COMIS

committee on minorities in statistics

DIVERSITY WORKSHOP & MENTORING PROGRAM 2022

WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the Diversity Workshop and Mentoring Program after two long years of virtual conferences. It is even more special that this year's event coincides with the expanded program (which is only offered every three years). This special event provides even more opportunity for professional development, networking and community building. I encourage you to do everything in your power to take full advantage of this opportunity. For two years, participants such as yourselves wished they had the privilege of this type of professional interaction. Embrace it!

Here are my top 5 tips for getting the most out of this program:

1. Be present (and be on time!). Presenters & panelists are donating their time to share their unique perspective and give you advice. Put down your phone, close your laptop and allow yourself to engage in all the sessions.
2. Ask questions. You have years of experience and a unique platform to have honest, tough conversations you may not have in any other venue. Go out on a limb and ask that question. If you're thinking about it, so are other people.
3. Introduce yourself. Introduce yourself to as many people as you can. Your peers, people you are in awe of, people you were really impressed to hear talk, the person sitting next to you at lunch. I regularly text people I was terrified to talk to my first year as a participant. Take the chance and introduce yourself; you have just as much to offer them as they have to offer you!
4. Think outside the box. Take in all perspectives and allow that to change how you think about your own career. Even if you're in/looking to be in tech, the story an academic shares may really resonate with you. We're all on a similar journey, even if we have different destinations.
5. Stay involved. Let this program be your gateway into this amazing professional society. Get involved in DWMP, get involved in the Committee of Minorities in Statistics, get involved in the ASA. "Service is the rent we pay for the privilege of living on this earth"-Shirley Chisholm.

Thank you for being a part of a great program!

Emily Butler

DR. EMILY LYNN BUTLER

CHAIR, DIVERSITY WORKSHOP AND MENTORING PROGRAM

PROGRAM, IN BRIEF

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 • MARRIOTT MARQUIS

8:30a to 9:00a	Liberty JK	Breakfast & Registration
9:00a to 9:15a	Liberty JK	Opening Remarks with Dr. Emily Lynn Butler
9:15a to 10:00a	Liberty JK	(Keynote) *Finding Your Voice* with Dr. Talitha Washington
10:00a to 11:00a	Liberty JK	*Finding Your Voice* Panel
11:00a to 11:30a	Liberty JK	Group Photo & Break sponsored by **GSK**
11:30a to 12:15p	Liberty JK	*Grappling with and Overcoming Isolation* Panel
12:30p to 2:00p	Liberty L	Lunch & Acknowledgments
2:00p to 3:00p	Liberty L	Networking Event made possible by **Juanita Lott**
3:15p to 4:00p	Liberty JK	(Parallel Session) *How to be a Mentee* Discussion
	Liberty I	(Parallel Session) *How to be a Mentor* Discussion

MONDAY, AUGUST 8 • MARRIOTT MARQUIS

7:30a to 8:00a	Treasury	Breakfast & Registration
8:00a to 10:00a	Treasury	*How Mentoring Shaped My Career and How it Can Shape Yours Too!* Panel co-hosted with CCD and JEDI

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9 • MARRIOTT MARQUIS

7:30a to 8:00a	Independence D	Breakfast & Registration
8:00a to 9:00a	Independence D	(Parallel Session) *Interviewing in a Virtual and Physical Environment* Discussion
	Independence E	(Parallel Session) *Onboarding to a New Job and How to Hit the Ground Running* Discussion
9:00a to 10:00a	Independence D	(Parallel Session) *Branding and Self-marketing* Discussion
	Independence E	(Parallel Session) *Self-promotion and Self-advocacy* Discussion

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10 • WALTER E WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER

7:30a to 8:00a	Room 102B	Breakfast & Registration
8:00a to 10:00a	Room 102B	Open Discussion facilitated by Dr. Adrian Coles

PROGRAM, IN FULL

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 • MARRIOTT MARQUIS

8:30a to 9:00a • Liberty JK Room
Breakfast & Registration.

Visit the help desk outside of the room to register, and enjoy the breakfast sandwiches.

9:00a to 9:15a • Liberty JK Room
Opening remarks with Dr. Emily Lynn Butler.

Dr. Butler is the Director of Statistics at Prokidney and the Chair of the ASA COMIS Diversity Workshop and Mentoring Program. Dr. Butler is an experienced pharmaceutical clinical statistician with previous experience in oncology cell gene therapy. Dr. Butler focuses on first in class treatments, and combines a passion for increasing patient access to life saving treatments with quantitative science.

9:15a to 10:00a • Liberty JK Room
Finding Your Voice, a keynote by Dr. Talitha Washington.

Dr. Washington is the inaugural Director of the Atlanta University Center (AUC) Data Science Initiative, a Professor of Mathematics at Clark Atlanta University, and the President-Elect of the Association for Women in Mathematics. She is also an affiliate faculty at Morehouse College, Morehouse School of Medicine, and Spelman College. Her research interests include the applications of differential equations to problems in biology and engineering, as well as the development of nonstandard finite difference schemes to numerically solve dynamical systems. She was elected to honor societies Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi, and mathematics honor societies Kappa Mu Epsilon and Pi Mu Epsilon. She is the recipient of the 2019 BEYA STEM Innovator Award, MAA's 2018 Leitzel Lecturer, an ASI Fellow, and featured by NSF as a Woman History Maker. In 2019, she received the distinguished Outstanding Faculty Award from Howard University. In 2020, she received the NSF Director's Award for Superior Accomplishment. Washington was elected to the 2021 Class of Fellows of the American Mathematical Society. In 2021, she was selected as a Fellow of the Association for Women in Mathematics.

10:00a to 11:00a • Liberty JK Room
Finding Your Voice, a Panel Discussion moderated by Prince Allotey.

Prince Allotey is a Ph.D. Candidate in Statistics at University of Connecticut, and will be joining the University of Washington in the Fall. He holds a Master of Science degree in Applied Statistics from Western Michigan University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and Statistics from the University of Ghana. His research focuses on Incomplete Data, and Bayesian Inference for Spatially Correlated Data.

Dr. Talitha Washington, Panelist for *Finding Your Voice*.

Dr. Washington is the inaugural Director of the Atlanta University Center (AUC) Data Science Initiative, a Professor of Mathematics at Clark Atlanta University, and the President-Elect of the Association for Women in Mathematics.

Dr. Kimberly Sellers, Panelist for *Finding Your Voice*.

Kimberly Sellers, Ph.D. is a Full Professor of Mathematics and Statistics, specializing in Statistics. Prof. Sellers held previous faculty positions at Carnegie Mellon University as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Statistics, and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine as an Assistant Professor of Biostatistics and Senior Scholar at the Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CCEB). Her areas of interest and expertise are in generalized statistical methods involving count data that contain data dispersion; and in image analysis techniques, particularly low-level analyses including preprocessing, normalization, feature detection, and alignment. She is an Elected Member of the International Statistical Institute, and a Fellow in the American Statistical Association.

Dr. Rebecca Hubbard, Panelist for *Finding Your Voice*.

Dr. Hubbard is a Professor of Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Informatics at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Hubbard's research focuses on the development and application of methods to improve analyses using real world data sources including electronic health records (EHR) and claims data. Dr. Hubbard's research emphasizes statistical methods designed to meet the modern challenges of data science by addressing the messiness and complexity of real world data including informative observation schemes, phenotyping error, and error and missingness in confounders.

Dr. René Bautista, Panelist for *Finding Your Voice.*

Dr. Bautista is associate director in the Methodology and Quantitative Social Sciences department at NORC, and the director and co-principal investigator of the General Social Survey (GSS). His academic training in Survey Methodology and work on sources of measurement error in surveys provides him with a solid theoretical and scientific approach to conduct applied survey research. Bautista has substantial experience developing and implementing major surveys and conducting leading methodological. His research focuses on nonresponse, measurement error, interviewer effects, mixed modes, and data collection methods.

