

Contributors

Keynote & Workshop Speakers

Tammy Collins

Director, Office of Fellows' Career Development
NIH | NIEHS

Tammy Collins is the Director of the Office of Fellows' Career Development at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). In this role, she creates and organizes professional career development and scientific training opportunities for the postdoctoral community, and she also serves in a wide variety of other capacities such as in policy implementation, strategic planning, conflict resolution, etc. She recently led a team to identify the career paths of NIEHS postdoctoral alumni spanning back 15 years, and published a new tool for both classifying and visualizing these careers in Nature Biotechnology. She hopes the new approach will help the broader community 'speak the same language' when reporting outcomes in order to facilitate meaningful institutional cross-comparisons. She also has a desire to learn more about factors that influence career decisions so that she can best advise those navigating into careers, and so that she can craft career programming that best addresses the needs of postdoctoral fellows. Her central mission is to ensure that others are equipped with the knowledge and skills to become successful and independent in their chosen career.

Prior to transitioning into her current role, Tammy received her B.S. in Chemistry from Appalachian State University, and her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Duke University. After a brief postdoc at Duke University, she joined NIEHS as a postdoc in 2009 where she developed her passion for working in the scientific career development field.

Lori Conlan

Director, Office of Postdoctoral Services
NIH

Lori M. Conlan is trained as a biochemist, receiving her B.S. in biochemistry from Michigan State University and her Ph.D. in biochemistry and biophysics from Texas A&M University. She worked for several years as a postdoc at the Wadsworth Center, NYS Department of Health, before transitioning from the lab to focus on career issues for the next generation of scientists. Lori started as the director of the Science Alliance, an international career development program for graduate students and postdocs sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences. She now is at the NIH in the Office of Intramural Training & Education assisting the 4000 NIH postdocs in their personal career choices. Lori is the director of two offices, the Office of Postdoctoral Services and the NIH Career Services Center. She speaks at

universities and institutions around the nation on career development topics for young scientists.

Angela Davis

Human Resources Specialist
NIEHS

Angela Davis is a Human Resources (HR) Specialist with the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). NIH is the nation's biomedical research agency and NIEHS is one of 27 research institutes and centers that comprise the NIH. Angela provides advisory services to management and staff regarding HR policies and regulations that relate to personnel management, general employment, and other HR-related issues. A significant part of her job entails recruiting and staffing scientific and administrative personnel for the NIEHS.

Stephanie Eberle

Assistant Dean of the BioSci Careers
Stanford University

Stephanie K. Eberle is Assistant Dean of the BioSci Careers at Stanford University where they and their team support the academic, personal, career, and profession needs of MD/PhD students and postdoctoral trainees in the biosciences and technology fields. Within this position, they teach immersive, sector-specific courses, oversee the graduate IDP program, serve on the Dean's Gender and Sexual Minorities taskforce, and build individualized connection opportunities between the Stanford community and alumni and employer partners. Stephanie began their tenure at the Stanford School of Medicine in 2008 when the career community was still nascent. In this role, they created new curriculum and resources for all biosciences trainees to explore and define paths toward their preferred careers of choice. Prior to that, Stephanie was part of Stanford's central Career Development Center (now BEAM), counseling and developing career programming for graduate students and postdocs from various disciplines across campus. They previously held adjunct faculty positions within the University of San Francisco's Marriage and Family Counseling program and the Stanford Graduate School of Education. Stephanie regularly writes for Inside Higher Education, including essays on passion, managing career advice overload, and activism in the workplace. Additional contributions to the field include: co-writing a text book chapter, presenting at national and international conferences, membership on the Graduate Career Consortium's (GCC) Diversity Committee, and holding the elected position of Vice Chair of the National Postdoctoral Association's Board of Directors. Stephanie consults on diversity and team development issues within companies and organizations throughout the country and is a certified Strengths executive coach. They hold an M.Ed. in Community Agency Counseling, and a B.A. in Psychology and Sociology, both from Ohio University. Highlights from Stephanie's 25-year career include spending a decade living in, and managing, an all-freshman residence hall, and presenting a TEDx-style talk, Thinking With Your Heart, at the

Global Innovation Summit. They have never regretted following their passion of Psychology, despite its circuitous route. When not working, Stephanie is either SCUBA diving, teaching Yoga, playing the drums, or walking Hans the Keeshond.

Irina Filonova

Academic Developer

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology

Dr. Irina Filonova is an academic developer at the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology, Okinawa, Japan. She helps STEM researchers from over 40 countries to find academic and non-academic jobs across the globe. Her day-to-day job is never boring as she gets to work with an incredibly diverse international population and face peculiar challenges of cross-cultural communication. Dr. Filonova enjoys moving to new places and experiencing different cultures not as a tourist but as a resident. Thus, Japan is the 3rd country Dr. Filonova has lived and worked in and, probably, not the last one. In addition to her curious cultural experiences, Dr. Filonova has a non-conventional professional background for a scientist. Born in Russia, she studied literature and linguistics until she moved to the US in a search for her true self. While the search wasn't quite fruitful, it brought her to Florida where she decided to pick up her education and she completed a B.S. in Biology and Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences (Neuroscience) from the Medical School, University of South Florida. After 3-years of postdoc training at UT Southwestern, Dallas, TX, she found herself on the subtropical island of Okinawa where she is still exploring multiple professional identities and passionately supporting women in STEM.

Erin Haynes

Professor and Chair

Department of Epidemiology, University of Kentucky College of Public Health

Erin N. Haynes, DrPH, MS is professor and chair of the Department of Epidemiology, and interim chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health, at the University of Kentucky College of Public Health. She holds a doctorate of public health in environmental health sciences from the University of Michigan School of Public Health, and completed a post-doctoral fellowship in molecular epidemiology in children's environmental health at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. Dr. Haynes's current research, funded by the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, focuses on the impact of environmental neurotoxicant exposure in rural adolescents, and development and validation of a real-time lab-on-a-chip sensor for blood metals detection. Haynes is particularly interested in working with community members to address environmental health issues, and developing citizen science tools to enable environmental health research. She also serves on the NIH/NIEHS Environmental Health Sciences study section, and as Academic Counselor for the International Society for Exposure Science.

Denise Saunders

Career Counselor and Consultant
Office of Intramural Training and Education at NIH

Denise E. Saunders, Ph.D. serves as Career Counselor and Consultant for the Office of Intramural Training and Education at the NIH providing career and professional development services to trainees at the NIEHS. She is a Licensed Psychologist and National Certified Counselor. She enjoys helping graduate students and early career professionals with their career planning and job search strategies. In addition to her work with OITE, she maintains an independent practice in Chapel Hill, NC where she offers career development, consultation and counseling services to her clientele. Dr. Saunders holds an M.S. in Counseling and Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the Florida State University. Her experiences have included work in higher education, independent practice, for-profit business, and government.

Stacy Schnieber

Vice President of People and Culture
Camargo Pharmaceutical Services

Stacy Schnieber graduated with her B.S. in communication from Ohio University and her M.A. in human resources from the University of Cincinnati. Currently, she is the Vice President of People and Culture at Camargo Pharmaceutical Services. In this role, her primary responsibilities include creating and implementing the people strategies that are foundational for the continued growth at Camargo including strategic workforce planning, talent acquisition and retention, and training and development.

Antony Williams

Cheminformatician
EPA

Antony Williams is a cheminformatician at the National Center of Computational Toxicology working on delivering the center's data to the scientific community (via the CompTox Chemicals Dashboard at <https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard>). He is an analytical scientist by training, specializing in Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, and has over two decades of experience in cheminformatics and chemical information management. He was involved in the development of the world's first web-based laboratory information management systems (LIMS) at Kodak, was the Chief Science Officer for the ACD/Labs cheminformatics software company and was the VP of Strategic Development for the Royal Society of Chemistry. He has worked extensively on complex data management issues with a focus on internet-based projects to deliver free-access community-based chemistry websites and services, specifically the ChemSpider database, originally his hobby project, which now has over 70 million chemicals and serves over 90,000 unique users per day (<http://www.chemspider.com>). He has authored >220 papers, book chapters and books regarding computer-assisted analysis of

data, cheminformatics and chemical information management. He is also passionate about teaching scientists how to benefit from the developing array of social networking tools and is known as the ChemConnector on the networks. Over the years he has had adjunct roles at a number of institutions and is presently adjunct at both UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State University. He was the recipient of the Jim Gray Award for eScience in 2012 and the American Chemical Society's North Carolina Distinguished Speaker of the Year award in 2016. He is an avid exerciser and is renowned for his Meat Loaf karaoke performances and superior British sense of humor.

