

Speaker and Guests

19th Annual NIEHS Biomedical Career Symposium

Keynote & Workshop Speakers

Speaker	Title	Affiliation
Keith Micoli, Ph.D.	Postdoctoral Program Director	New York University School of Medicine
William Blackmon, PMP, CSM, BSEE, CEO	Founder and CEO	Apogee Social Media Group
Tammy Collins, Ph.D.	Director, Office of Fellows' Career Development	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH
Lori Conlan, Ph.D.	Director-Office of Postdoc Services, OITE	National Institutes of Health
Jerry Heindel, Ph.D.	Scientific Program Administrator	DERT, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Susan Lankford, Ph.D.	Program Analyst, Science and Technology Development	North Carolina Biotechnology Center
Sharon Milgram, Ph.D.	Director, Office of Intramural Training and Education	National Institutes of Health
Dara Wilson-Grant, M.S.Ed., NCC, LPCA	Associate Director and Career Counselor, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs	University of North Carolina

Keith Micoli, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Program Director
New York University School of Medicine

Keith is the Postdoctoral Program Director at New York University (NYU) Langone Medical Center where he pursues his passion for encouraging young scientists to take responsibility for their own success and provides the resources they need to develop their own careers. He received his B.A. in biology/neurobiology from New College of Florida in 1993 and his Ph.D. in cellular and molecular pathology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 2001. Keith continued at UAB as a postdoc, additionally serving as a research associate and Instructor in the Department of Pathology and an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Biology at Samford University.

Keith's interest in postdoctoral training at a national level was developed by volunteering with the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA), where he was Chair of the Policy Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, and a member of the Outreach, Membership, Finance, and Meeting Committees. He served on the NPA Board of Directors, including serving as Board Chairman from 2004 to 2006 and from 2014-2015. During his initial tenure as Chair, the NPA successfully worked with the NIH to start the K99/R00 grant mechanism and helped NIH and NSF develop a unified definition of a postdoc.

In 2008, Keith left academic research to join the NYU School of Medicine as the Postdoctoral Program Director, where he has worked to develop numerous programs to foster postdoc training, including a grantwriting course and a lab management series. He is the Primary Investigator of NYU's Science Training Enhancement Program, funded by the NIH BEST program. Keith has also organized What Can You Be with a PhD?, a career symposium that brings together over 1000 graduate students and postdocs from New York City for two days of talks and workshops.

William Blackmon, PMP, CSM, BSEE, CEO

Founder and CEO
Apogee Social Media Group

William is founder and CEO of Apogee Social Media Group, based in Raleigh, NC. His knowledge and experience specific to the LinkedIn platform, has made him one of the most sought after trainers and consultants for individuals, companies and universities in the area. He has been featured on WRAL-TV, My Carolina Today, "Art of Potential" on WCHL radio, Internet Summit, and many other community and social media venues. As a recognized expert, William is a standing presenter at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business and Center for International Development, Wake Tech Community College. He has also made guest speaking appearances at Meredith College School of Business MBA Program, and North Carolina Central University.

Tammy Collins, Ph.D.

Director, Office of Fellows' Career Development
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
National Institutes of Health

Tammy Collins 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 the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) as a postdoc in 2009 where she developed her passion for working in the scientific career development field. Tammy currently directs the activities of the Office of Fellows' Career Development at the NIEHS. In this role, she develops and organizes professional career development and scientific training opportunities for the postdoctoral community. She also provides individual CV/resume consultations and facilitates networking opportunities with area professionals. Aside from these responsibilities, she performs a range of additional duties including those in conflict resolution, policy implementation, strategic planning, and event planning. Her central mission is to assist others in finding their career path and to ensure that they are equipped with the knowledge and skills to become successful and independent.

Lori Conlan, Ph.D.

Director, Office of Postdoctoral Services
National Institutes of Health

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 4,000 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.

Jerry Heindel, Ph.D.

Scientific Program Administrator
Division of Extramural Research and Training
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Jerrold J. Heindel has a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Michigan and worked in the area of reproductive biology and toxicology while on the faculty at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston and the University of Mississippi before coming to the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to head their Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology group. Twenty years ago he moved to the Division of Extramural Research and Training at NIEHS where he is a scientific program administrator and responsible for developing and administering the NIEHS grants program in endocrine disruptors, developmental basis of diseases and obesity and diabetes.