11:00a to 11:30a
GROUP PHOTO & BREAK

11:30a to 12:15p • Liberty JK Room
Grappling with and Overcoming Isolation moderated by Dr. Felicia Simpson.

Dr. Simpson is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics at Winston-Salem State University. Dr. Simpson received her BA in Mathematics from Albany State University and her Ph.D. in Biostatistics from Florida State University. Prior to joining Winston-Salem State University, Dr. Simpson worked as a Mathematical Statistician at the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at FDA, Division of Biometrics IV. Her research interests include design and analysis of clinical trials, and metrics of aging. Dr. Simpson's current research focuses on measurement and statistical modeling to characterize latent processes that underlie and conjoin different metrics for aging. Dr. Simpson is an active member of the ASA and International Biometric Society. She is passionate about increasing the exposure of statistics and biostatistics among students in underrepresented populations. Dr. Simpson a member of ASA Committee on Minorities in Statistics and served as co-chair for the ENAR Fostering Diversity in Biostatistics Workshop.

Dr. Emma Benn, Panelist for *Grappling with and Overcoming Isolation*.

Dr. Emma K. T. Benn (she/her) is an Associate Professor in the Center for Biostatistics and Department of Population Health Science and Policy at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS). She is also the Founding Director of the Center for Scientific Diversity and Associate Dean of Faculty Well-being and Development at ISMMS. Dr. Benn is the co-founder of the NHLBI-funded Biostatistics Epidemiology Summer Training (BEST) Diversity Program and a former co-Chair of the ENAR Fostering Diversity in Biostatistics Workshop. She has served on the American Statistical Association's Task Force on Antiracism, LGBTQ Advocacy Committee, and Investments Committee. Dr. Benn's contributions have been celebrated by various organizations including Mathematically Gifted and Black and Graduate Women in Science. Dr. Benn holds the prestigious honor of being an American Statistical Association Fellow for her established reputation and outstanding contributions to the statistical sciences. She is also a member of the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies Inaugural Leadership cohort for her important role in shaping the future of statistics. She has also received an Outstanding Teaching Award from ISMMS for her passion for education and her commitment to creating an inclusive and equitable learning environment.

Dr. Tanya Garcia, Panelist for *Grappling with and Overcoming Isolation*.

Dr. Garcia is an Associate Professor of Biostatistics at the University of North Carolina -- Chapel Hill. Dr. Garcia has built a strong interdisciplinary research agenda. It involves national and international collaborations with neuroscientists and biologists, high-impact learning opportunities for students, and service work that promotes a future of diverse (bio)statisticians. Her research focuses on extracting maximal information from large, highly correlated data structures and has led to scientific discoveries in neurodegenerative diseases and the gut microbiome. Her teaching integrates these research activities with interactive, learner-centered projects that promote critical thinking. Her leadership in service activities involves promoting the success of underrepresented groups in (bio)statistics and providing her professional expertise regionally and internationally. She has earned competitive awards including the 2017-2018 NINDS Mentoring Institute for Neuroscience Diversity Scholars Fellowship; a fully-funded, visiting scholar invitation to the University of Sydney in 2012; and the 2011 American Statistical Association Gertrude M. Cox Award (awarded to two of 1200 applicants in North America). She has presented in over 35 invited department seminars and invited (inter)national conference sessions (rate of 5 per year).

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 • MARRIOTT MARQUIS

12:30p to 2:00p • Liberty L Room
Lunch & Acknowledgments.

Please join us for lunch and a few comments from the COMIS Leadership.

Remarks by Dr. Adrian Coles.

Dr. Adrian Coles is a Director of Biostatistics at Bristol Myers Squibb. In this role, he helps to establish program strategies and leads his team in the design and implementation of clinical trials. He is passionate about supporting younger professionals from BIPOC communities. To this end, Dr. Coles is the Chair of the Committee on Minorities in Statistics and is a Co-Chair for the ASA Antiracism Task Force.

Acknowledgments by Dr. Emily Lynn Butler.

Chair of the COMIS DWMP Committee.

NETWORKING EVENT

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 • MARRIOTT MARQUIS
2:00P TO 3:00P • LIBERTY L ROOM**

Join us for a rapid networking event organized around some whimsical, some fun and some serious topics! We will ask you to spread out amongst several tables and then give each table a unique prompt that will help start a conversation. After a short period of time, we will ask you to shuffle to a new table and meet other members of the program.

2019 Diversity Workshop and Mentoring Program Participants in Denver, CO.

3:15p to 4:30p • Liberty JK Room • Parallel Session
How to be a Mentee

Jasmine Lusane, Discussion Leader for *How to be a Mentee.*

Jasmine Lusane currently serves as a Public Health Analyst and leads the Maternal and Child Health portfolio within her agency. Prior to her role as an analyst, Jasmine has served as Project Manager in the non-profit sector and a Research Assistant at Johns Hopkins University in neuroscience. Jasmine will start her PhD journey this fall at University of Maryland.

Dominique McDaniel, Discussion Leader for *How to be a Mentee.*

Dominique McDaniel is a PhD Candidate in Biostatistics at Drexel University. Dominique completed her undergraduate studies in Mathematics at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania. She also holds a Master of Science degree in Applied Statistics and Mathematical Statistics from West Chester and Purdue University, respectively.

3:15p to 4:30p • Liberty JK Room • Parallel Session
How to be a Mentor

Dr. David Uminsky, Discussion Leader for *How to be a Mentor*.

Dr. Uminsky is the Executive Director of the Data Science Institute at the University of Chicago, and is a Senior Research Associate in the Department of Computer Science. Dr. Uminsky was previously an associate professor of Mathematics and Executive Director of the Data Institute at University of San Francisco (USF).

Dr. Jacqueline Hicks, Discussion Leader for *How to be a Mentor*.

Dr. Hicks is a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Biostatistics in the School of Public Health and Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science in the Metropolitan College. She is Co-Director of the Epidemiology and Biostatistics Certificate in the School of Public Health.

7:30a to 8:00a • Treasury Room
Breakfast & Registration

Visit the help desk outside of the room to register, and enjoy the assortment of breakfast items.

8:00a to 10:00a • Treasury Room
How Mentoring Shaped My Career and How It Can Shape Yours Too!
A Panel Discussion moderated by Dr. Christina Nurse, and co-hosted by ASA Committee on Career Development and JEDI.

Dr. Nurse is a native of Atlanta, Georgia where she graduated summa cum laude as a mathematics major from Spelman College, was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society, and was the Most Valuable Player of the conference after helping her team win the tennis championship. While at Spelman, she also had the honor of studying mathematics abroad in London at the University College London. As Dr. Nurse graduated from Spelman, she received the Ford and the GEM Fellowships to support her matriculation at Harvard University for her Master's degree and Ph.D. in biostatistics and moved to Boston. Dr. Nurse is currently an Associate Director of Statistics at Takeda Pharmaceuticals where she helps to design and analyze data from clinical trials to ensure the safety and efficacy of the medicines they develop which are used to treat rare diseases.

Dr. Sheela Kolluri, Panelist for *How Mentoring Shaped My Career and How It Can Shape Yours Too!*

Dr. Kolluri is currently VP, Head of Internal Medicine & Hospital Products Statistics at Pfizer. Her previous leadership roles include Global Head of Clinical & Real-World Evidence Statistics and Programming at Teva Pharmaceuticals and Global Head of Gastroenterology Statistics at Takeda's Data Sciences Institute. She has been part of pharmaceutical Statistics and Data Sciences organizations for the past 20 years, during which she also held an adjunct academic teaching position. Before transitioning to organizational leadership roles at Pfizer, Takeda and Teva, Dr. Kolluri spent much of her career in Pfizer's Statistics organization, in roles of increasing responsibility, across multiple disease areas and stages of drug-development. Dr. Kolluri also taught Statistics courses at Columbia University (New York, NY), as an adjunct faculty member in their Dept. of Statistics. Dr. Kolluri received her Ph.D. in Biostatistics at University of Iowa (Iowa City, IA).