Dara Wilson-Grant

Associate Director of Postdoctoral Affairs
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill/Careers in Bloom

Dara Wilson-Grant is the Associate Director of Postdoctoral Affairs at UNC-Chapel Hill and the owner of Careers in Bloom. She received her Master's degree in Counseling from Fordham University and is a Licensed Professional Counselor. Dara specializes in helping graduate students and postdocs who are at an impasse. Whether it's contemplating a career change or striving to advance to the next level, Dara helps individuals develop the tools and confidence they need to navigate through the uncertainty and formulate a plan for personal and professional success.

Career Forum Panelists

Sarah Barilovits

Scientific Consultant, Grant Writing Specialist
Eva Garland Consulting

Sarah Barilovits is a molecular biologist with a broad background in academic research, the biotech industry, and scientific writing and editing. She completed her Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Florida, where she studied transcriptional regulation and the effect of nutrient deprivation on female fertility. After moving to Madison, WI, Sarah joined Roche NimbleGen (now Roche Sequencing Solutions) as a scientist, working on an early-access peptide microarray technology for epitope mapping and serum profiling. She then worked as an academic editor of scientific manuscripts at Research Square and obtained board certification as an editor in the life sciences (ELS). Most recently, Sarah has been a Scientific Consultant at Eva Garland Consulting in Raleigh, NC. This role combines strategic guidance, writing/editing, and project management expertise to help small businesses secure non-dilutive funding from various federal, state and private sources.

Andres Cardenas

Assistant Professor
University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health

Dr. Cardenas is an environmental epidemiologist and assistant professor at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health. He received an undergraduate degree in Biochemistry & Biophysics, a Master's degree in Biostatistics and a Doctorate in Public Health from Oregon State University. He completed three years of postdoctoral training in epidemiology and epigenetics at Harvard University prior to joining UC Berkeley. During his graduate training, he also served as a Biostatistics consultant in the healthcare industry. Dr. Cardenas applies epidemiological and molecular approaches to evaluate the contribution of pre- and postnatal environmental exposures in the development of disease. He is currently investigating the prenatal influence of exposure to multiple metals, air pollution, endocrine disrupting compounds, diet and maternal medication use on the epigenome of newborns and children. His current research evaluates the role of environmental exposures in utero, and he analyzes epigenetic modifications and their potential role in the developmental origins of health and disease.

Ramya Chari

Policy Researcher
RAND Corporation

Ramya Chari is a policy researcher at the RAND Corporation. Her research focuses on environmental and social determinants of health, public health preparedness, occupational health and well-being, and the development of environmental risk assessment methodologies to inform public policy. Chari has particular expertise in community-based participatory research methods and is principal investigator of multiple large-scale studies designed to support the development of citizen science and other community efforts to improve disaster preparedness, build community resilience, and address public health problems. Chari also currently leads projects focused on the conceptual and operational development of tools for measurement of worker well-being. Chari received her M.P.H. and Ph.D. in health policy and management from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Jon Collins

Director of Clinical Pharmacology
Immunovant

Jon Collins is the Director of Clinical Pharmacology at Immunovant. In this role, he develops and conducts clinical studies in human subjects in variety of therapeutic areas, and he also helps to develop commercial strategies for a variety immunotherapy compounds using modeling techniques. He uses advanced modeling and simulations strategies to minimize cost and maximize the probability of success during the clinical stages of drug development. Prior to transitioning into his current role, Jon received his B.S. in Chemistry, Physics, and

Chemical Education from Appalachian State University. He taught high school for 10 years, where he became the science department chair. He returned to school and obtained his Pharm.D. from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2014, where he completed a Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics joint UNC-GlaxoSmithKline Fellowship. In this role, he learned and applied advanced modeling and simulation techniques to advance drug development programs in a wide range of therapeutic areas from HIV prevention to pain management.

Sabrina DeMarchi

Senior Medical Science Liaison
AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals

Sabrina deMarchi is a Senior Medical Science Liaison at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals. Prior to joining AstraZeneca as a Medical Science Liaison in 2016, Sabina worked as a Medical Information Scientist at the pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) for just over two years. There, her work focused on effectively communicating medical and scientific information about GSK products to healthcare providers and organizations. In 2012, Sabina became a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS) during her nine year role as a Clinical Pharmacist at Duke University Hospital. She obtained her PharmD from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill in 2003, and received her bachelors from Gustavus Adolphus College.

Yarui Diao

Assistant Professor
Duke University School of Medicine

Dr. Diao leads a functional genomics lab at the Department of Cell Biology at Duke, and his primary research interest centers on the understanding of the transcriptional regulatory mechanism that controls muscle stem cell regeneration capacity in health and muscular disorders. His previous work has revealed how the muscle stem cell master regulator Pax7, the key signaling transduction pathways, and the epigenetic mechanism act on cis-regulatory sequences (e.g. enhancer) to control muscle stem cell proliferation, differentiation, and cell fate determination (Diao et al., *Mol Cell Biol* 2009; Diao et al., *PNAS* 2010; Diao et al., *Cell Stem Cell* 2012; Diao et al., *JBC* 2014; An et al., *Dev Cell* 2017; Chen et al., *Stem Cell Res Ther* 2018). Despite the crucial functions of cis-regulatory elements, however, it was a long-standing and challenging problem to precisely identify them in the genome. It was even harder to functionally characterize them, particularly in the native chromatin context in a high-throughput manner. To tackle this problem, for my postdoc training, he completely changed his research field, and joined Dr. Bing Ren's group at Ludwig/UCSD, a lab well-known for using cutting-edge genomics technology to study non-coding cis-regulatory elements. Dr. Diao led the effort to develop high-throughput CRISPR/Cas9-based genetic approaches that allow for genome-wide functional characterization of non-coding regulatory sequence in the native chromatin context (Diao et al. 2016, *Genome Res*; Diao et al. 2017, *Nat Methods*). His

work laid the foundations to launch one of the ENCODE4 functional characterization centers (UM1HG009402), and demonstrated that many gene promoters act as distal enhancers, which challenged the traditional concept that promoter and enhancer are distinct elements (highlighted by Nat Genet, 2017). His current lab is now developing and applying the novel genomic tools to understand the fundamental gene regulation mechanism that controls muscle stem cell function and muscle regeneration.

Maria Doa

Senior Science Advisor

U.S. EPA's Office of Research and Development

Maria J. Doa is a senior science advisor in the Office of Research and Development. She focuses on assessing the impact of science in regulatory decision making. She is leading EPA's Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science rulemaking. Previously in the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, she led activities for the assessment and management of a wide range of industrial, commercial and consumer chemicals, including nanoscale materials and persistent, bioaccumulative toxic chemicals, under the Toxic Substances Control Act and the Toxics Release Inventory Program – a key community right-to-know program about toxic chemicals. Maria holds a B.S. degree in Chemistry from the University of Michigan, and a Ph.D. degree in Organic Chemistry from the University of Pittsburgh.

Stephen Edwards

Bioinformatics Senior Scientist

Research Computing Division at RTI International

Stephen Edwards is a Bioinformatics Senior Scientist within the Research Computing Division at RTI International in Research Triangle Park, N.C. His current research is focused on developing systems models of disease by generalizing the Adverse Outcome Pathway (AOP) framework. AOPs have traditionally focused on evaluating the mechanisms linking environmental chemicals to adverse outcomes, but the framework can be easily generalized to include all contributors to disease in humans as well as factors contributing to resilience in wildlife populations. By defining AOPs in terms of standard biological ontologies and developing data-driven methods for defining AOP networks, systems models can be developed for both pharmacological and toxicological applications. Dr. Edwards received his bachelor of science in chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his doctorate in pharmacology from Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Prior to joining RTI International, Dr. Edwards was a systems biologist at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In this role, he used computational approaches to describe the mechanisms by which chemicals cause disease in a wide variety of species. This work served as the basis for interpretation of high-throughput toxicity test results allowing thousands of chemicals per week to be screened for toxicity potential. Before joining EPA, Dr. Edwards worked in the pharmaceutical industry where he led a target discovery team focused on novel diabetes

targets. The team used biological networks built from genetics and gene expression data to identify potential diabetes targets, which were subsequently nominated for the Merck high throughput screening program.