Susan Lankford, Ph.D.

Program Analyst, Science and Technology Development
North Carolina Biotechnology Center

Susan earned a B.S. in zoology from Eastern Illinois University and a Ph.D. in comparative biomedical sciences from NCSU. She has held positions in research labs at NCSU and UNC. Currently she is a Science and Technology Development Program Analyst at the NC Biotechnology Center where she coordinates the Jobs Network.

Sharon Milgram, Ph.D.

Director, Office of Intramural Training and Education
National Institutes of Health

Dr. Sharon Milgram received a B.S. in physical therapy from Temple University in 1984 and a Ph.D. in cell biology from Emory University in 1991. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at The Johns Hopkins University before joining the faculty at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1994. At UNC, Dr. Milgram rose to the rank of Full Professor with Tenure in the Department of Cell & Developmental Biology. Dr. Milgram founded and advised the UNC Office of Postdoctoral Services and

served on the advisory committee of the Sigma Xi National Postdoc Survey. In 2007 Dr. Milgram joined the NIH Office of the Director as the Director of the Office of Intramural Training and Education. There she directs a trans-NIH Office dedicated to the career advancement of over 5000 trainees, ranging from high school and college students to postdoctoral and clinical fellows. Dr. Milgram frequently gives lectures on science careers, mentorship, leadership, and management in research environments.

Dara Wilson-Grant, M.S.Ed., NCC, LPCA

Associate Director and Career Counselor
Office of Postdoctoral Affairs
University of North Carolina
Owner and Consultant
Careers in Bloom

Dara represents more than 15 years of experience providing counseling and career management education to students, postdoctoral scholars, and business professionals across a wide range of disciplines and career fields. She holds a master's degree in counseling and is a Licensed Professional Counselor. Her career management workshops have been presented at national and international universities, government agencies, and research institutions.

Human Resource Representatives

Representative	Title	Affiliation
Hollie Altice	Human Resources Manager	MedThink Communications
Leigh Babaian, M.Ed.	Early Talent Senior Recruiter	Quintiles
Paul J. Burke III	Human Resources Associate	KBI Biopharma, Inc.
Ali Ghiassi	Global Talent Acquisition	Catalent Pharma Solutions
Christy Goudy	Talent Acquisition Manager	MedThink Communications
Rajni Parthasarathy, Ph.D.	Associate Medical Writer	MedThink SciCom
Stacy Schnieber, M.A.	Director of Human Resources	Camargo Pharmaceutical Services

Camargo Pharmaceutical Services

Camargo Pharmaceutical Services is the most experienced global strategist providing comprehensive drug development services specialized for the 505(b)(2) approval pathway and analogous European processes. By assessing the scientific, medical, regulatory and commercial viability of product development opportunities, Camargo systematically builds and executes complete development plans that align with business strategies and that ensure FDA buy-in every step of the way. Come learn more about Camargo and their 6-month Postdoctoral Internship Program, where interns gain invaluable experience with drug development strategy and regulatory affairs.

Stacy Schnieber, M.A.

Director of Human Resources
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 Director of Human Resources 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.

KBI Biopharma

KBI Biopharma is a contract development & manufacturing organization driven to improve the quality of human life by serving clients in the accelerated development of their needed medicines. They help their client partners accelerate and optimize drug development and manufacturing programs by offering an extensive suite of expert development and manufacturing services in an agile, client-friendly partnering environment. KBI delivers expert and integrated process development and cGMP manufacturing of recombinant protein Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) for their clients. Come learn more about KBI Biopharma, their hiring process, and career opportunities.

Paul J. Burke III

Human Resources Associate
KBI Biopharma, Inc.

Paul performs various HR functions for KBI Biopharma, Inc., with an emphasis in recruiting, due to the continued growth of KBI over the past several years. He loves working with and helping people. He works with amazing people at KBI and together, they help other companies bring medicine to patients faster. One of his main goals is to constantly bring in more incredible individuals to the team to help in KBI's mission to improve the quality of human life.

MedThink SciCom

There are many ways to communicate science, but MedThink SciCom has a unique talent for taking biomedical information and transforming it into medically relevant and intriguing communications. When they tap into the demonstrated expertise of their multidisciplinary team, unexpected ideas emerge. Come learn more about MedThink, their hiring process, and job opportunities—especially their summer internship program which provides one with experience in all aspects of what a medical writer does while also imparting the critical skill of learning to work within a team dynamic.