Dr. Sastry Pantula, Panelist for *How Mentoring Shaped My Career and How It Can Shape Yours Too!*

Dr. Pantula, Dean of the College of Natural Sciences at California State University- San Bernardino (CSUSB), is nationally and internationally recognized as a leader in statistical sciences. Most recently, he has served as the Director of Data Analytics programs at Oregon State University and a Professor of Statistics. He has served as the dean of the College of Science for four years at Oregon State University from August 2013 to August 2017, after serving a three-year term as Director for the Division of Mathematical Sciences at the National Science Foundation. Dr. Pantula spent more than 30 years as a statistics professor at North Carolina State University (NCSU), where he began his academic career in 1982. At NCSU, he also served as the Director of Graduate Programs (1994-2002) and the Head of the Department of Statistics (2002-2010). In all of his administrative roles, he has focused on enhancing the quality, quantity and diversity within the department, the division and the college. His core values are excellence, diversity and harmony: strive for excellence, enhance diversity and foster harmony.

Dr. Ché Smith, Panelist for *How Mentoring Shaped My Career and How It Can Shape Yours Too!*

Dr. Smith is a data enthusiast whose career spans several industries and specialties. She is currently a Senior Analytics Engineer at Netflix, helping to continuously improve content performance metrics for titles launching on the streaming service. Prior to Netflix, Dr. Smith taught data science and statistics at Davidson College in North Carolina, and also directed a consulting, analytics, and tutoring lab for the college and local entrepreneurial community. By training, Dr. Smith is a biostatistician and spent several years working with local and state health departments to collect, analyze, and disseminate public health data in innovative ways. She also worked as a mathematical statistician with the US Food and Drug Administration, reviewing new drug applications for oncology and hematology treatments. Dr. Smith has attended JSM regularly since 2005 and always looks forward to learning new things and connecting with new people.

Dr. Wendy Martinez, Panelist for *How Mentoring Shaped My Career and How It Can Shape Yours Too!*

Dr. Martinez (she/they) is a Senior Mathematical Statistician for Data Science in the Research and Methodology Directorate of the US Census Bureau. Previously, Dr. Martinez served as the Director of the Mathematical Statistics Research Center at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and spent over twenty years working in several research positions throughout the Department of Defense. Dr. Martinez received her Ph.D. in Computational Sciences and Informatics with an emphasis on computational statistics from George Mason University in 1995. She completed a Master of Science degree in engineering at George Washington University in 1991 and a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics and physics at Cameron University in 1989. She continued her education and received a Graduate Certificate in Survey Statistics from the University of Maryland in 2015. Dr. Martinez was elected as a Fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA) in 2006 and is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. She was honored by the American Statistical Association (ASA) when she received the ASA Founders Award in 2017 conference and is grateful to have served as the 2020 ASA President.

Dr. Aaron Foster, Panelist for *How Mentoring Shaped My Career and How It Can Shape Yours Too!*

Business analytics is the science of driving better business decisions and having a competitive advantage to how you use statistics, artificial intelligence, and data to make them. Aaron Foster is the Vice President of Business Analytics & Insights at Pfizer. His global organization is comprised of business analysts dedicated to advancing the medicine pipeline and the commercial business in countries around the world.

Aaron's focus is using real-world data, survey techniques and artificial intelligence to understand unmet medical need and guide Pfizer's medicine development. He also drives marketing and sales strategies for approved medicines through communications to patients, physicians, and other healthcare stakeholders. In addition to working at Pfizer, Aaron is an Adjunct Lecturer on Biostatistics at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Earlier in his career, Aaron was a statistician at KPMG LLP and a Biostatistician at Bristol Myers Squibb. He holds a Doctor of Science in Biostatistics from Harvard University and a BS in Mathematics from Morehouse College.

www.linkedin.com/in/aaronmfoster

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9 • MARRIOTT MARQUIS

7:30a to 8:00a • Independence D
Breakfast & Registration

Visit the help desk outside of the room to register, and enjoy the assortment of breakfast items.

8:00a to 9:00a • Independence D • Parallel Session
Interviewing in Virtual and Physical Environments with Barbara Day.

Barbara Day leads Penfield's Biometrics recruiting practice, and she personally specializes in biostatistics recruitment across the pharmaceutical, biotech and CRO industries. Barbara brings over 20 years of experience in the biostatistics space with a deep understanding of the drug development industry as a whole. Her in-depth knowledge of the industry, as well as trends that affect the candidate landscape, position her to deliver sound career guidance to candidates as they build their careers. Barbara brings the highest level of integrity to each search and provides competitive intelligence to clients to help ensure they are properly positioned in the market place to attract and retain the best talent. Prior to joining Penfield as a Principal in 2015, Barbara worked at Smith Hanley Associates and its parent company inVentiv Health.

8:00a to 9:00a • Independence E • Parallel Session
Onboarding to a New Job and How to Hit the Ground Running with Dr. Rebbecca Wilson.

Dr. Rebbecca Wilson is a Principal Statistician in Immunology currently working on late-phase ulcerative colitis clinical trials. She joined Janssen in February 2020. She previously worked as a Lead Data Scientist at Fifth Third Bank. Dr. Wilson obtained her DrPH in Biostatistics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2018) and her A.B. in pre-medical studies and Spanish from Bowdoin College (2007). Prior to beginning her graduate studies, she completed a postbaccalaureate program in Mathematics and Statistics at Smith College. She also worked in Biostatistics at the Massachusetts General Hospital and taught English at a secondary school in Toledo, Spain. Dr. Wilson's research interests include Longitudinal, Categorical, and Missing Data Analysis. Her dissertation research focused on imputation and repeated measures analysis for accelerometer data. She enjoys staying active, reading, and fishing in her free time.

9:00a to 10:00a • Independence D • Parallel Session
Branding and Self-Marketing with Sam Hansen.

Sam is a the Mathematics & Statistics Librarian for the University of Michigan, Lead Producer and Mathematical Storyteller at ACMEScience.com, and the database developer for Medial History Digital Library and PodcastRE. Sam tells stories from the mathematical domain with Relatively Prime, interviews mathematicians on Strongly Connected Components, speaks about fights from the history of science in Science Sparring Society, and covers breaking mathematical news with Peter Rowlett on Math/Maths. On a more personal note, Sam spends time biking, drinking decaffeinated coffee, and listening to podcasts at 2X.

10:00a to 11:00a • Independence E • Parallel Session
Self-Promotion and Self-Advocacy with Dr. Brian Millen.

Dr. Millen is Senior Director of Real World and Access Analytics within Lilly's Global Statistical Sciences (GSS) organization. In this role, he provides strategic and administrative leadership to the teams of statistical scientists whose research contributions and analytic modeling enable patient access to treatments. Dr. Millen's career with Lilly spans over 19 years in various technical and leadership roles within GSS and Advanced Analytics, where he is known for establishing cultures of high performance, inclusion, and innovation within his teams. Prior to joining the senior leadership ranks, Dr. Millen led statistics teams pursuing regulatory submission of new drugs or in early clinical development. Dr. Millen is a passionate advocate for professional development and diversity and inclusion (D&I). He brings these passions to Lilly and to his broader service to the profession. Within Lilly, he established GSS's New Employee Academy, led professional development workshops for employees, and spearheaded Lilly's involvement in multiple diversity-focused initiatives. Additionally, Dr. Millen is a past Chair of the American Statistical Association's (ASA) Committee on Minorities in Statistics and is the founder (2009) of the JSM Diversity Workshop and Mentoring Program. His service to the profession spans more than 15 years and includes multiple leadership roles within ASA and the International Biometric Society (ENAR). He currently serves on the Executive Committee of the ASA Biopharmaceutical Section, the nominations committee for the ASA Council of Sections, and the ASA Mentoring Awards committee. Dr. Millen holds a PhD in Statistics from The Ohio State University and a BA in Mathematics from the University of Georgia. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10 • WALTER E. WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER

7:30a to 8:00a • Room 102B
Breakfast & Registration

Visit the help desk outside of the room to register, and enjoy the assortment of breakfast items.