Erica Goldman

Director of Science Policy
National Council for Science and the Environment

Erica Goldman is the Director of Science Policy for the National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE). In this role, she leads NCSE and its member institutions in building capacity to bridge science and policy to improve the scientific basis of environmental decision-making. Erica has a varied background that includes science writing, policy, and academic research. Previously, Erica served as the Director of Policy Engagement for COMPASS, a non-profit organization that helps environmental scientists effectively share their knowledge in the public discourse and decision-making. She also served in a six-month position in the White House Council on Environmental Quality on the Land & Water Ecosystems Team. She has worked as a science writer for the Maryland Sea Grant College Program; served as a Knauss Marine Policy Fellow in the Natural Resources Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives; and worked as a news intern at Science Magazine. She received her Ph.D. in biology from the University of Washington and her B.S. from Yale University.

Lakshmi Goyal

Editor-in-Chief of Cell Host & Microbe and a Publishing Director
Cell Press

Dr. Lakshmi Goyal is the Editor-in-Chief of Cell Host & Microbe and a Publishing Director at Cell Press. She joined Cell Press in February 2001 as a Senior Editor of Cell. In 2006, she was appointed the launch Editor of Cell Host & Microbe, a new primary research journal focused on host-microbe interactions. In 2007, she became the Executive Editor of the Microbiology portfolio with strategic responsibility for Trends in Microbiology, Trends in Parasitology and Trends in Molecular Medicine. In this role, Lakshmi also provided strategic and managerial direction for the launch of the journal EBioMedicine. In August 2017, Lakshmi became a Publishing Director with strategic and managerial responsibility for several journals at Cell Press. She is part of the Cell Press senior management team. Before joining Cell Press, Dr. Goyal was a postdoctoral fellow in the Biology Department at MIT. She obtained her Ph.D. from Rutgers University, New Jersey USA. Dr. Goyal holds a masters and bachelor's degree from institutions in India.

G. Celine Han

Computational Biologist and Bioinformatics Scientist
Bristol-Myers Squibb

Celine Han is a computational biologist and bioinformatics scientist in Immuno-Oncology Translational Bioinformatics at Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) in Princeton, NJ. The focus of her work is integration and analysis of patient molecular and clinical data to identify biomarkers for sub-populations that can be targeted by immuno-oncology (IO) therapies, to stratify patients into responder and non-responder populations, and to understand the mechanisms of response and resistance to IO therapies. She likes actively collaborating and communicating with computational and experimental scientists, physicians, engineers, information technologists, and academic partners to solve problems together. Prior to joining BMS, she completed her postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard in Dr. Eliezer Van Allen's lab. She studied the responses and resistance to androgen deprivation therapy for patient stratification and prioritization of combined therapies in prostate cancer. She completed her Ph.D. training in Bioinformatics and Genomics at Pennsylvania State University studying the epigenetics and transcriptional regulation in erythropoiesis by examining binding locations of transcription factors. Celine also received her Bachelor of Science degree in Life Science at Pennsylvania State University.

Erin Hopper

Educational Consultant
UNC-Chapel Hill

Erin Hopper, PhD is an Educational Consultant for the recently established Department of Applied Physical Sciences (APS) at UNC. In this role, she pursues funding opportunities for strategic departmental initiatives such as establishing APS undergraduate degree programs, supporting and expanding the campus-wide makerspace network, and promoting faculty development. Erin accomplishes these goals by establishing and strengthening relationships with foundations and other funding agencies, discovering and researching new funding opportunities, providing strategic guidance on the formulation of new ideas and initiatives, and writing white papers and grant proposals to move ideas forward. She also consults for Innovate Carolina on a project centered around innovation talent development among undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows. Prior to her role as Educational Consultant, Erin has had roles in various programs and units within higher education, including APS at UNC, the UNC System Office, and the UNC School of Medicine. Erin received her B.S. in chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, earned her PhD in chemistry from Duke University, and completed her postdoctoral training at NIEHS.

Kristin Inman

Assistant Science Editor
Environmental Health Perspectives

Kristin earned a B.Sc. in Microbiology and a Ph.D. in Biomedical Science and completed postdoctoral fellowships in both Neuropharmacology and Cancer Biology laboratories. She

then transitioned to medical writing and editing, working for two departments within the Mayo Clinic as well as freelance editing scientific manuscripts for non-native English speakers. She most recently held the position of Editorial Director of MPS, a publishing services company, where she managed medical and scientific publishing projects, including managing a team of on-staff Editors and a freelance editorial team as well as editing medical content and assessment items. Kristin is currently a contractor for Environmental Health Perspectives (EHP), an open-access journal published with support from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), where she holds the position of Assistant Science Editor, working closely with the Editor-In-Chief, participating in manuscript evaluations, communicating with and assisting Associate Editors as necessary, and reviewing manuscripts prior to formal acceptance to ensure they meet the journal's standards. Kristin is participating in the panel as an independent advisor and her views do not represent the official views of EHP or NIEHS.

Rebekah Layton

Director of Professional Development Programs
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

As the Director of Professional Development Programs, I am responsible for developing and evaluating our professional development program effectiveness. Program evaluation is also crucial to my role in assessing programs to identify which have the most effective outcomes for our trainees. This allows me to use evidence-based methods for selecting training events, modifying existing programming, and expanding the current offerings of professional development opportunities to our 1000+ biological and biomedical science trainees here at UNC. I have a strong personal drive to prepare our young scientists for a variety of career choices for which they can feel fully prepared, and are indeed excited to pursue. In this role, I help expose trainees to a wide array of career opportunities; provide scaffolding for a number of specific career paths (student-led career cohorts); match students with experiential learning opportunities (site visits and internships); and provide individual (career coaching) and group programming to support career development (career planning workshops, skills' series). I am passionate about pursuing the dissemination of the best practices in professional development identified through programs like ours, to share findings broadly. In addition to my experience evaluating and planning programming as the Director of Professional Development Programs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, I also collaborate nationally with the NIH Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training (BEST) Institutions on cross-site program evaluations, including publications on experiential learning; internships; and career/professional development courses. Locally, I support our Program Directors in evaluation of their graduate training programs, relying upon 10+ years of experience with survey design and implementation and quantitative data analysis in a wide variety of contexts including with human subjects research experiments; in healthcare settings; for non-profit organizations; and for professional development programming.

Anjali Mahendra

Director of Research
WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities

Anjali Mahendra is the Director of Research, World Resources Institute (WRI) Ross Center for Sustainable Cities. She leads the research agenda, guiding the Ross Center's worldwide team in conducting robust, innovative, and policy-relevant research on urban issues, including WRI's flagship World Resources Report, *Towards a More Equal City*. She has authored several publications on urban transportation and land use policies, their public health impacts, their regional economic development and equity impacts, and their potential for climate action. Her recent work has focused on the challenges of urban expansion and improving access to core urban services in cities of the global South.

Megan Meyer

Director of Science Communication
International Food Information Council Foundation

Megan Meyer is the Director of Science Communication at the International Food Information Council Foundation. She leads the communication team in creating creative communications covering food safety, food ingredient, and nutrition issues. These works have been featured in numerous influential outlets, including US News & World Report, the Huffington Post, Popular Science, and Wired. Prior to this role, she was a scientific associate at Spectrum Science, serving as a scientific expert for new business proposals. Megan earned her PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a BS in Biology from the University of Loyola, Maryland. During her graduate training, she served as a course coach and teaching assistant for immunology and microbiology students.

Amy Mihalchik-Burhans

Regulatory Toxicologist
Gad Consulting Services

Dr. Amy Mihalchik-Burhans is currently employed as a Regulatory Toxicologist at Gad Consulting Services, a small pharmaceutical and medical device consulting company located in Raleigh, NC. She completed her Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical and Pharmacological Sciences at West Virginia University in 2016, where she developed a strong interest in regulatory science and the role of scientists in the development of regulatory and scientific policies at the federal level. Most recently, Dr. Mihalchik-Burhans has become intrigued by the potential of new approach methodologies to alter the regulatory landscape, and how these methods may impact the safety and well-being of the public in the future.