Hollie Altice

Human Resources Manager
MedThink Communications

Hollie graduated with her B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Hollie is the Human Resources Manager at MedThink Communications. In this role, she manages the tactical and strategic operations of MedThink's People Strategy.

Christy Goudy

Talent Acquisition Manager
MedThink Communications

Christy Goudy received her B.S. from Miami University. In her current position as Talent Acquisition Manager at MedThink Communications, she leads the efforts in attracting and onboarding top talent.

Rajni Parthasarathy, Ph.D.

Associate Medical Writer
MedThink SciCom

Rajni received her Ph.D. in bioengineering and biomedical engineering from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is currently an Associate Medical Writer at MedThink SciCom. In this role, she develops scientific content in a variety of formats, insuring accurate and clear interpretation of data for their clients.

Quintiles

Quintiles applies the breadth and depth of their service offerings along with extensive therapeutic, scientific and analytics expertise to help customers navigate an increasingly complex healthcare environment. They work with biopharmaceutical and other life science companies with services and solutions that improve one's probability of success, connecting insights with superior delivery for better outcomes. Quintile's award-winning people, processes and technology drive predictable and efficient delivery around the globe. With more than 32,000 employees working in about 100 countries, they have helped develop or commercialize all of the top-100, best-selling drugs on the market in 2013. Come learn more about Quintiles, their hiring process, and career opportunities, especially within their Early Talent Internship Program.

Leigh Babaian, M.Ed.

Early Talent Senior Recruiter
Quintiles

Leigh received her M.Ed. in counselor education – student development in higher education from NC State University in 2007. Leigh was hired by Quintiles to build an Early Talent Pipeline for the company. She is charged with hiring from Quintiles' target universities into clinical entry-level roles in the Site Management and Therapeutic Strategy group. Due to the need for more Clinical Research Associates (CRAs) in industry, the candidates hired by Quintiles into Clinical Early Talent and the CRA development program are building and growing their own careers in the industry and satisfying Quintiles' need for CRA talent.

Catalent Pharma Solutions

Catalent Pharma Solutions is the leading global provider of advanced delivery technologies and development solutions for drugs, biologics and consumer health products. With over 80 years serving the industry, Catalent has proven expertise in bringing more customer products to market faster, enhancing product performance and ensuring reliable clinical and commercial product supply. Catalent is headquartered in Somerset, N.J.

Ali Ghiassi

Global Talent Acquisition
Catalent Pharma Solutions

Ali Ghiassi earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina with a triple major in international business, economics, and Spanish. He has over eight years of demonstrated success as a sales and recruiting professional in talent acquisition and project management in Life Sciences, Manufacturing, Engineering, and Finance sectors. Currently, Ali is part of the Global Talent Acquisition team at Catalent Pharma Solutions.

Career Forum Panelists

Panelist	Title	Affiliation
Aleksandra Adomas, Ph.D.	Medical Writer	MicroMass Communications
Uzma Atif, M.P.H., Ph.D.	Senior Medical Science Liason	Shire Pharmaceuticals
Maureen Bungler, Ph.D.	Technical Director, TRL, LLC; Founder and Principal, ModernTox, LLC	TRL, LLC and ModernTox, LLC
Nisha Cavanaugh, Ph.D.	Manager of Postdoctoral and Academic Programs	Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute
Kelly Rae Chi, M.A., M.S.	Freelance Science and Technology Writer	
Caren Cooper, Ph.D.	Assistant Director of the Biodiversity Research Lab	NC Museum of Natural Sciences
Lisa Crose, Ph.D.	Research Scientist	Camargo Pharmaceutical Services
Lori Davis, M.S., Ph.D., RAC	Senior Clinical Research Scientist	Impact Pharmaceutical Services
Kevin Day, Ph.D.		Foundation Medicine
Anne Deschamps, Ph.D.	Senior Science Policy Analyst	FASEB