8:00a to 10:00a • Room 102B
Open Discussion facilitated by Dr. Adrian Coles.

Dr. Adrian Coles is a Director of Biostatistics at Bristol Myers Squibb. In this role, he helps to establish program strategies and leads his team in the design and implementation of clinical trials. He is passionate about supporting younger professionals from BIPOC communities. To this end, Dr. Coles is the Chair of the Committee on Minorities in Statistics and is a Co-Chair for the ASA Antiracism Task Force.

PARTICIPANTS

MENTEES

Sefanit Admasu
Mian Adnan
Roungu Ahmmad
Daniel Alhassan
Nancy Alila
Irving Angeles
Michael Anyane-Yeboa
Nathan Aviles
Danielle Bailey
Nadia Bell
Derrick Bonney
Margaret Gacheru
Kimberly Geoffrey
Diahmin Hawkins
HarLeigh Haynie
Melody Huang
Ogochukwu Ifeacho
Daniel Kpormegbey
StevenLawrence
Ariana Lopez
Alina Martinez
Melanie Mayer
Darius McDaniel
Lutfiyya Muhammad
Fedelis Mutiso
Isaac Nwi-Mozu
Rachel Parker
Kenthia Roberts
Ben Stockton
Gwynn Sturdevant
Octavious Talbot
Stefanee Tillman
Raul Torres Aragon
Jesus Vazquez
Dorcas Washington
Qiuyi Wu
Wen Zhang

REGISTRANTS

Brooklynn Adame
Jamal Adrien
Siham Ahmed
Dila Bhandari
Samantha Figueredo Botello
Amia Graye
Leona Harris
Gilson Honvoh
Abdifatah Hussein
Evrard Quintin Irambona
Kristiana Jeffers
Kennedy Johnson
Victoria Joseph
Malick Kebe
Timothy Kintu
Jules Koudouovoh
Tete Narh-Mensah
Muuzaani Nkhoma
Ebuka Nwafia
Jayline Perez
Naomi Rankin
Atma Sahu
Marilyn Sanchez
Qadeer Shahbaz
Jeremy Simmons
Jade Truehart
Stephanie Wairagu

MENTORS

Dr. Vivak Patel

Vivak Patel is an assistant professor of statistics at the University of Wisconsin--Madison. He teaches courses on statistics and computing, and his research focuses on the intersection of statistics, uncertainty and computing.

Dr. David Morganstein

David Morganstein, now retired, worked for 43 years at Westat Inc, largely serving as the Director of the Statistical Group which, which numbered 75 MS and PhD level statisticians. David has been in the ASA for over 45 years, serving as Treasurer, Vice President and President. He deeply appreciates the gifts the profession has to offer and he is committed to helping younger statistician step into their own careers.

Dr. Melody Goodman

Dr. Melody Goodman received her B.S. summa cum laude in applied mathematics-statistics and economics (double major) from Stony Brook University. She received her M.S. in biostatistics from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and her Ph.D. from the Department of Biostatistics at Harvard University with minors in theoretical statistics and the social determinants of health disparities. Dr. Goodman is the Associate Dean for Research and Associate Professor of Biostatistics, in the School of Global Public Health at New York University. She is the Director of the Center for Anti-racism, Social Justice, & Public Health. She has over 100 peer-reviewed journal articles and two books . The National Institutes of Health, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Verizon Foundation, Long Island Community Foundation, Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute, and Susan G. Komen for the Cure have funded her work.

Dr. Madhu Mazumdar

Madhu directs the Institute of Healthcare Delivery Science (I-HDS) at Mount Sinai Health System (MSHS) with a core team of ~20 quantitative, qualitative, and informatics researchers who work with front-line providers to analyze data from the MSHS electronic medical record (EMR) and national databases for improvements in the quality, safety, outcomes, and efficiency of care and disseminate these evidences through highly cited publications. Individualized mentoring is one of Madhu's personal and institutional passions. She has personally mentored ~110 professionals and guided them on research, career, and life-work balance. She was awarded a Fellow of American Statistical Association for achieving excellence in leading biostatistical collaborative efforts with major impacts on treatments in oncology and orthopedic surgery; for efficiency in developing and reforming multiple biostatistics units; for outstanding mentoring of biostatisticians, clinical faculties, and research fellows; and for substantial editorial review work ensuring quality reporting of statistical results in clinical journals.

Dr. Ofer Harel

Ofer Harel is a professor of Statistics and Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Affairs, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Connecticut. Dr. Harel received his doctorate in statistics from the Pennsylvania State University and his postdoctoral training at the University of Washington, Department of Biostatistics, where he worked for the Health Services Research & Development (HSR&D) Center of Excellence, VA Puget Sound Healthcare System, and the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center (NACC).

Dr. Sean Simpson

As a Professor in the Department of Biostatistics and Data Science at the Wake Forest University School of Medicine (WFUSM), Sean Simpson has participated in various imaging-focused collaborative and methodological research with a number of scientists and interdisciplinary groups. His current work involves an ongoing collaboration with the Laboratory for Complex Brain Networks (LCBN) at WFUSM. In addition to his appointment at WFUSM, Dr. Simpson is an adjunct professor at UNC – Chapel Hill, affiliate faculty in Biomedical Engineering and Neuroscience at WFUSM, a member of the Laboratory for Complex Brain Networks, and an Affiliate of the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity. Dr. Simpson holds a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Mathematics from Harvard and a PhD in Biostatistics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Dr. Daniel Malinsky

Daniel is an Assistant Professor of Biostatistics in the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University. His research focuses mostly on causal inference: developing statistical methods and machine learning tools to support inference about treatment effects, interventions, and policies. Current research topics include structure learning (a.k.a. causal discovery or causal model selection), semiparametric inference, time series analysis, and missing data. Daniel also works on algorithmic fairness: understanding and counteracting the biases introduced by data science tools deployed in socially impactful settings. Finally, he has an interests in the philosophy of science and the foundations of statistics. Previously, Daniel was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Johns Hopkins University. He completed his PhD at Carnegie Mellon University in 2017 and earned his BA from Columbia University in 2011.

Dr. Eric Laber

Eric Laber is Professor of Statistical Sciences and Biostatistics and Bioinformatics at Duke University. Before joining Duke, he spent ten years in the Department of Statistics at NC State University. His research focuses on data-driven decision making, causal inference, and non-regular asymptotics.

Dr. Scarlett Bellamy

Dr Bellamy is a Professor of Biostatistics and Director of the Graduate Programs in Biostatistics in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Drexel University. She also serves as the Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion at Drexel's Dornsife School of Public Health. Prior to her current position at Drexel, she was a Professor of Biostatistics in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. She is also Co-Director of the Biostatistics and Informatics Core (BIC) and serves as a senior biostatistician for the Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion (CHERP) at the Corporal Michael J. Crescenz VA Medical Center. Dr Bellamy's research interests are in the design, analysis and implementation of cohort and longitudinal studies, particularly group/cluster randomized trials. She has published in a number of clinical and public health disciplines including: statistical methods; behavioral economics; HIV risk reduction; clinical investigations of HIV, cancer, cardiovascular health, obesity and physical activity, adult lung injury and lung transplantation; and critical care. Additionally, she has served as Director or Co-Director of Data Coordinating Centers for several large, multisite trials as well as served as a member of numerous Data Safety and Monitoring Committees, including service as Chair.

Dr. Lihua Li

Lihua is an Assistant Professor of Biostatistics in the department of population health science and policy at Mount Sinai, and her research is focused on developing and applying innovative statistical methods to aging related diseases such as cancer and dementia. The methods include propensity score weighting methods with survey weighted data when the outcomes are binary, quantile regression forest analysis of end-of-life healthcare costs, and latent multiple trajectory analysis of paid care and family care time. Lihua has extensive experience in designing clinical trials, developing the trial protocols, assessing the feasibility, and the pattern of their healthcare utilization and cost.