Timothy Pastoor

CEO
Pastoor Science Communications

Dr. Pastoor obtained his PhD in toxicology from the University of Michigan, is certified by the American Board of Toxicology (DABT) and is a Fellow of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences (ATS). Dr. Pastoor is past-president of the Health and Environmental Sciences Institute (HESI) and is a Board member of the American Council on Science and Health (ACSH). Dr. Pastoor retired in 2015 from Syngenta as Principal Scientist and founded the company Pastoor Science Communications, LLC that is centered around his passion for sound science, communicated well. Dr. Pastoor has over 38 years of international experience in fundamental toxicity testing, mode of action research, and human health risk assessment. For most of his career, including positions with DuPont, ICI, Zeneca, Novartis, and Syngenta, Dr. Pastoor led toxicology and risk assessment experts in the conduct of safety, health, and environmental studies to assess risk to humans and the environment. In those roles, he was involved in toxicological research projects and product development and was frequently asked to interact with media, community groups, legislators, and regulatory agencies. He is a frequent lecturer on toxicology and risk assessment subjects. In his "retirement" Dr. Pastoor has remained actively engaged in science, toxicology, risk assessment, and science communication. He is working with several small biotech start-up companies in RTP, Boston, and San Francisco. As founder and CEO of Pastoor Science Communications and through his roles with HESI, he is leading global groups from academia, government, and corporations in developing consensus on difficult scientific issues. Tim is an avid fly fisherman and photographer, and hopes his knees allow him to continue playing tennis for many years to come.

Jacquie Powell

Medical Writer and Editor
Syneos Health

Jacqueline (Jacquie) Powell earned her PhD in Neurobiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Following a postdoctoral position in the Laboratory of Neurobiology at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Jacquie joined Education & Training Systems International as a medical writer and editor. She then gained valuable insight into clinical research and the drug development process as a Clinical Research Scientist at IMPACT Pharmaceutical Services. Currently, Jacquie is a Principal Medical Writer at Syneos Health with experience in clinical regulatory, submission, and commercial writing. Jacquie is also an active member of the American Medical Writers Association and served as the local chapter president from 2015 to 2016. In her free time, Jacquie enjoys traveling, spending time with her family, and enjoying the outdoors.

Julia Rager

Assistant Professor
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Julia Rager is an Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill, within the Institute for Environmental Health Solutions (IEHS). She received her Ph.D. in

Environmental Sciences and Engineering from UNC-Chapel Hill (2013) and was a postdoctoral fellow at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2014-2015). Dr. Rager then worked as a consultant in the fields of toxicology and risk assessment at ToxStrategies, Inc. (2015-2018). She recently transitioned from the chemical industry into academia, where she currently leads research efforts aimed at evaluating the health effects of environmental exposures.

Ibrahim Raphiou

Medical Affairs Scientific Director
GlaxoSmithKline

Dr. Raphiou graduated from North Carolina State University (Raleigh, NC) in Comparative Biomedical Sciences; he was an Intramural Research Trainee at the NIEHS (NIH, DHHS) in the Laboratory of Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology (LRDT), in the Gene Regulation Group. Subsequently, he joined a Contract Research Organization (CRO) where he worked as a contractor for the National Toxicology Program (NTP) and contributed to the Report on Carcinogens (RoC). He acquired experience in Clinical Research with CROs and a biotechnology company, and subsequently joined GlaxoSmithKline in 2006, in Medical Affairs and R&D. He was the Clinical Investigation Lead on two recent global clinical trials with results published in 2016 in the NEJM. He has an interest in reducing and alleviating the global burden of disease.

Lauren Remkus

Manager of Customer Operations - Medical Information
IQVIA

Lauren Remkus is currently a Manager of Customer Operations - Medical Information at IQVIA in Durham, NC. Since 2013 Lauren has helped facilitate effective communication of medical information in a variety of roles including Manager of Medical Affairs, Manager of Medical Information, and Senior Medical Science Liaison at the biotechnology company Shire. Prior to her work in medical communications, Lauren worked as a Consultant Pharmacist and Pharmacovigilance Scientist Fellow. Lauren received her PharmD. from Touro College of Pharmacy, and her bachelors from Colgate Univeristy.

Deirdre Rodeberg

Associate Medical Writer
MedThink SciCom

Deirdre Rodeberg is an Associate Medical Writer at MedThink SciCom. She is responsible for developing scientific content to support medical communications and publications. Deirdre earned her PhD and MA in Psychology (Behavioral Neuroscience) from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a BA in Neuroscience from Middlebury College. As a graduate student at UNC, Deirdre helped lead a variety of science communication groups, including

the UNC Science Writing and Communication club (SWAC), ComSciCon Triangle 2017 and 2018, and Triangle Society for Neuroscience.

Jake Rudolph

Team Manager
Research Square

Jake Rudolph is a Team Manager at Research Square, where he oversees training for new Academic Editors, scholars who provide language editing for thousands of researchers across the globe to make research communication faster, fairer, and more useful. Prior to joining Research Square, Jake founded and operated a biotech startup in Research Triangle Park (Basetrace, 2012-2017), providing environmental monitoring solutions in nuclear power generation and oil & gas. Jake's graduate work at the Duke Nicholas School of the Environment focused on climate change and biogeography.

Hudson Santos

Assistant Professor
UNC School of Nursing

I am a tenure track Assistant Professor in the UNC School of Nursing, and Director of the Training Division for the UNC Institute for Environmental Health Solutions at the Gillings School of Public Health. My research focuses on social epigenomics underpinnings of early life stressors and maternal hardship related to child neurodevelopment in at-risk populations. I am the PI of an K23 (1K23NR017898-01) focused on social adversity, early life epigenetic mechanisms and neurodevelopmental outcomes at age 2, 10 and 15 years among extremely preterm-born children, using data from the Extremely Low Gestational Age Newborns (ELGAN) cohort. I am also the PI of a study focused on placental multi-omics signatures predictive of positive child health outcomes, and another study focused on gene-environment interactions regulating social stressors and health distress in high-risk families. I am currently collaborating in several other cohort-level omics projects, including the NICHD-funded R01 (1R01HD092374-01-02; Co-PIs Drs. Fry and O'Shea) and the Environmental influences of Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) Consortium-funded ELGAN grant (4UH3OD023348-03; Co-PIs Drs. Fry and O'Shea). I am a member of the NIH ECHO-Consortium Genetics and Epigenetics working group, and an Academic Editor for PLOS ONE.

Yvette Seger

Director of Science Policy and Deputy Director of Office of Public Affairs
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

Dr. Seger is the deputy director of the Office of Public Affairs and director of science policy for the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), a coalition of 29 scientific societies collectively representing over 130,000 biological and biomedical

researchers. In these roles, she oversees FASEB's science policy portfolio and works with FASEB's leadership to establish strategic partnerships and initiatives pertaining to biological and biomedical research workforce. Seger launched her policy career at the National Academies as a Christine Mirzayan Science & Technology Policy Fellow, and subsequently held senior policy analyst positions at Thomson Reuters, the National Institutes of Health, and the research advocacy group FasterCures. Seger conducted her doctoral research on mechanisms of human cell transformation as a member of Stony Brook University's graduate program in genetics at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, and received a Bachelor of Arts in zoology (genetics concentration) and politics & government from Ohio Wesleyan University.

Kelly Shipkowski

Lead Health Scientist

ICF

Kelly Shipkowski, PhD, is a Lead Health Scientist in the Health Sciences Practice at ICF. She received her PhD in Toxicology from North Carolina State University in 2015, where her research focused on the respiratory toxicity of multi-walled carbon nanotubes and their potential to exacerbate pre-existing lung disease. After she received her PhD, Kelly spent 2.5 years as a postdoctoral fellow in the Toxicology Branch of the National Toxicology Program (NTP). While at the NTP, Kelly served as a project leader responsible for study design, data analysis, and reporting of findings from toxicological studies assessing a number of different chemicals. She started working as a consultant at ICF in March 2018, and her work involves serving as task lead for a variety of projects assessing the health effects of different chemicals. Some of the tasks she manages include risk-of-bias and study quality evaluations, report development, and data extractions. As a toxicologist, Kelly regularly contributes to systematic review and data evaluation tasks for multiple federal clients. Kelly is about to begin her second year as a councilor on the executive committee for the North Carolina Society of Toxicology (NCSOT), and she previously served as the NCSOT postdoctoral representative. Kelly has also been actively involved in the Society of Toxicology (SOT) since 2012.

Jet Sperlazza

Proposal Writer

PRA Health Sciences

Jet Sperlazza is a Proposal Writer for the clinical research organization, PRA Health Sciences (PRA). While finishing her doctoral dissertation in Biological Chemistry at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, she interned with Epiccypher as a grant writer and authored a successfully funded Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) proposal. Upon graduation, Dr Sperlazza transitioned into the clinical research industry as an in-house clinical research associate at PRA supporting a Phase 1 immuno-oncology trial. Her current role builds on her clinical operations experience, scientific background, and competitive writing expertise to develop strategic documents which convey PRA's experience and operational advantages for

conducting Phase I-IV clinical trials and real-world research studies to pharmaceutical and biotechnology clients.