Panelist	Title	Affiliation
Stephanie Engel, Ph.D.	Associate Professor, Epidemiology	UNC
George Fromm, M.B.A., Ph.D.	Senior Director of Research and Development	Heat Biologics, Inc.
Rebecca Fry, Ph.D.	Associate Professor, Environmental Sciences and Engineering	Gillings School of Global Public Health, UNC
Laura Glasscock, Ph.D.	Associate Professor, Biology	Winthrop University
Andrew Hagarman, Ph.D.	Project Leader/Scientist II	KBI Biopharma, Inc.
Brian Hawkins, Ph.D.	Research Biologist	RTI International
Brian Ingram, Ph.D.	Study Director	Metabolon
Jacqueline Kinyamu-Akunda, D.V.M., Ph.D.	Director, Pre-Clinical Safety - Oncology	Novartis
Carol Kwiatkowski, Ph.D.	Executive Director	The Endocrine Disruption Exchange
Melanie Lee-Brown, Ph.D.	Associate Professor, Biology; Director of Research and Creative Endeavors	Guilford College
Kellen Meadows, M.P.H., Ph.D., RRT	Oncology Field Medical Director	Pfizer
Heather Miller, Ph.D.	Assistant Professor, Biochemistry	High Point University
Jenny Noonan, M.P.A.	Director, Policy Analysis and Communications	US EPA
Thomas O'Connell, Ph.D.	Director of Research Collaborations	Duke Molecular Physiology Institute
Kevin Ramkissoon, Ph.D.	Science Policy Analyst	NIH
Mahendra S. Rao, M.D., Ph.D.	Vice President of Strategic Affairs (Q therapeutics)	Q therapeutics and NxCell
David Reif, Ph.D.	Associate Professor, Biological Sciences	NC State
Kathryn Remington, Ph.D.	Principal Scientist	BioReliance
Luke Roode, Ph.D.	Medical Writer	Quintiles

Panelist	Title	Affiliation
Beth Sullivan, Ph.D.	Associate Professor, Molecular Genetics and Microbiology	Duke
Richard Watkins, Ph.D.	CEO/Founder, The Science Policy Action Network, Inc.; Program Coordinator, Chancellor's Science Scholars Program	The Science Policy Action Network, Inc. and UNC

Aleksandra Adomas, Ph.D.

Medical Writer
MicroMass Communications

Aleksandra received her PhD in biology from Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala, Sweden. She completed postdoctoral training at Yale University and at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Currently, Aleksandra is a medical writer at MicroMass Communications, a healthcare communications agency that applies human behavior knowledge to improve patient outcomes. Aleksandra is responsible for developing high-quality clinical content in various formats, including scientific manuscripts, posters, abstracts, slide decks, and content outlines. She collaborates with external authors and internal staff to analyze and interpret complex clinical datasets. Her therapeutic expertise includes hypercholesterolemia and pulmonary arterial hypertension.

Uzma Atif, M.P.H., Ph.D.

Senior Medical Science Liason
Shire Pharmaceuticals

Dr. Atif received her bachelor's in pharmacology & biochemistry from Sunderland University and her Ph.D. in human molecular genetics from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in England. In pursuing her passion for global health, Dr. Atif received her Certification in core Public Health concepts and in 2013 received her master's in public health leadership, with a major in global health from the Gillings School of Global Public Health at UNC. Dr. Atif is currently a Senior Medical Science Liaison at Shire Pharmaceuticals supporting the US- Mid-Atlantic and Southeast Regions in the area of rare genetic disorders. Prior to joining Shire Human Genetic therapies, Dr. Atif was at GlaxoSmithKline for ten years in various positions including Principal Education Advisor supporting the development of an Educational Physician Foundation Program, Medical Genetics Advisor in Translational Medicine & Genetics, where she directed and lead initiatives in disease genetics, biomarker research and Pharmacogenetics, and Head of Predictive Screen Development and Toxicogenomic Mechanisms at Smith Kline Beecham Pharmaceuticals. She has managed projects through international collaborative interactions with Academia Sinica a government funded academic institute in Taiwan.

Maureen Bunger, Ph.D.

Technical Director
TRL, LLC.

Founder and Principal
ModernTox, LLC.