Dr. Briana Stephenson

Briana Stephenson is an Assistant Professor of Biostatistics at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She received her B.S. in Mathematics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While working as a statistician for the U. S. Food and Drug Administration and Department of Defense, she earned a MPH in biostatistics at George Washington University. She went on to continue her education at UNC Chapel Hill, where she earned a PhD in biostatistics from the Gillings School of Public Health and her postdoctoral training at the UNC Collaborative Studies Coordinating Center. Her work has focused on Bayesian nonparametric and model-based clustering with applications in nutrition epidemiology, cardiovascular health, and health disparities.

Dr. Courtney Henry

Dr. Courtney Henry joined GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) in 2018 as a Principal Statistician in Oncology Pharma R&D. In her role, she is primarily focused on statistical design, methodology, and analysis of clinical trial data in oncology. Currently, she is the lead statistician for an expansive Phase I FTiH study of patients with selected advanced solid tumors. Previous to joining the company, Dr. Henry earned her PhD in Statistics from Purdue University. She also holds a MS in Mathematical Statistics and Applied Mathematics and a B.S in Mathematics from Purdue University, Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) and Hampton University, respectively. In her personal time she enjoys physical fitness activities and interior decorating.

Dr. Bàrbara Robles

Bárbara J. Robles earned her PhD in economics with a focus on money, banking, and econometrics from the University of Maryland College Park. She is the co-author of Latino Farm Entrepreneurship in Rural America (2020) with Alfonso Morales and Michael Pisani and Exploring Online and Offline Informal Work: Findings from the Enterprising and Informal Work Activities (EIWA) Survey (2016) with Marysol McGee. Additionally, she is the author of Economic Inclusion and Financial Education in Diverse Communities: Leveraging Cultural Capital and Whole Family Learning (2014) and US Latino Families, Heads of Households, and the Elderly: Emerging Trends in Financial Services and Asset-Building Behaviors (2009). She also co-authored the 2006 Gustavus-Meyers Human Rights award book, The Color of Wealth: The Story Behind the US Racial Wealth Divide (2006). Robles has taught at Arizona State University, The University of Texas at Austin, and the University of Colorado-Boulder. She has held the position of tax examiner for the IRS, as well as revenue estimator/economist for the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation, scoring tax legislation for the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance committees. She recently retired from the Federal Reserve Board, where she was a principal economist in the Division of Consumer and Community Affairs. Robles is currently engaged in research exploring data collection methods and survey protocol addressing hard-to-reach populations and neglected communities, digital divide issues in community economic development, economic inclusion, tax and financial education, the gig economy, and entrepreneurship/self-employment.

Dr. Loni Tabb

Dr. Loni Philip Tabb is currently an Associate Professor (with tenure) of Biostatistics at Drexel University, Dornsife School of Public Health, in the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics in Philadelphia, PA. Since joining the faculty at Drexel, her research focuses primarily on spatial and spatio-temporal statistics and epidemiology with applications in health and social disparities, violence, overall and cardiovascular health – with a focus on measuring and mapping various public health-related challenges in efforts to aid in creating more evidence-based, informed policies and interventions. Dr. Tabb has also taught several courses at Drexel, which include Biostatistics, Survival Data Analysis, Advanced Statistical Computing, and Bayesian Data Analysis. Dr. Tabb is an active member of several biostatistics and public health professional societies – including current chair of the Fostering Diversity in Biostatistics Workshop for the Eastern North American Region of the International Biometric Society Annual Spring Meeting.

Dr. Alison Motsinger-Reif

Dr. Alison Motsinger-Reif is the Branch Chief and a Senior Investigator in the Biostatistics and Computational Biology Branch at the NIEHS. She received her M.S. in Applied Statistics and PhD in Human Genetics – both from Vanderbilty University in 2006 and 2007 respectively. She was a faculty member at North Carolina State University from 2007-2018, where she built a research program to address important challenges in the "Big Data" space, and received a mid-career endowment. The primary goal of her research is the development of computational methods to detect genetic risk factors of complex traits in human populations. As environmental health increasingly accepts a complex model of phenotypic development that involving many genetic and environment factors, her methods development is focused on strategies that incorporate this complexity. The methods she develops include artificial intelligence methods such as genetic algorithms, and machine learning tools like neural networks, etc., Her methods and corresponding software tools support are designed to detect gene-gene and gene-environment interactions. She has published over 200 peer-reviewed publications as a result of this work, in a broad range of journals that reflect the interdisciplinary nature of her work.

Dr. Carmen Tekwe

Dr. Tekwe received both her Bachelors and Masters' degrees in statistics from the University of Florida. She received her doctoral degree from the University at Buffalo in 2011. Her doctoral work focused on developing statistical methods for reducing measurement error biases associated with assessing the impacts of radiation on health outcomes among atomic bomb survivors under the guidance of Randy L. Carter. She spent two years working as a postdoctoral researcher with Raymond J. Carroll in bioinformatics and measurement error methods prior to joining the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the Texas A&M School of Public Health as an assistant professor. She joined the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Indiana University's School of Public Health as associate professor in 2019. Her research interests include statistical methodology for wearable devices, dietary intake, and for radiation risk assessments. Her areas of expertise include measurement error, latent variable models, radiation epidemiology, functional data, nutrition and physical activity epidemiology, metabolic diseases, aging, and cancer research. She is the PI of an NIDDK-funded R01 on statistical methods for measurement error correction in device-based measures of physical activity and self-reported dietary intake in obesity and diabetes research. She currently serves as a scientific advisor to the International Life Sciences Institute – North America and is an associate editor for Statistics in Medicine.

Dr. Leslie McClure

Leslie McClure is Professor & Chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs at the Dornsife School of Public Health at Drexel University. She has a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the University of Kansas; an MS in Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health from the University of Iowa, and her PhD in Biostatistics from the University of Michigan. Dr. McClure does work to try to understand disparities in health, particularly racial and geographic disparities, and the role that the environment plays in them. Her methodological expertise is in the design and analysis of multicenter trials, as well as issues of multiplicity in clinical trials. Dr. McClure is passionate about increasing diversity in the math sciences and devotes considerable time to mentoring younger scientists. Dr. McClure enjoys spending time with her husband, children, and dog, and completed her first triathlon prior to the pandemic.

Dr. Janelle K. Charles

Janelle K. Charles, PhD., is a Principal Biostatistician at ICON (PRA Health Sciences). Dr. Charles received her PhD in Mathematics with a Statistics Concentration and Masters in Statistics from Texas Tech University. Prior to joining ICON, she has over 10 years cumulative experience as a Senior Biostatistician II at PPD and as a Mathematical Statistician at the Office of Biostatistics/Center of Drug Evaluation and Research, FDA. Her statistical contributions and project leadership spans multiple therapeutic areas and phases of clinical development. She is an active member of ASA and has served as Secretary of the Biopharmaceutical Section of the ASA and Member of the ASA Committee on Minorities in Statistics.

Dr. Brian Millen

Dr. Millen is Senior Director of Real World and Access Analytics within Lilly's Global Statistical Sciences (GSS) organization. In this role, he provides strategic and administrative leadership to the teams of statistical scientists whose research contributions and analytic modeling enable patient access to treatments. Dr. Millen's career with Lilly spans over 19 years in various technical and leadership roles within GSS and Advanced Analytics, where he is known for establishing cultures of high performance, inclusion, and innovation within his teams. Additionally, Dr. Millen is a past Chair of the American Statistical Association's (ASA) Committee on Minorities in Statistics and is the founder (2009) of the JSM Diversity Workshop and Mentoring Program. His service to the profession spans more than 15 years and includes multiple leadership roles within ASA and the International Biometric Society (ENAR).