Michael Stewart

Biologist
EPA

I have been at EPA for over 11 years. I am currently a biologist in the Environmental Media Assessment Group (EMAG) located in the National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA). My primary expertise lies in conducting exposure and risk assessments that characterize the health effects of criteria and toxic air pollutants. The assessments that I conduct are often used as the basis for regulatory decisions that have broad impacts on public health in the United States. Having also spent many years as a scientist in the EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS), a policy office, I also have a unique understanding of the types of scientific studies and analyses that are most relevant for making public policy decisions.

Tamara Tal

Biologist and Principal Investigator
EPA

Tamara Tal is a Biologist and Principal Investigator at the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the Integrated Systems Toxicology Division located in the National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory in the Office of Research and Development. The Tal lab studies whether host-associated microbiota modify the developmental neurotoxicity of environmental chemicals in zebrafish. More recently, her research group has begun investigating the mechanisms by which PFAS chemicals cause developmental neurotoxicity in zebrafish. Tamara completed postdoctoral research fellowships at Oregon State University in Robert Tanguay's laboratory and at the U.S. EPA in Stephanie Padilla's research group where she investigated the developmental toxicity of environmental chemicals in zebrafish. Tamara earned a doctoral degree in toxicology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Science with honors from the University of Central Florida. Outside the lab, Tamara had her first child as a postdoctoral fellow at the EPA and her second child as a new investigator. She will share her perspective on balancing research and family.

Lauren Wilson

Biostatistician
Duke University/Department of Population Health Sciences

Lauren Wilson is a biostatistician in the Department of Population Health Sciences at Duke University School of Medicine, and a member of the Population Health DataShare core

resource. She provides statistical expertise and support for research projects within the School of Medicine and across the Duke University Health System. She has eight years of experience in population health study design and statistical analysis methods for large health-related datasets focusing on healthcare claims data, electronic health records, survey data, and biomarkers including gene expression and epigenetic data. Prior to joining the Department of Population Health Sciences, she completed a pre-doctoral training fellowship in the National Cancer Institute's Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics and a post-doctoral fellowship in the Epidemiology Branch of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Lauren is trained in SAS, Stata, R, and SQL. She received an MSc and a PhD in Epidemiology from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Christen Young

Fellow

USC-Brookings Schaeffer Initiative for Health Policy

Christen Linke Young is a fellow with the USC-Brookings Schaeffer Initiative for Health Policy. Linke Young holds a bachelor's degree in biological sciences from Stanford University and a law degree from Yale Law School. She began her career in government as a policy analyst with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She then served as the Senior Policy Advisor for Health at the White House and the Director of Coverage Policy in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Health Reform before taking a role as Principal Deputy Director of the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance. Until recently, she was the Principal Deputy Secretary for the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, where she focused on developing cross-agency initiatives, implementing innovative policy solutions, and providing day-to-day operational leadership of the Department.

CV/Resume Reviewers

Janice Allen

Scientific Review Officer

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Janice Benson Allen received her undergraduate degree at UNC-Chapel in Chemistry/Biology and her Ph.D. at the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine in Cell Biology and Biotechnology. Her research area concentrated on the pathogenesis of inflammation, with a focus in in vitro/in vivo models of acute and chronic inflammation, cytokines and growth factors, oxidative stress, and transcriptional factors/regulation of gene expression. Dr. Allen worked at the NIDDK and NIDCR in Bethesda, MD as an intramural chemist prior to serving as a faculty member at the NCSU-CVM, where she received funding from the NIH (NEI), NRC, NSF, NC Biotechnology Center, Veterinary Equine Research Center, Morris Animal Foundation, Blue Ridge Pharmaceuticals and state funds of North Carolina. Dr. Allen mentored several

undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral fellows while at the NIH and NCSU-CVM. She has been a Scientific Review Officer for the NIEHS since 2002. In this position she is responsible for the initial administrative, scientific and technical review of research grant and training applications and contracts assigned to the NIEHS before forwarding them to outside consultants for detailed peer review. She recruits scientists from academia and industry with specific expertise for each grant application. She assures that a uniform interpretation of NIH grant/contract policies and procedures is given both to applicants and review consultants, and she prepares summary statements of review committee findings and recommendations. Dr. Allen has published over 75 research articles in scientific journals and has presented several abstracts at national/international meetings; in addition, she holds 2 patents.

Sibby Anderson-Thompkins

Special Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Research/Director
Office of Postdoctoral Affairs University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dr. Anderson-Thompkins serves as the Special Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Research (Diversity & Inclusion) and the Director of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs. In her role, she leads the Carolina Postdoctoral Program for Faculty Diversity and diversity-related initiatives for the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research. As director of OPA, she serves as the contact for the UNC's Postdoctoral Policies and Grievance Procedures, Postdoctoral Travel Awards, and Postdoctoral Research Awards for Excellence (PARE). Sibby is available for individual or group consultations with postdoctoral scholars, faculty mentors or department administrators for issues and concerns related to postdoctoral policies or postdoctoral training and mentoring. Sibby brings 20 years of experience in higher education administration. Her expertise is in serving and supporting the success of underrepresented groups. Previously, Sibby served as an assistant dean in the Office of the Dean of Students and an assistant dean in the Office of Student Academic Counseling (now the Center for Student Success and Academic Counseling) here at Carolina. In addition, she served as an associate dean of student affairs at Hampshire College in Massachusetts and a clinical faculty member in education and dean of advising at Agnes Scott College in Georgia. She has also been an active member of the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) serving as the NPA's Diversity Officer and past member of the Advisory Group for the NPA's NSF Paid ADVANCE Grant, as well as contributing to a book that resulted from the project, *From PhD to Professoriate: The role of institutions in fostering the advancement of postdoc women*. Most recently, she served on a committee for the National Academy of Sciences that authored the report, *State of the postdoctoral experience for scientists and engineers revisited* and a working group for the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities that issued the report, *Increasing diversity in the biomedical research workforce*. Sibby completed her Ph.D. in Educational Policy Studies at Georgia State University. Additionally, Sibby holds a B.A. and a M.A. in Communication Studies from Carolina and a M.S. in Educational Research (Ethnography and Qualitative Methods) from GSU.

Marianne Barrier

Lab Manager of the Genomics and Microbiology Research Lab
North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences

Marianne Barrier is the Lab Manager of the Genomics and Microbiology Research Lab at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. She received her Ph.D. in molecular genetics from the North Carolina State University and was a postdoctoral fellow at the US EPA, RTP. As lab manager, Marianne works on multiple research projects such as a study examining the relationship between microbes and wound healing in collaboration with the NCSU vet school. In addition to research, she manages overall lab operations, coordinates space and equipment use with lab staff and collaborating researchers, and works with student interns and volunteers with research and outreach activities. The lab's location as a glass-walled section of the museum offers a unique opportunity to engage the public to observe and talk to scientists at work as well as to participate in current scientific research through citizen science projects.

Amy Blackburn

Senior Assistant Director for Graduate Students
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Amy Blackburn serves as the Senior Assistant Director for Graduate Students. When she's not on campus, she enjoys time in her garden or at the South Durham Farmer's Market. She was raised in the Chicago area and moved to North Carolina in 2001 to work in academic advising at Meredith College. She has worked at UNC since 2007 and has supported both undergraduates and graduate students with career decision making, job search, and professional development. She holds a M.S.Ed. in College Student Personnel Administration from Indiana University and a A.B. in Elementary Education from Washington University in St. Louis. For more information, see her LinkedIn profile: www.linkedin.com/in/ajblackburn. When she's not on campus, she enjoys time in her garden or at the South Durham Farmer's Market. She was raised in the Chicago area and moved to North Carolina in 2001 to work in academic advising at Meredith College.