Maureen earned her Ph.D. in toxicology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She completed postdoctoral training at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Currently, she is the Technical director of TRL, LLC, which specializes in isolating high quality primary hepatocytes for biomedical research, pharmaceutical development and ADME and DMPK testing. She is also the Founder and Principal of ModernTox, LLC, which is a consultancy business aimed at helping small and medium sized life sciences tools businesses develop new products for pre-clinical and non-clinical drug development. She works with clients to identify target market segments, assess competition, and develop an overall marketing strategy. She specializes in cellular and tissue based tools development encompassing stem cells, microfluidics, and 3D organ models.

Nisha Cavanaugh, Ph.D.

Manager of Postdoctoral and Academic Programs
Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute

Nisha Cavanaugh, Ph.D., recently became the Manager of Postdoctoral and Academic Programs for Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute, a non-profit research institute located in La Jolla, CA after serving as the Director of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs for three years at NC State University (NC SU). In her current role, she develops and organizes career and professional development workshops and programs for 130 postdocs in the biomedical sciences. In addition, she has designed, developed, and facilitated her own career development workshops and has been invited to present at NCSU, UNC-Chapel Hill, and SAMSI. She is an active member of the National Postdoctoral Association's Advocacy Committee and co-presented at the 2014 Association for the Study of Higher Education conference as part of *The Postdoctoral Landscape: Collaborating through Research and Practice to Address Policy* session. She received her Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Colorado at Boulder and was a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; her research focused on the enzyme mechanisms of DNA replication initiation and DNA repair protein complexes.

Kelly Rae Chi, M.A., M.S.

Freelance Science and Technology Writer

Kelly Chi is a freelance science and technology writer whose work has appeared in *New Scientist*, *Scientific American*, *Nature*, *The Scientist*, *BioTechniques* and in various academic and industry publications. She has been freelancing full-time for nearly a decade, after obtaining master's degrees in medical journalism and biology. Her areas of interest include neuroscience, molecular biology, drug development and cancer.

Caren Cooper, Ph.D.

Assistant Director of the Biodiversity Research Lab
North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences

Caren Cooper received her undergraduate science degree from North Carolina State University, a master's degree from the University of Wyoming, and her Ph.D. from Virginia Tech. For 14 years, Cooper helped

design several citizen science projects at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology including My Yard Counts, YardMap, NestWatch, Celebrate Urban Birds, and the House Sparrow Project. Cooper is currently the Assistant Director of the Biodiversity Research Lab at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. The goal of Cooper's citizen science research lab is to support the Museum's mission "to illuminate the interdependence of humanity and nature." Her lab focuses on promoting community participation in avian research for stewardship and pollution biomonitoring and mapping.

Lisa Crose, Ph.D.

Research Scientist
Camargo Pharmaceutical Services

Lisa Crose earned a B.S. in pharmaceutical sciences and a B.A. in biology from Drake University. She earned her Ph.D. in pharmacology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She completed her postdoctoral training in the Department of Pediatrics at Duke University Medical Center. Currently, she is a Research Scientist at Camargo Pharmaceutical Services, a full-service drug development consulting company that specializes in the 505(b)(2) pathway. Dr. Crose joined Camargo in January 2016. As a Research Scientist, Dr. Crose's responsibilities include development of feasibility and regulatory strategy, evaluation of safety and efficacy data, preparation of regulatory documents, and attendance at FDA meetings.

Lori Davis, M.S., Ph.D., RAC

Senior Clinical Research Scientist
Impact Pharmaceutical Services

Lori Davis, M.S., PhD, RAC is a Senior Clinical Research Scientist at IMPACT. Prior to joining IMPACT, Dr. Davis was a contract Staff Toxicologist at ILS, Inc., supporting endocrine disruptor work for the National Toxicology Program Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICEATM). Her primary responsibilities included data analysis, writing and editing of reports, manuscripts, and *Federal Register* notices, and preparing presentations for meetings. Dr. Davis received her B.S. in physiology and M.S. in biology from California State University at Long Beach, and her Ph.D. in zoology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She completed postdoctoral fellowships at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, where she also concurrently managed the Fish Endocrinology and Environmental Physiology Lab, and at the US EPA Endocrine Toxicology Branch. Dr. Davis earned her US Regulatory Affairs Certification (RAC) from the Regulatory Affairs Professional Society (RAPS) in 2012.

Kevin Day, Ph.D.