Dr. Kaleab Abebe

Kaleab Abebe is an Associate Professor of Medicine, Biostatistics, and Clinical & Translational Science at the University of Pittsburgh. He directs the Center for Research on Health Care Data Center as well as the Center for Clinical Trials & Data Coordination. Dr. Abebe joined the faculty in 2009 after receiving his PhD in Statistics from the University of Pittsburgh. His collaborative research focuses on design, conduct, coordination, and analysis of multicenter randomized controlled trials (RCTs). He is the PI of two, large NIH-funded consortiums: the COPE-AKI Consortium Scientific & Data Research Center, which is developing and testing interventions to reduce morbidity and mortality in AKI survivors; and the Data Coordinating Center (DCC) for the REBIRTH Study, which will assess the effect of bromocriptine on left ventricular ejection fraction in women with peripartum cardiomyopathy. He is the Co-PI for the CaRISMA study, which is a pragmatic trial examining the effectiveness of computerized cognitive behavioral therapy (vs pain education) on pain intensity in adults with sickle cell disease (SCD). Dr. Abebe leads the DCC for the STERIO-SCD study, a phase II trial evaluating safety and tolerability of riociguat in SCD. Most recently, he led the DCC for the TAME-PKD study, which was a phase II RCT assessing safety and tolerability of metformin in polycystic kidney disease (PKD). He is a standing member of the Kidney, Nutrition, Obesity, and Diabetes (KNOD) Study Section, and he is a member of the Board of Directors and chair of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion committee for the Society for Clinical Trials.

Dr. Cody Chiuzan

Cody Chiuzan, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Institute of Health System Science at Northwell Health, NY. Before that she was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biostatistics at Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. Her research area focuses on development of early-phase adaptive designs incorporating endpoints specific to targeted and immunotherapies, and she has served as the principal statistician on numerous investigator-initiated oncology trials testing novel treatments. Her recent interests include development and application of methods using real-world data sources (i.e., electronic health records, registries) to enhance future clinical trials by gaining a more comprehensive description of the target populations, exploring the potential use of synthetic control arms (versus standard controls), and by employing causal inference methodology to guide the transfer of knowledge among non-experimental studies. Her honors include Junior Faculty Research Award and Columbia Public Health Innovation Award from the Mailman School of Public Health. She is passionate about teaching biostatistics in health sciences, and she has a strong record of mentoring MS students, MD/PhD students, and clinical fellows.

Dr. Knashawn Morales

Knashawn H. Morales received her Bachelor's in Mathematics in 1995 from Hampton University and earned a doctorate in Biostatistics in 2001 from Harvard School of Public Health. After two years as a Research Scientist at the New England Research Institutes, Dr. Morales joined the University of Pennsylvania in 2003 where she is currently Associate Professor of Biostatistics in the Department of Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Informatics at the Perelman School of Medicine. She collaborates with investigators on research with a primary focus in mental health and behavioral modification interventions for asthma, insomnia, weight management, and HIV/STD risk reduction. Her methodological experience includes longitudinal data analysis, latent variable modeling, and categorical data analysis. Knashawn is committed to increasing the pipeline of biostatisticians and has actively participated in outreach and diversity initiatives. She enjoys formal and informal mentoring of both students and junior investigators. Knashawn has been fortunate to have instrumental mentors and she aspires to be a positive influence for others.

Dr. Vladimir Geneus

Vladimir J. Geneus, Ph.D. is a Senior Research Scientist at AbbVie, Inc. He is the lead statistician for over a dozen concurrent studies (Phases II-IV) in the specialty therapeutic area. Prior to his position at AbbVie, Inc., Vladimir served as a Research Scientist at Eli Lilly & Company, where he led the design of clinical studies and experimental designs and oversaw ad hoc analyses and disclosures as a medical affairs statistician. Vladimir has gained statistical experience in various fields throughout his career: biopharmaceutical (Pfizer, Inc.), government (Florida Department of Education), and academia (University of Arkansas Medical School). His interests include nonparametric statistics, design of experiments, and Bayesian designs. Vladimir earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst with, a Master of Science degree in Applied Mathematics from Northeastern University, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Statistics from Florida State University. Most importantly, Vladimir remains passionate about helping graduate students, particularly those from marginalized groups, transition into their post-graduate careers.

Dr. Christian Geneus

Christian obtained a Bachelor of Science in Physics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 2011. In 2012, he graduated from Boston University School of Medicine and obtained his Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences. His dedication to population health stems from his parents, whom are both physicians. He obtained a Master of Public Health in Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Biosecurity and Disaster Preparedness in 2015. Passionate for mathematical modeling against epidemics, Christian started his doctorate in August 2015 and made it a focal point to develop system of analyses to best help public health to mitigate against epidemics. In 2018, Christian received his Master of Science in Biostatistics and Bioinformatics and successfully defended his dissertation on the 21st April 2020.

Dr. Ché Smith

Ché Smith is a data enthusiast whose career spans several industries and specialties. She is currently a Senior Analytics Engineer at Netflix, helping to continuously improve content performance metrics for titles launching on the streaming service. Prior to Netflix, Ché taught data science and stastistics at Davidson College in North Carolina, and also directed a consulting, analytics, and tutoring lab for the college and local entrepreneurial community. By training, Ché is a biostatistician and spent several years working with local and state health departments to collect, analyze, and disseminate public health data in innovative ways. She also worked as a mathematical statistician with the US Food and Drug Administration, reviewing new drug applications for oncology and hematology treatments. She is eager to pay forward all of the great mentoring she has received to help students blaze a path toward success and fulfillment.

Dr. Lorin Crawford

Lorin Crawford is a Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research New England. He also holds a tenured position as an Associate Professor of Biostatistics at Brown University. Dr. Crawford has an extensive background in modeling massive data sets of high-throughput molecular information as it pertains to functional genomics and cellular-based biological processes. His most recent work has earned him a place on Forbes 30 Under 30 list, The Root 100 Most Influential African Americans list, and recognition as an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow and a David & Lucile Packard Foundation Fellowship for Science and Engineering.
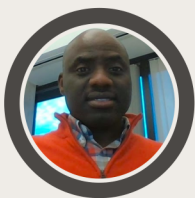
Dr. Rebecca Betensky

Rebecca Betensky is Professor and Chair of Biostatistics at New York University School of Global Public Health. Her research focuses on censored and truncated data and many of her collaborations are in Alzheimer's disease. She has directed pipeline programs to increase the diversity in Biostatistics. She is very gratified that former students are now colleagues and leaders in Biostatistics.

Dr. Eric J. Daza

Eric J. Daza is a biostatistician and health data scientist at Evidation Health, a digital health company. He has worked for 18+ years in both industry and academia as a biostatistician and data scientist, in pharma clinical trials, survey sampling, nutrition, maternal/child health, global/international health, health promotion & disease prevention, healthtech, digital health, and behavioral medicine. Daza introduced the average period treatment effect (APTE) n-of-1 counterfactual framework (Daza, 2018) for understanding each person's own health causes and effects using their own self-tracked wearable-device, sensor, or app data. He created and edits Stats-of-1, a health statistics blog focused on digital within-individual statistical designs or methods (WISDOM) that define the field of esametry (derived from "isa", the Tagalog Filipino word for "one"). Daza is also an early Expert Member of the International Collaborative Network for N-of-1 Clinical Trials and Single-Case Experimental Designs.

Dr. Adeniyi Adewale

Adeniyi's country of origin is Nigeria. He obtained a bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Nigeria and obtained graduate degrees in Statistics from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. He has worked in clinical drug development for over 14 years. Prior to his current role at Novartis, Niyi worked with Merck and Alcon.

Dr. Paulette Ceesay

Paulette Ceesay is a statistician in the neuroscience therapeutic area at Merck. She has also worked in the diabetes, cardiovascular, ophthalmology, and anti-infective areas. Paulette co-leads the Biostatistics and Research Decision Sciences Diversity and Inclusion Task Force. She also was an adjunct professor in the statistics department at Temple University. Prior to joining Merck, she was a pension and group health actuary. Her research interests are health policy and comparative benefit risk assessment.

