Western Connecticut State University. Their current project, funded by the Environmental Protection Agency, includes a series of five films explaining effective ways to maintain a tick-safe yard in New England -- "Spray safe, play safe: Promoting effective and judicious backyard acaricide use by families to prevent Lyme and other tickborne diseases." Reid holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Promotion Studies from Western Connecticut State University and an Associate in Applied Science in Advertising and Communications. She received the university's Distinguished Alumni Award for her Lyme disease prevention efforts in 2017.

Dominic Rose, Master of Science

Entomologist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

I am a Colorado native. My curiosity for insects intensified when I was completing my undergraduate degree at MSU of Denver. I started in the mosquito control industry the spring of 2012. I worked for Colorado Mosquito Control until the fall of 2016. My role was a mosquito surveillance technician and then a supervisor of the mosquito surveillance team. I earned my master's from CSU. My focus was on medical entomology and my thesis was titled "A New Synopsis of the Mosquitoes of Colorado". Once I finished my graduate degree I moved on from Colorado Mosquito Control and CSU. I currently work as an entomologist at the CDC in Fort Collins, Colorado. I work on the Ecology and Entomology team conducting research on medically important species of mosquitoes and ticks. I have been able to travel to various states doing mosquito and tick surveillance related to research and emergency response, as well as respond to ZIKV outbreaks in Micronesia and Colombia. My current projects include writing a mosquito identification manual for the southeastern states including Texas and a vector competence study of Amblyomma americanum for Bourbon virus.

Andrew Ruiz, MSPH in Tropical Medicine

Health Scientist, CDC/National Center for Environmental Health

Andrew is a health scientist at CDC's National Center for Environmental Health. He has an undergrad degree in geography and GIS and an MSPH in Tropical Medicine. Prior to CDC, he worked on the

operational side of mosquito surveillance and control at the local and state levels and also in the private sector.

Alison E. Simmons, MPH

Guest Researcher, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Alison Simmons is an epidemiologist with research interests in substance use, infectious diseases, vector-borne diseases, and mathematical modeling. Simmons earned a BA in Biology from Bates College with concentrations in public health and applying mathematical methods. She received her MPH in Epidemiology from the Brown University School of Public Health. Simmons is starting her PhD in Epidemiology at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto in fall 2019. As a guest researcher at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Alison Simmons investigated the seasonal activity, density, and collection efficiency of the blacklegged tick and the effects of forest fragmentation on deer, mice, ticks, and the Lyme disease pathogen. Most recently, she investigated the acarological Lyme disease risk in the Pittsburgh Regional City Parks. Simmons is currently preparing a manuscript of this study.

Joshua Smith, M.S.

Environmental Health Supervisor, Fairfax County Health Department

Joshua Smith began his career in public health as an epidemiology intern at the State Health Department in Nebraska. This was also where he began his career in public health entomology. He got his M.S. in Entomology from the University of Nebraska and helped establish a statewide mosquito surveillance network. He worked with at the CDC's Dengue Branch in Puerto Rico doing mosquito ecology research for a few years. He began working for the Fairfax County Health Department as an Environmental Health Specialist (EHS), then a Senior EHS, and am now an Environmental Health Supervisor.

Justin Taylor, M.S.

Product Manager - Natular, Clarke

Justin has been an active user of social media since the early days of MySpace and Facebook. As times changed he has tried to stay on top of all the changes to the platforms - but it is really hard to do. Today Justin is known as @ProductJT on Twitter and loves to keep up with all of his Public Health and Mosquito control friends around the world. - He is here today to pass on a few tips to hopefully make your life easier & maximize the impact your office can have on social media.

John Townsend, B.S.

Vector Control Division Manager, Maricopa County Environmental Services

John Townsend received his degree from Arizona State University. He has worked for Maricopa County for 28 years and has been the Vector Control Division Manager for 20 years.

William (Bill) Walton, PhD

Professor of Entomology and Vice Chairman, Department of Entomology, University of California-Riverside

Bill Walton is a Professor and Vice Chairman of the Department of Entomology at UC Riverside. He is a Distinguished Professor of Teaching, a National Academies Education Fellow in the Life Sciences and a recipient of both research and teaching awards from the Entomological Society of America. He served as

President of the Society for Vector Ecology in 2013 and is the Past-President of the American Mosquito Control Association. He is a co-Director of the Pacific Southwest Center of Excellence in Vector-borne Diseases.

Caroline Weldon, MPH/TM

Program Manager, Western Gulf Center of Excellence for Vector-Borne Diseases

Caroline Weldon joined the Western Gulf Center of Excellence for Vector-borne Diseases (WGCVD) and UTMB Institute for Human Infections and Immunity (IHII) in mid-January 2019 as Program Manager. She orchestrates the Center of Excellence program and also devotes part of her effort to the Institute's research efforts. Caroline completed her Master's in Public Health and Tropical Medicine at Tulane University and her Bachelor of Science in Public Health at University of South Carolina. Her passion to address the growing burden of emerging infectious diseases has driven her to work across many disciplines of public health. While at Tulane, Caroline worked at the Viral Hemorrhagic Fever Consortium, assisting in the ongoing efforts to treat and prevent Lassa fever in vulnerable West African populations. She has also conducted field studies in Iquitos, Peru, to explore the community response after the 2016 Zika virus epidemic, and she continued her work in vector-borne disease research at Collier Mosquito Control District and the Southeastern Center of Excellence for Vector-Borne Diseases in Florida.

Rui-De (Rudy) Xue (Hsu), PhD

Executive Director, Anastasia Mosquito Control District

Dr. Rui-De (Rudy) Xue (Hsu) is the Executive Director of the Anastasia Mosquito Control District, St. Augustine, Florida and Adjunct Professor of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Department of Public Health and Environments. He was a visiting scientist at the Department of Entomology, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and Research Scientist at USDA/CMAVE. His specialist is Biology and Control of Mosquitoes and authored and co-authored more than 250 publications and book chapters in the past 40 years. He served the Florida Entomology Society and Florida Mosquito Control Association as president and past president.