Melissa Bostrom

Assistant Dean for Graduate Student Professional Development
Duke University

As Assistant Dean for Graduate Student Professional Development at Duke University, Melissa provides strategic direction and leadership for graduate student professional development, and her charge includes assembling a comprehensive program that addresses broad and discipline-specific professional development opportunities designed to help graduate students in diverse fields prepare for professional life beyond the graduate degree. She directs the Professional Development Series and Emerging Leaders Institute, manages the Professional Development Grant, co-founded Duke's professional development blog, and served as co-PI on the team that built Duke OPTIONS, an online professional development

planning tool for Ph.D. students. She is part of the Administrative Oversight Team for the University Center for Exemplary Mentoring and a member of the Advisory Board for Versatile Humanists at Duke. She has been invited to speak on graduate student professional development regionally, nationally, and internationally. Beyond Duke, she serves as Chair of the Advisory Board for the statewide BRIDGES Academic Leadership for Women program. Melissa previously served as Director of Graduate Academic and Professional Development in the Graduate School at NC State University, taught management and corporate communication at UNC's Kenan-Flagler Business School, and taught in the English departments at NC State and UNC. She received her master's and Ph.D. in English from UNC, and her B.A. in English (writing) and psychology from Denison University.

Patrick Brandt

Director, Career Development and Training
Office of Graduate Education/UNC Chapel Hill

Dr. Brandt leads Career Development initiatives for biomedical PhD students, including the ImPACT internship program for senior trainees, career advising, and alumni career placement tracking. Patrick also coordinates the Translational Medicine Training program for students interested in clinically relevant research. As Science Outreach director, Dr. Brandt oversees NC DNA Day and other efforts aimed at connecting scientists to the public.

Paul Burke III

HR Manager
KBI Biopharma, Inc.

Paul Burke III, PHR is the HR Manager at KBI Biopharma, Inc. KBI is a contract development & manufacturing organization serving the biopharmaceutical industry. KBI is a rapidly growing company with over 800 employees, and 70+ job openings. Paul received his Bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina. While at UNC, Paul was a member of UNC's Football team. Paul has lived in the Triangle his entire life. As HR Manager, he serves in a generalist capacity as the HR Site Head for all KBI sites in North Carolina. Paul has been with KBI since 2013.

Rachel Coleman

Assistant Director for Graduate Student Services
Duke University

Rachel earned an undergraduate degree in education from Millersville University in Pennsylvania. After relocating to Florida, she completed a combined M.S./Ed.S. program in school and career counseling from Florida State University. While at Florida State, Rachel worked in the Career Center as an advisor, mock interview mentor, and instructor for the undergraduate career planning course. Following a move to New York, she spent over seven

years at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point helping military service members navigate their career transitions; her last position as the director of the career services program with the West Point Association of Graduates. Rachel is a Certified Career Counselor now serving as Assistant Director for Graduate Student Services at Duke University.

Tammy Collins

Director, Office of Fellows' Career Development
NIH | NIEHS

Tammy Collins is the Director of the Office of Fellows' Career Development at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). In this role, she creates and organizes professional career development and scientific training opportunities for the postdoctoral community, and she also serves in a wide variety of other capacities such as in policy implementation, strategic planning, conflict resolution, etc. She recently led a team to identify the career paths of NIEHS postdoctoral alumni spanning back 15 years, and published a new tool for both classifying and visualizing these careers in Nature Biotechnology. She hopes the new approach will help the broader community 'speak the same language' when reporting outcomes in order to facilitate meaningful institutional cross-comparisons. She also has a desire to learn more about factors that influence career decisions so that she can best advise those navigating into careers, and so that she can craft career programming that best addresses the needs of postdoctoral fellows. Her central mission is to ensure that others are equipped with the knowledge and skills to become successful and independent in their chosen career. Prior to transitioning into her current role, Tammy received her B.S. in Chemistry from Appalachian State University, and her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Duke University. After a brief postdoc at Duke University, she joined NIEHS as a postdoc in 2009 where she developed her passion for working in the scientific career development field.

Lori Conlan

Director, Office of Postdoctoral Services
NIH

Lori M. Conlan is trained as a biochemist, receiving her B.S. in biochemistry from Michigan State University and her Ph.D. in biochemistry and biophysics from Texas A&M University. She worked for several years as a postdoc at the Wadsworth Center, NYS Department of Health, before transitioning from the lab to focus on career issues for the next generation of scientists. Lori started as the director of the Science Alliance, an international career development program for graduate students and postdocs sponsored by the New York Academy of Sciences. She now is at the NIH in the Office of Intramural Training & Education assisting the 4000 NIH postdocs in their personal career choices. Lori is the director of two offices, the Office of Postdoctoral Services and the NIH Career Services Center. She speaks at universities and institutions around the nation on career development topics for young scientists.

Laura Demarse

Assistant Dean for Professional Development & External Relations
NC State University

Laura Demarse is currently the Assistant Dean for Professional development & External Relations in the Graduate School at NC State University, where she manages a team of 5 program managers and 4 graduate assistants. Prior to serving in this role, Laura has served as Assistant Dean, in the School of Business at NC Central University, Assistant Dean of Postdoctoral Affairs & Professional Development in the Graduate School at the University of Utah and Director of Career & Professional Development at the College of Charleston. Laura is a Nationally Certified Counselor, Master Career Counselor and advocate for professional and career development for graduate students and postdocs. Laura Demarse holds a doctorate in Higher & Adult Education from the University of Memphis, a Masters in Counseling Psychology from Fordham University, a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Marymount College and a Certificate in Higher Education Leadership from Wellesley College.

Tracey Du Laney

tracey_dulaney@ncbiotech.org
Director, Science and Technology Development
NC Biotechnology Center

As a grant management specialist for the NC Biotechnology, Dr. du Laney helps oversee funding designed to advance commercially promising scientific discoveries and technologies developed in N.C. colleges, universities, and non-profit institutions. These grants fill gaps that aren't being addressed by other sources. Before joining the Biotech Center in October 2016, du Laney co-owned/co-founded a niche independent consulting firm in Research Triangle Park specializing in technology assessments and commercialization, grant writing and evaluation, due diligence, and entrepreneurship/start-up strategic planning for life science companies. Dr. du Laney holds a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering from Duke, a master's degree in biomedical engineering from The University of Texas at Austin, and a Ph.D. in biochemical engineering from Duke. Recently, du Laney was awarded a AAAS Leshner Fellowship in Public Engagement. This year's Leshner Fellows have a focus in human augmentation.

Ken Elstein

elstein.kenneth@epa.gov
Organizational Development Specialist
US EPA

Ken Elstein, MBA: After 18 years as a widely published bench scientist, Mr. Elstein obtained his MBA, and subsequently pursued a career in organizational improvement during which he became a certified professional coach, certified facilitator, certified administrator of the

Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, and Distinguished Toastmaster. Since 2004, he has served as an Organizational Development Specialist for the EPA's Office of Research and Development, providing meeting design & facilitation, coaching, training, consulting, and conflict-management services with the goal of helping employees at all levels become more effective and influential. His areas of specialization include career development, job applications/resume writing, interviewing and networking, influencing others, public speaking/giving briefings, negotiation, strategic planning, and stress/time management.

Stephen Ferguson

Chemist

National Toxicology Program/NIEHS

Stephen Ferguson is a scientist in the National Toxicology Program (NTP) at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). His primary role is to lead efforts within the NTP to develop physiologically-relevant in vitro models integrated with high dimensional assay approaches to unravel the dynamics of cellular responses to chemical exposure, and their quantitative translation to humans. Prior to joining the NTP, Steve led the ADME/Tox R&D program of Life Technologies developing in vitro liver models and assay approaches for prediction of drug metabolism, transport, toxicity, and drug-drug interaction research.

Ali Ghiassi

Senior Talent Partner

Biogen

Ali earned his BS from UNC-Greensboro with degrees in International Business, Economics, and Spanish. With over a decade of experience in the Life Sciences industry, Ali has had the opportunity to support a wide range of innovative Pharma, Biotech, Medical Device and Service organizations (CRO, CDMO) both in the US and across Europe while providing solutions in talent acquisition, talent management, contractor on-boarding and customer employee retention. In addition, Ali has held board positions with several non-profit and startup organizations participating, planning and driving milestone achievements through strategic partnerships.

Joshua Hall

Director of BBSP Admissions; Director of UNC PREP

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dr. Hall directs admissions for the Biological & Biomedical Science Program (BBSP), the umbrella application and first year training program for 14 biomedical PhD programs. He is responsible for the application process, the admissions review process, interview weekends, and research on admissions best practices. Dr. Hall also serves as the director of UNC PREP, an NIH funded one-year post-baccalaureate research program for students in groups historically

underrepresented in the sciences. He received his PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from UNC-Chapel Hill. He is also the co-host and creator of the Hello PhD Podcast, which is a weekly podcast that explores the human side of science and culture of lab life.