Christien Wright

Christien Wright holds a B.A. in Statistics from Amherst College and an MBA and M.S. in Sport Management from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He is currently a data analyst in the Milwaukee Bucks Research and Innovation Group that contributed to the team's 2021 NBA Championship run. His research focus is on coaching strategy as an experienced player, coach, and data scientist. Christien volunteers his time serving as a professional data scientist for the Sports Analytics Club Program, Milwaukee Chapter at the Golda Meir School.

Dr. Reneé Moore

Reneé H. Moore is a Research Professor, Director of the Biostatistics Scientific Collaboration Center (BSC), and Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion for the department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the Dornsife School of Public Health. She received a B.S. in mathematics and completed the secondary mathematics education program from Bennett College, and her PhD in Biostatistics from Emory University. After completing her doctoral degree, Dr. Moore spent six years as an Assistant Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine where she taught physicians, was the lead statistician in the data coordinating center for a multi-site randomized clinical trial for pediatric sleep apnea, and was faculty the biostatistician in the Center for Weight and Eating Disorders, joining a group of researchers investigating interventions for the prevention and treatment of obesity. Dr. Moore was also a Teaching Associate Professor in North Carolina State University's Department of Statistics. From 2015-2021, Dr. Moore was a Research Associate Professor in the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics at the Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University and the Director of the Biostatistics Collaboration Core. Dr. Moore's research interests are in the design, conduct, and analysis of clinical trials and statistical applications to address health disparities. She has a wealth of experience as a biostatistician collaborating with clinicians, public health practitioners, and scientists. Dr. Moore also dedicates much of her time to training the next generation of collaborative biostatisticians and users of statistics. Dr. Moore has been very active in ENAR, with the ASA Committee on Minorities in Statistics, and is a Fellow of the ASA.

Jasmine Mack

Jasmine A. Mack is a first-year PhD student in the National Institutes of Health Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program, where she is training at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in the Biostatistics and Computational Biology Branch and the University of Cambridge Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. In her first year, Jasmine's research concerns multi-omics analysis of pregnancy complications and exploring efficient statistical methods for studying multi-ethnic and admixed populations. Jasmine earned a Masters in Biostatistics from the University of Michigan, a Masters in Public Health in Maternal-Child Health from Boston University, and a Bachelors of Science in Biology, Psychology, and Linguistics from Emory University. After graduating from Boston University, Jasmine worked as a research statistician at the University of Florida Department of Epidemiology. She had the opportunity to lead a data team and mentor students, focusing on community engagement research needs in Florida. Jasmine's interests further developed in perinatal epidemiology and statistical genetics. At Michigan, she was selected as a National Human Genome Research Institute T32 Predoctoral Fellow, where she focused on genome-wide association studies of preterm birth and preeclampsia. Following graduation from Michigan, Jasmine was selected for an internship with Janssen/Johnson & Johnson focusing on modeling COVID-19 severity during pregnancy. As an early-career researcher, Jasmine advocates for representation of historically excluded people as researchers as well as participants in research studies. She is an active mentor for aspiring Black scientists.

Dr. Machell Town

Dr. Machell Town is the Branch Chief for the Population Health Surveillance Branch in the Division of Population Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Machell joined CDC's Division of Adult and Community Health in November of 1999 as a mathematical statistician in the Behavioral Surveillance Branch. Machell provides expertise in sample designs and weighting for the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). She is a leader in oversampling of special populations and local communities for RDD surveys. Machell has consulted on sample designs and weighting for special surveys in the US and globally. Machell received her Bachelors and Masters in Statistics from the University of Georgia and her PhD in Public Health with a concentration in Epidemiology from Walden University. Before coming to CDC, Machell was a mathematical statistician at the US Bureau of the Census for 9 ½ years where she specialized in sampling, data quality, questionnaire development, weighting, variance estimators, and small area estimation.

Dr. Jami Mulgrave

Jami Mulgrave earned a PhD in Statistics from North Carolina State University and was a postdoctoral fellow at Columbia University in the Department of Biomedical Informatics. She is currently a People Research Scientist at Facebook.

Dr. Felicia Simpson

Felicia R. Simpson, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics at Winston-Salem State University. Dr. Simpson received her BA in Mathematics from Albany State University and her Ph.D. in Biostatistics from Florida State University. Prior to joining Winston-Salem State University, Dr. Simpson worked as a Mathematical Statistician at the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at FDA, Division of Biometrics IV. Her research interests include design and analysis of clinical trials, and metrics of aging. Dr. Simpson's current research focuses on measurement and statistical modeling to characterize latent processes that underlie and conjoin different metrics for aging. Dr. Simpson is an active member of the ASA and International Biometric Society. She is passionate about increasing the exposure of statistics and biostatistics among students in underrepresented populations. Dr. Simpson a member of the committee on minorities in statistics from the American Statistical Association and served as co-chair for the ENAR Fostering Diversity in Biostatistics Workshop.

COMMITTEE

Adeniyi Adewale
Prince Allotey
Emily Butler
Adrian Coles
Justine Herrera
Ixavier Higgins
Donna LaLonde
Jasmine Lusane
Jasmine Mack
Christina Nurse
Vivak Patel
Adriana Pérez
Drew Reid
Rob Santos
Felicia Simpson
Dionne Swift
Machell Town
Therri Usher

ADENIYI ADEWALE

Adeniyi's country of origin is Nigeria. He obtained a bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Nigeria and obtained graduate degrees in Statistics from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. He has worked in clinical drug development for over 14 years. Prior to his current role at Novartis, Niyi worked with Merck and Alcon.

PRINCE ALLOTEY

Prince Allotey is a Ph.D. Candidate in The Department of Statistics at University of Connecticut working under the supervision of Dr. Ofer Harel. He will be joining the University of Washington in the Fall. He holds a Master of Science degree in Applied Statistics from Western Michigan University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and Statistics from the University of Ghana. His research focuses on Incomplete Data, and Bayesian Inference for Spatially Correlated Data. During his leisure time, he enjoys playing or watching soccer.

EMILY BUTLER

Currently lead the company wide statistical and quantitative science strategy for a ground breaking renal autologous cell therapy treatment at a small biotech. An experienced pharmaceutical clinical statistician with previous experience in oncology cell gene therapy. Focusing on first in class treatments combines my passion for increasing patient access to life saving treatments with my strong background in quantitative science. Highest impact is achieved by combining sharp, innovative technical techniques with excellent communication skills in a highly collaborative environment. Leading with heart & always willing to step outside my role to prioritize patients and support my team. Unique ability to dive into the study details while also highlighting long term strategic impact and visualize the interconnective web between key functions & milestones.

I am an active member of the ASA, serving as the Chair of the Committee on Minorities in Statistics' Diversity Mentoring Program, a member at large of the Biopharmaceutical section involved in multiple subcommittees and a member of the Anti-Racism Task Force.Currently

ADRIAN COLES

Dr. Adrian Coles is currently a Director of Biostatistics at Bristol Myers Squibb. In this role, Dr. Coles helps to establish program strategy for large drug development programs and leads his team in the design and implementation of clinical trials to help bring new pharmaceutical innovations to patients in need. He is also passionate about supporting younger professionals from BIPOC communities. To this end, Dr. Coles also serves as the Chair of the American Statistical Association's Committee on Minorities in Statistics and Co-Chair of the ASA's Antiracism Taskforce. These roles allow him to mentor younger professionals, to help increase the number of BIPOC professionals in the mathematical sciences, and to help drive positive cultural change within the ASA. Dr. Coles holds a BA in Math from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and a PhD in Statistics from NC State University, where he was the first African American male to earn a PhD in Statistics from the time-honored department. Prior to attending graduate school, Dr. Coles served nearly nine years in the United States Marine Corps, where he received multiple awards for leadership and honorable service.