Foundation Medicine

Dr. Kevin Day is beginning a new role with Foundation Medicine at their newly acquired North Carolina facility where he will direct their clinical genomic testing operations focused on providing answers to important questions for individuals dealing with cancer. Kevin earned his Ph.D. in biochemical genetics from University of Missouri in 2001 and his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Brigham Young University in molecular biology. After completing his Ph.D. Kevin did post doctorate research at Epigenomics, Inc. and then served as a project manager pioneering the development of epigenetic prostate cancer screening markers. Kevin left Epigenomics for an operations leadership role with Sorenson Genomics where he

focused on operational efficiencies using LEAN/Six Sigma practices in their high throughput paternity and forensics DNA testing laboratories. After Sorenson, Kevin worked for Caris/Miraca Life Sciences in Dallas, Texas. Most recently, Kevin was with Sequenom Laboratories where he directed their North Carolina operations performing non-invasive prenatal testing using Next Generation Sequencing methodologies. In his free time, Dr. Day is an adult leader with Boy Scouts of America and enjoys mentoring the next generation of young people down a path of leadership, education, community service and respect of the outdoors.

Anne Deschamps, Ph.D.

Senior Science Policy Analyst
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

Anne Deschamps received her undergraduate education in biology from Northeastern University in Boston, MA in 2001 and her Ph.D. in molecular and cellular biology from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2007. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Translational Medicine Branch of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Anne is currently a Senior Science Policy Analyst in the Office of Public Affairs at the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), an organization representing 30 scientific societies and over 125,000 members. At FASEB, Dr. Deschamps works on science policy issues related to the humane use of animals in research. In addition, she oversees the production of FASEB's science education article series *Breakthroughs in Bioscience* and *Horizons in Bioscience*.

Stephanie Engel, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Epidemiology
University of North Carolina

Dr. Stephanie Engel is an associate professor in the Department of Epidemiology at University of North Carolina (UNC) Chapel Hill. She received her doctoral degree at UNC and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. Dr. Engel's research considers the impact of environmental exposures and innate susceptibility factors on adverse pregnancy outcomes and neurodevelopmental impairment in children.

George Fromm, M.B.A., Ph.D.

Senior Director of Research and Development
Heat Biologics, Inc.

Dr. George Fromm currently serves as the Senior Director of Research and Development at Heat Biologics, Inc. in Research Triangle Park, NC. Heat is a small and exciting, clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing a range of cell-based cancer immunotherapy products that attempt to trigger a patient's immune system to recognize and destroy their tumor. Dr. Fromm received his Ph.D. from the University of Rochester, NY where he studied epigenetic regulation of cell fate decisions. Dr. Fromm expanded upon his research during a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in RTP, NC, using genomics to uncover transcriptional and cell signaling events involved in stem cell pluripotency.

Rebecca Fry, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Environmental Sciences and Engineering
Gillings School of Global Public Health
University of North Carolina

Dr. Rebecca Fry is an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering at the Gillings School of Global Public Health at UNC-Chapel Hill. She also holds appointments in the Curriculum in Toxicology and the Lineberger Cancer Center. Dr. Fry is the Director of UNC's Superfund Research Program funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). Dr. Fry also serves as the Director of Graduate Studies in the Curriculum of Toxicology at UNC. She is Co-PI of the T32 training grant in Biostatistics along with Dr. Amy Herring that trains more than 30 pre- and post-doctoral students at UNC. Dr. Fry's Ph.D. is in biology and she has postdoctoral training in toxicogenomics and environmental health from MIT. Broadly her research focuses on elucidating biological mechanisms that relate prenatal toxicant exposure to detrimental health outcomes in children. Building off her expertise in the areas of DNA repair, toxicogenomics and systems biology, her research at UNC has been ground-breaking, identifying epigenetic mechanisms that may underlie children's health. A primary goal of Dr. Fry's research is to increase awareness of the deleterious impacts of exposures during the prenatal period and to improve public health initiatives to address this critical issue. She has served on the committee for the National Academies of Science (NAS) National Research Council for the IRIS review of inorganic arsenic, as a reviewer for the cancer and non-cancer risk assessment of arsenic in food by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and on the funding selection committee of the International Agency on Cancer Research (IARC).