Erin Hopper

Educational Consultant
UNC-Chapel Hill

Erin Hopper, PhD is an Educational Consultant for the recently established Department of Applied Physical Sciences (APS) at UNC. In this role, she pursues funding opportunities for strategic departmental initiatives such as establishing APS undergraduate degree programs, supporting and expanding the campus-wide makerspace network, and promoting faculty development. Erin accomplishes these goals by establishing and strengthening relationships with foundations and other funding agencies, discovering and researching new funding opportunities, providing strategic guidance on the formulation of new ideas and initiatives, and writing white papers and grant proposals to move ideas forward. She also consults for Innovate Carolina on a project centered around innovation talent development among undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows. Prior to her role as Educational Consultant, Erin has had roles in various programs and units within higher education, including APS at UNC, the UNC System Office, and the UNC School of Medicine. Erin received her B.S. in chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, earned her PhD in chemistry from Duke University, and completed her postdoctoral training at NIEHS.

Andrew Hotchkiss

Branch Chief
National Center for Environmental Assessment at EPA

Dr. Andrew Hotchkiss has a degree in Biology from Davidson College and a Ph.D. in Zoology from North Carolina State University. Dr. Hotchkiss received additional postdoctoral training at The Ohio State University (psychobiology/behavioral endocrinology), North Carolina State University (environmental toxicology) and the National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory at EPA (reproductive toxicology). Dr. Hotchkiss is the Branch Chief for the Hazardous Pollutants Assessment Group (HPAG) in the National Center for Environmental Assessment at EPA. Members of the HPAG branch oversee the development of several influential human health hazard and dose-response assessments for environmental pollutants, are active members of numerous EPA scientific workgroups, provide scientific support for other parts of the EPA, are engaged in human health risk assessment research, and publish peer-reviewed manuscripts and book chapters.

Allyn Howlett

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Professor

Wake Forest School of Medicine

Dr. Howlett is an expert on cannabinoid receptor signal transduction. Dr. Howlett has worked with academic and private sector chemists in characterization of the structure-activity relationships of cannabinoid ligands for their neuropharmacological properties in the brain and cultured cell models. Dr. Howlett is Assistant Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the Director of the Office of Post-doctoral Education. She is the PI of an NIGMS Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Award (IRACDA) K12 program (Postdoctoral Research, Instruction and Mentoring Experience (PRIME)) to train postdoctoral teaching scholar. She mentors junior faculty at Wake Forest School of Medicine and nationally via the National Research Mentoring Network. Dr. Howlett has trained more than 75 postdoctoral, PhD and MS trainees, undergraduate, and summer program or medical students in her laboratory. Dr. Howlett is a member of the training faculty for training grants from NIDA, NHLBI and NINDS and has served on the advisory committees of several T32 training grants and the WFSM NIGMS-supported Prep Scholars Program. Extramurally, Dr. Howlett serves on the Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) MARC U*Star and MBRS RISE advisory committees.

Rebekah Layton

Director of Professional Development Programs

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

As the Director of Professional Development Programs, I am responsible for developing and evaluating our professional development program effectiveness. Program evaluation is also crucial to my role in assessing programs to identify which have the most effective outcomes for our trainees. This allows me to use evidence-based methods for selecting training events, modifying existing programming, and expanding the current offerings of professional development opportunities to our 1000+ biological and biomedical science trainees here at UNC. I have a strong personal drive to prepare our young scientists for a variety of career choices for which they can feel fully prepared, and are indeed excited to pursue. In this role, I help expose trainees to a wide array of career opportunities; provide scaffolding for a number of specific career paths (student-led career cohorts); match students with experiential learning opportunities (site visits and internships); and provide individual (career coaching) and group programming to support career development (career planning workshops, skills' series). I am passionate about pursuing the dissemination of the best practices in professional development identified through programs like ours, to share findings broadly. In addition to my experience evaluating and planning programming as the Director of Professional Development Programs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, I also collaborate nationally with the NIH Broadening Experiences in Scientific Training (BEST) Institutions on cross-site program evaluations, including publications on experiential learning; internships; and career/professional development courses. Locally, I support our Program Directors in evaluation of their graduate training programs, relying upon 10+ years of experience with

survey design and implementation and quantitative data analysis in a wide variety of contexts including with human subjects research experiments; in healthcare settings; for non-profit organizations; and for professional development programming.

Jennifer Levy

jennifer.levy@duke.edu

Assistant Director

Duke University

Jennifer Levy is the Assistant Director of Graduate Student Services at the Duke University Career Center. While she counsels and advises graduate students/alumni across disciplines and industry areas she works most closely with biomedical PhD students. She also creates and facilitates professional development programs having presented dozens of career workshops locally and at national conferences. Her previous work experience includes coordinating NIH-funded clinical research studies at UCLA, serving as the pre health/life science career advisor at Duke and directing fundraising and external relations at the University of Miami. She received her Bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Maryland and her Master's degree in counseling from UCLA.

Rachel Middleton

Specialist - Talent Acquisition

Camargo Pharmaceutical Service

Rachel Middleton is an enthusiastic Human Resources professional with experience in employee engagement, onboarding, brand management, and talent acquisition. In her current role as Specialist – Talent Acquisition at Camargo Pharmaceutical Services, she is responsible for managing the full cycle recruiting process, the candidate experience and works closely with her team on employee engagement initiatives. She earned her Bachelor's of Arts in Communication from the University of Cincinnati.

Amy Mihalchik-Burhans

Regulatory Toxicologist

Gad Consulting Services

Dr. Amy Mihalchik-Burhans is currently employed as a Regulatory Toxicologist at Gad Consulting Services, a small pharmaceutical and medical device consulting company located in Raleigh, NC. She completed her Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical and Pharmacological Sciences at West Virginia University in 2016, where she developed a strong interest in regulatory science and the role of scientists in the development of regulatory and scientific policies at the federal level. Most recently, Dr. Mihalchik-Burhans has become intrigued by the potential of new approach methodologies to alter the regulatory landscape, and how these methods may impact the safety and well-being of the public in the future.

Heather Nickel

Senior Career Specialist in the Office of Biomedical Graduate Education
Duke University School of Medicine

Heather Nickel is the Senior Career Specialist for the Office of Biomedical Graduate Education (OBGE) at Duke University. Heather provides career counseling and professional development programming for biomedical PhD students. Prior to her current role, Heather served as a Career Counselor at Meredith college and worked in MBA admissions at Duke's Fuqua School of Business. She has MAs in Journalism and Career Counseling.

Jacqueline Powell

Jacqueline.Powell@syneoshealth.com

Principal Medical Writer
Syneos Health

Jacqueline (Jacquie) Powell earned her PhD in Neurobiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Following a postdoctoral position in the Laboratory of Neurobiology at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Jacquie joined Education & Training Systems International as a medical writer and editor. She then gained valuable insight into clinical research and the drug development process as a Clinical Research Scientist at IMPACT Pharmaceutical Services. Currently, Jacquie is a Principal Medical Writer at Syneos Health with experience in clinical regulatory, submission, and commercial writing. Jacquie is also an active member of the American Medical Writers Association and served as the local chapter president from 2015 to 2016. In her free time, Jacquie enjoys traveling, spending time with her family, and enjoying the outdoors.

Ibrahim Raphiou

Medical Affairs Scientific Director
GlaxoSmithKline

Dr. Raphiou graduated from North Carolina State University (Raleigh, NC) in Comparative Biomedical Sciences; he was an Intramural Research Trainee at the NIEHS (NIH, DHHS) in the Laboratory of Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology (LRDT), in the Gene Regulation Group. Subsequently, he joined a Contract Research Organization (CRO) where he worked as a contractor for the National Toxicology Program (NTP) and contributed to the Report on Carcinogens (RoC). He acquired experience in Clinical Research with CROs and a biotechnology company, and subsequently joined GlaxoSmithKline in 2006, in Medical Affairs and R&D. He was the Clinical Investigation Lead on two recent global clinical trials with results published in 2016 in the NEJM. He has an interest in reducing and alleviating the global burden of disease.

Amy Rawls

Vice President of HR
Research Square

Amy earned her Ph.D. in Molecular Genetics at Washington University in St. Louis studying pattern formation in the *Drosophila* retina. After completing a postdoctoral fellowship, also at Wash U, focused on developing a mouse model of a congenital bone marrow failure syndrome, she took some time away from bench science. During that time, Amy started editing and writing scientific content as a freelancer. In 2010, she joined Research Square (then, American Journal Experts) as a Managing Editor. After some time in a manager role, Amy found a way to apply her strengths and interests in the HR realm, first in recruitment and talent development, then as HR Director, and now as VP of HR. She enjoys the puzzle of helping trained scientists find new ways to apply their own strengths, interests, and knowledge to a new field when that's the right path for them.