JASMINE LUSANE

Jasmine Lusane currently serves as a Public Health Analyst in the Division of Policy and Data, Office of Minority Health at HHS where she leads the Maternal and Child Health portfolio. Prior to her role as an analyst, Jasmine has served as Project Manager in the non-profit sector and a Research Assistant at Johns Hopkins University in neuroscience. By training, she is an epidemiologist and public health data scientist whose research interests are maternal, perinatal, and child health, minority health, and health equity. She is an inaugural Data Science Fellow graduate at Correlation One Data Science for All and a graduate of Florida A&M University where she received her MPH in Epidemiology & Biostatistics. She will start her PhD journey this fall at University of Maryland. Jasmine is formerly a mentee of JSM and has served on the JSM Committee the last two years.

JASMINE MACK

Jasmine A. Mack is a first-year PhD student in the National Institutes of Health Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program, where she is training at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in the Biostatistics and Computational Biology Branch and the University of Cambridge Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. In her first year, Jasmine's research concerns multi-omics analysis of pregnancy complications and exploring efficient statistical methods for studying multi-ethnic and admixed populations. Jasmine earned a Masters in Biostatistics from the University of Michigan, a Masters in Public Health in Maternal-Child Health from Boston University, and a Bachelors of Science in Biology, Psychology, and Linguistics from Emory University. After graduating from Boston University, Jasmine worked as a research statistician at the University of Florida Department of Epidemiology. She had the opportunity to lead a data team and mentor students, focusing on community engagement research needs in Florida. Jasmine's interests further developed in perinatal epidemiology and statistical genetics. At Michigan, she was selected as a National Human Genome Research Institute T32 Predoctoral Fellow, where she focused on genome-wide association studies of preterm birth and preeclampsia. Following graduation from Michigan, Jasmine was selected for an internship with Janssen/Johnson & Johnson focusing on modeling COVID-19 severity during pregnancy. As an early-career researcher, Jasmine advocates for representation of historically excluded people as researchers as well as participants in research studies. She is an active mentor for aspiring Black scientists, assisting with graduate school applications and career guidance.

CHRISTINA NURSE

Dr. Christina Nurse is a native of Atlanta, Georgia where she graduated summa cum laude as a mathematics major from Spelman College, was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society, and was the Most Valuable Player of the conference after helping her team win the tennis championship. While at Spelman, she also had the honor of studying mathematics abroad in London at the University College London.

As Dr. Nurse graduated from Spelman, she received the Ford and the GEM Fellowships to support her matriculation at Harvard University for her Master's degree and Ph.D. in biostatistics and moved to Boston. Dr. Nurse is currently an Associate Director of Statistics at Takeda Pharmaceuticals where she helps to design and analyze data from clinical trials to ensure the safety and efficacy of the medicines they develop which are used to treat rare diseases. She also serves as the co-lead of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion working group for the Statistics and Quantitative Sciences department at Takeda.

Dr. Christina Nurse is a firm believer of to whom much is given much is required. Consequently, she loves to mentor minorities with career aspirations in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

VIVAK PATEL

Dr. Patel is an Assitant Professor of Statistics at the University of Wisconsin -- Madison. Dr. Patel did his undergraduate degree in Applied Physics at Rutgers University in New Jersey, his master's degree in Mathematics at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom, and his doctoral degree in statistics at the University of Chicago.

Dr. Patel's research is at the intersection of computation and uncertainty, specifically in the fields of stochastic optimization and randomized numerical linear algebra. He uses tools from statistics to address problems in optimization and linear algebra. At the same time, he uses tools from optimization and linear algebra to design better statistical tools.

ADRIANA PÉREZ

Adriana Pérez, Ph.D., is Professor at the Department of Biostatistics and Data Science, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, School of Public Health, Austin campus. She received her Bachelor's degree in Statistics from the National University of Colombia, and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Biostatistics from Tulane University. Dr. Pérez has engaged in a wide range of research projects: theoretical model evaluation accounting for imputation uncertainty, fitting complex data, analysis of cluster randomized community trials, clinical trials and analysis of food intake involving measurement error and tobacco regulatory science. Dr. Pérez has expertise in conducting and disseminating research findings of population- and clinical-based studies of adolescents and adults, as well as developing new statistical methodologies. She has completed several grants satisfactorily and she recently finished the National Cancer Institute R01 grant entitled "Age of initiation of tobacco products among USA youth and young adults" with two additional supplements, one supporting minorities. Dr. Pérez has over 120 publications. Besides her interest in Biostatistics she is interested in promoting diversity in our field and fostering recruitment, retention and promotion of minorities in our field, she has served as the Chairman of the Faculty Council chairman at her institution seeking to promote and retain faculty. Dr. Pérez is an active member of the International Biometric Society and the American Statistical Association (ASA). She has held numerous elected positions in several professional organizations including co-chairing ENAR's diversity workshop, member of the ASA Committee on Minorities Statistics, organizer member of the StatFest since 2016, hosting StatFest in 2019, organizer of the Diversity mentoring program during JSM2021, and 2022, etc.

FELICIA SIMPSON

Felicia R. Simpson, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics at Winston-Salem State University. Dr. Simpson received her BA in Mathematics from Albany State University and her Ph.D. in Biostatistics from Florida State University. Prior to joining Winston-Salem State University, Dr. Simpson worked as a Mathematical Statistician at the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at FDA, Division of Biometrics IV. Her research interests include design and analysis of clinical trials, and metrics of aging. Dr. Simpson's current research focuses on measurement and statistical modeling to characterize latent processes that underlie and conjoin different metrics for aging.

Dr. Simpson is an active member of the ASA and International Biometric Society. She is passionate about increasing the exposure of statistics and biostatistics among students in underrepresented populations. Dr. Simpson a member of the committee on minorities in statistics from the American Statistical Association and served as co-chair for the ENAR Fostering Diversity in Biostatistics Workshop.

DIONNE SWIFT

Dionne Swift is a Principal Statistician in the Data and Modeling Sciences Organization. She joined Procter and Gamble shortly after receiving her Ph.D. in Mathematical Statistics from the Ohio State University. Dionne has partnered closely with engineers and scientists in numerous business and corporate groups, integrating learning throughout project planning, development of test/experimental designs, and statistical modeling. For various brands such as Tide, Gain, and Olay, her technical and collaboration skills have enabled new product claims, development of new business concepts and identified lead technologies to drive concepts to success. Currently, she collaborates with scientists in the R&D BioScience & Life Sciences Organizations to leverage existing/new life sciences capabilities for product innovation and discovery. Her current research interests include high-dimensional data analysis, multi-omics integrative analysis, and Bayesian data analysis with application in genomics proteomics, and microbiome research.

MACHELL TOWN

Dr. Machell Town is the Branch Chief for the Population Health Surveillance Branch in the Division of Population Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Machell joined CDC's Division of Adult and Community Health in November of 1999 as a mathematical statistician in the Behavioral Surveillance Branch. Machell provides expertise in sample designs and weighting for the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). She is a leader in oversampling of special populations and local communities for RDD surveys. Machell has consulted on sample designs and weighting for special surveys in the US and globally. Machell received her Bachelors and Masters in Statistics from the University of Georgia and her PhD in Public Health with a concentration in Epidemiology from Walden University. Before coming to CDC, Machell was a mathematical statistician at the US Bureau of the Census for 9 ½ years where she specialized in sampling, data quality, questionnaire development, weighting, variance estimators, and small area estimation. She is a member of the American Statistical Association Committee on Minorities in Statistics. She has been appointed to the Statistics Advisory Committee of Preventing Chronic Disease Journal.

THERRI USHER

Dr. Therri Usher is a Mathematical Statistician in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at the Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Usher provides statistical support to the regulation of drugs to treat inborn errors of metabolism (rare diseases) and, previously, for antiviral drugs. Her work also focuses on promoting patient-focused drug development and the statistical assessment of safety and benefit-risk.

Dr. Usher is the current co-chair of StatFest and the Vice Chair of the ASA's Committee on Minorities in Statistics. She is also an elected member of ENAR's Regional Committee (RECOM). Dr. Usher received her BS in Mathematical Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas and her PhD in Biostatistics from Johns Hopkins University, where she conducted research on how health disparities impact the aging process.

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