Laura Glasscock, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Biology
Winthrop University

Dr. Laura Glasscock is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biology at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC. She received a B.S. in biology from Salem College in Winston-Salem, NC, and she went on to earn a Ph.D. in experimental pathology and laboratory medicine from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine in 1997. She performed postdoctoral work in the Department of Urology at Cannon Research Center of the Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, N.C. and has served as the Assistant Director of Urology Research there since 1999. Dr. Glasscock joined the Winthrop University faculty in 2000. She teaches various courses within the Department of Biology and served for 13 years as the faculty advisor for the Department of Biology's Beta Beta Beta National Biological Honor Society chapter. In addition to her teaching responsibilities she also mentors both undergraduate and graduate student researchers in her lab. Her research focuses on the role of proteases and their receptors in prostate cancer progression.

Andrew Hagarman, Ph.D.

Project Leader/Scientist II
KBI Biopharma, Inc.

Andrew Hagarman, Ph.D. is a Project leader/Scientist II at KBI Biopharma, Inc. Dr. Hagarman works in the Analytical Department at KBI Biopharma, Inc., where he leads a small team in analyzing protein

stability, purity, function, etc. in preparation for using target proteins in clinical trials. Dr. Hagarman received his Ph.D. from Drexel University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Duke University.

Brian Hawkins, Ph.D.

Research Biologist
RTI International

Brian Hawkins is a Research Biologist at RTI International in Research Triangle Park, NC. He received his B.S. in chemistry from The Georgia Institute of Technology and a Ph.D. in neuroscience from The University of Arizona. After completing postdoctoral training at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in the lab of Dr. David Miller, he spent 3 years in a research faculty position at the University of Washington School of Medicine and returned to the Triangle in 2013 to take his current position at RTI. At RTI, Dr. Hawkins divides his time between efforts in engineered tissue culture constructs and mathematical modeling of biological responses in those constructs (in collaboration with Texas A&M), and support of RTI's Gates Foundation-funded program in developing innovative, water- and energy-conserving wastewater treatment solutions for the developing world.

Brian Ingram, Ph.D.

Study Director
Metabolon

Dr. Ingram is a diversely trained biologist with expertise in metabolomics and a background in lipid metabolism, microbiology, and cell biology. He received his Ph.D. in biochemistry from Duke University and continued his scientific training as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Dr. Ingram joined Metabolon in 2014 and currently serves as a scientific liaison to Metabolon's academic and government clients.

Jacqueline Kinyamu-Akunda, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Director, Pre-Clinical Safety – Oncology
Novartis

Jacqueline Kinyamu-Akunda is a Director of Preclinical Safety (PCS) at the Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research (NIBR) and serves as a Project Team Member (PTM) in the oncology therapeutic area (TA). As a PTM, Jacqueline represents PCS in drug development teams in all phases of development and is responsible for all the nonclinical safety aspects of drug candidates including the nonclinical strategy, study designs and interpretation, and nonclinical content of clinical and regulatory submissions. She also ensures resolution of nonclinical issues arising during discovery, clinical development or patient use. Jacqueline is also the current Science and Portfolio Manager responsible for scientific, operational and logistic support of the PCS oncology TA strategy team. Prior to joining Novartis, Jacqueline was a Toxicology Project Leader at Eli Lilly and Company. Jacqueline holds a D.V.M. and M.S. in pharmacology and toxicology from the University of Nairobi – Kenya, and a Ph.D. in toxicology from Iowa State University. She was a postdoctoral scientist at NC State University and a Research Fellow at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences before joining the pharmaceutical industry.

Carol Kwiatkowski, Ph.D.

Executive Director
The Endocrine Disruption Exchange

Carol Kwiatkowski, Ph.D. is the Executive Director of The Endocrine Disruption Exchange (TEDX). In this role, she leads a team of researchers who develop scientific resources (literature reviews, data spreadsheets, and interactive web-based tools) to educate people on the health and environmental impacts of chemical exposure. Her work focuses on chemicals that affect the endocrine system, particularly those that have impacts at exposure concentrations experienced by humans and wildlife, and those that are associated with unconventional oil and gas production (commonly known as 'fracking'). She is particularly interested in the impact of endocrine disrupting chemicals on prenatal and early post-natal development, and the health effects that are expressed later in life. TEDX's work is targeted towards scientists, health care providers, policy makers, government environmental and public health agencies, non-governmental advocacy organizations, and individual citizens.