Jen Richmond-Bryant

Exposure Assessment Expert
EPA

Dr. Jen Richmond-Bryant is a national expert in the field of exposure assessment. She specializes in human exposure to air pollution, with particular emphasis on the influence of variability in human exposure to air pollution and related implications for interpreting epidemiologic study results. This includes studying the transport and dispersion mechanisms leading to spatiotemporal variability in concentrations of particulate matter (PM) and gaseous air pollutants and how such variability influences estimates of human exposure. Her work has been published more than thirty times in several high impact journals, such as *Environmental Health Perspectives*, *Environmental Science and Technology*, *Atmospheric Environment*, and *Journal of Exposure Science and Environmental Epidemiology*. Dr. Richmond-Bryant has served as an exposure assessment subject matter expert for the National Center for Environmental Assessment Environmental Media Assessment Group (EMAG) since 2008. She has authored sections and managed chapters of the Integrated Science Assessment on exposure assessment and/or atmospheric science for PM, carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen, oxides of sulfur, and lead. She recently completed a detail as Acting Branch Chief for EMAG, and she has also mentored a post-doctoral researcher and several post-graduate researchers through the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education program. Prior to joining the EPA in 2008, Dr. Richmond-Bryant served as an Assistant Professor at the City University of New York (CUNY) Urban Public Health program. Dr. Richmond-Bryant serves as a part-time Teaching Assistant Professor in the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources at North Carolina State University in addition to her work at the EPA.

Donita Robinson

Associate Professor of Psychiatry
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dr. Donita Robinson is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She received her Ph.D. in neuroscience from the University of Texas at Austin and was a postdoctoral fellow at the UNC in the Department of Chemistry. As an Associate Professor, her scientific expertise lies in neural dynamics of corticostriatal circuits during drug exposure and action selection in animal models. She specializes in measurements of real-time neural activity, such as dopamine release and neuronal firing patterns, during animal behavior. Currently, a major focus of her lab is to investigate the long-term consequences of adolescent binge alcohol on neural mechanisms of reward bias and behavioral flexibility.

Erica Rogers

Regulatory Toxicologist
Gad Consulting Services

Erica N. Rogers, Ph.D. is a regulatory toxicologist at Gad Consulting Services. She earned her Ph.D. in Pharmacology & Toxicology from the University of Louisville in 2011. Her scientific interests include risk assessment, regulatory and safety evaluation, and medical devices. She has contributed to four peer-reviewed publications and one book chapter, as well as participated in numerous local, regional and national scientific meetings.

Denise Saunders

Career Counselor and Consultant
Office of Intramural Training and Education at NIH

Denise E. Saunders, Ph.D. serves as Career Counselor and Consultant for the Office of Intramural Training and Education at the NIH providing career and professional development services to trainees at the NIEHS. She is a Licensed Psychologist and National Certified Counselor. She enjoys helping graduate students and early career professionals with their career planning and job search strategies. In addition to her work with OITE, she maintains an independent practice in Chapel Hill, NC where she offers career development, consultation and counseling services to her clientele. Dr. Saunders holds an M.S. in Counseling and Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the Florida State University. Her experiences have included work in higher education, independent practice, for-profit business, and government.

Paul Schlosser

Environmental Health Scientist
EPA

Paul Schlosser received his Bachelors of Science (1982) and PhD (1988) from the University of Rochester, with a Masters of Applied Science (1984) from the University of Toronto, all in Chemical Engineering. He then conducted three years of postdoctoral research in Biochemical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology, developing methods to identify limiting factors in biochemical pathways used in industrial fermentation and cell

cultures. In 1991 Paul joined the Chemical Industry Institute of Toxicology (later the CIIT Centers for Health Research), and conducted research on the modeling of xenobiotic metabolism and dosimetry, with applications in risk assessment. Dr. Schlosser came to the U.S. EPA, National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) in 2004 as an Environmental Health Scientist, where he now co-chairs NCEA's Pharmacokinetic Workgroup (PKWG), tasked with evaluating and guiding or conducting the application of PBPK and PK models in risk assessment.

Kelly Shipkowski

Lead Health Scientist

ICF

Kelly Shipkowski, PhD, is a Lead Health Scientist in the Health Sciences Practice at ICF. She received her PhD in Toxicology from North Carolina State University in 2015, where her research focused on the respiratory toxicity of multi-walled carbon nanotubes and their potential to exacerbate pre-existing lung disease. After she received her PhD, Kelly spent 2.5 years as a postdoctoral fellow in the Toxicology Branch of the National Toxicology Program (NTP). While at the NTP, Kelly served as a project leader responsible for study design, data analysis, and reporting of findings from toxicological studies assessing a number of different chemicals. She started working as a consultant at ICF in March 2018, and her work involves serving as task lead for a variety of projects assessing the health effects of different chemicals. Some of the tasks she manages include risk-of-bias and study quality evaluations, report development, and data extractions. As a toxicologist, Kelly regularly contributes to systematic review and data evaluation tasks for multiple federal clients. Kelly is about to begin her second year as a councilor on the executive committee for the North Carolina Society of Toxicology (NCSOT), and she previously served as the NCSOT postdoctoral representative. Kelly has also been actively involved in the Society of Toxicology (SOT) since 2012.

Chris Smith

Postdoc Program Manager

North Carolina State University

Dr. Smith spent 10.5 years studying the neurocognitive basis of decision-making and valuation processes in humans as a graduate student and postdoctoral fellow. Now, he helps graduate students and postdoctoral trainees discover their unique set of skills and interests that can be translated to a meaningful career in academia, industry, government, or a non-profit organization. Specifically, he assists North Carolina State University's 400+ postdoctoral fellows and house officers (individuals with advanced degrees) with issues in their current training roles at the University as well as in their career and professional development.

Jay Strum

jcs@g1therapeutics.com
Chief Scientific Officer
G1 Therapeutics

Dr. Jay Strum is the Chief Scientific Officer at G1 Therapeutics. Along with co-founders Ned Sharpless and Kwok-kin Wong, he built G1 Therapeutics, both scientifically and operationally, from a UNC Chapel Hill start-up to a thriving privately-held company, and ultimately, to a public company with three drugs in clinical trials. He is responsible for directing the company's discovery efforts and is a co-inventor on more than 160 issued and pending patents assigned to G1. Prior to G1, Dr. Strum led drug discovery programs in cancer and metabolic diseases at GlaxoSmithKline, where he brought multiple drug candidates into clinical development.

Kathryn Verbanac

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences Research
East Carolina University

Dr. Kathryn Verbanac joined the Department of Surgery faculty at ECU in 1989, was engaged in teaching medical and graduate students, research, mentoring and leadership activities, and promoted to Full Professor in 2005. Active in clinical translational research, she led a practice-changing multicenter breast cancer sentinel node trial that identified molecular markers of nodal metastases. Current research focuses on the tissue microenvironment, and molecular and immune signatures at metastatic sites. She has authored over 40 peer-reviewed publications that have had translational impact in the fields of development and disease and has received \$7 million dollars in grant funding. Dr. Verbanac was appointed Director of the ECU Office of Postdoctoral Affairs in the Division of Research, Economic Development and Engagement in 2013 and appointed Assistant Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences Research in 2018, after serving in an interim capacity. Prior to joining ECU, Verbanac was Project Leader of Cancer Radioimmunotherapy in the Bioproducts laboratory at the Dow Chemical Company. She earned a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Iowa and a MS in Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology from Iowa State University.

Sarah Windsor

Director of STEM in the Park
Research Triangle Park

Sarah is the Director of the STEM in the Park Mentoring Program at RTP. She is responsible for the day to day management of STEM in the Park, which is a program aimed to increase access to and understanding of the STEM fields to underserved populations, specifically girls, students from low-income backgrounds, and underrepresented minorities. She received her undergraduate degree from NC State and her PhD from UNC. She has most recently worked at NC Central University through a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Grant and at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences in the Genomics and Microbiology lab. She enjoys playing and

teaching tennis, and will use any excuse to talk about science to kids. She was also the local president of Graduate Women in Science (GWIS, Rho Tau Chapter), a group of women scientists who strive to increase the awareness of women's impacts in science through mentoring, networking and science outreach.