Melanie Lee-Brown, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Biology
Director of Research and Creative Endeavors
Guilford College

Melanie is an Associate Professor of Biology at Guilford College and Director of Research & Creative Endeavors. She teaches courses in introductory biology, microbiology, genetics, bioterrorism, biochemistry and research. The foci of her research program include microbial genetics, riboswitches, alternative antimicrobials, and the study of free-living, nitrogen-fixing, bioremediating bacteria of the family *Pseudomonadacea*. Her current committee work includes general education revision at Guilford College (LAGER- Liberal Arts General Education Revision). She is also the former Chair of Department of Biology. In addition, Melanie was selected as one of 40 Partnership for Undergraduate Life Science Education (PULSE) Leadership Fellows in 2012. Melanie currently serves on the Fellows Council, the governing body for PULSE. To round things out, she is also the Executive Editor of the Journal of the North Carolina Academy of Science. Melanie completed her B.S. in biology at NC A&T State University and her Ph.D. in microbiology under the mentorship of Thoyd Melton and Wesley Kloos at NC State University. Melanie also completed a three-year postdoctoral research program in the Department of Neurobiology and Anatomy at Wake Forest University School of Medicine under the tutelage of Ron Oppenheim.

Kellen Meadows, M.P.H., Ph.D., RRT

Oncology Field Medical Director
Pfizer

Kellen Meadows earned a B.S. in allied medical professions, respiratory care from The Ohio State University, a M.P.H. from Emory University and a Ph.D. in genetics and molecular biology from Emory University. She completed her postdoctoral training at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Currently, she is the Oncology Field Medical Director at Pfizer. In this role, she provides field-based medical support for Pfizer's oncology products as well as tumor specific, disease state and mechanism of action information to oncologists and related health professionals in academic medical centers, integrated health systems and large group community practices. She also facilitates both Pfizer

sponsored and investigator-initiated research activities and she contributes to the medical planning for tumor, mechanism of action- and asset team projects and activities.

Heather Miller, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Biochemistry
High Point University

Dr. Heather Miller received her B.S. in molecular biology/ biotechnology from Clarion University of Pennsylvania in 2003, graduating summa cum laude. She went on to earn her Ph.D. in molecular genetics from Duke University in 2009. While at Duke, she pursued her interest in teaching by serving as a T.A. and completing a Certificate in Teaching College Biology. Heather then completed a 3-year teaching postdoc at North Carolina State University in the Biotechnology Program, where she designed and implemented two new classes, taught several existing ones, and mentored undergraduate researchers. In 2012, Heather was appointed as a tenure-track faculty member in High Point University's Department of Chemistry where she teaches general chemistry and several courses in the biochemistry major's curriculum. She has authored multiple publications in the area of gene expression regulation, as well as the scholarship of teaching and learning. Heather is the coauthor of a published textbook, "Molecular Biology Techniques: A Classroom Laboratory Manual".

Jenny Noonan, M.P.A.

Director, Policy Analysis and Communications
US Environmental Protection Agency

Jenny Noonan graduated from Drew University and received a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Currently, Ms. Noonan is the Director for the Policy Analysis and Communications staff in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards. In this role, Ms. Noonan serves as a senior advisor to the Office Director, prepares EPA witnesses for testimony before Congress, writes speeches for senior EPA appointees, and communicates with the public about the air pollution regulations that her office issues each year.

Thomas O'Connell, Ph.D.

Director of Research Collaborations
Duke Molecular Physiology Institute

Thomas O'Connell earned his B.S. in chemistry from the University of California, Irvine and his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He completed his postdoctoral training at Yale University and at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Currently, Dr. O'Connell is the Director of Scientific Collaborations at the Duke Molecular Physiology Institute. In his role as Director of Scientific Collaborations, Dr. O'Connell develops and manages new collaborations with both academia and industry, serves as project coordinator for new research studies from optimization of study design to publication and coordinates with the core laboratories to provide comprehensive molecular profiling.

Kevin Ramkissoon, Ph.D.

Science Policy Analyst
National Institutes of Health

Dr. Kevin Ramkissoon earned his Ph.D. in microbiology & immunology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Following his graduate studies, Dr. Ramkissoon moved to the biotech industry as a postdoctoral research fellow with SRI International's Center for Advanced Drug Research. He then joined the NIH's National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) as a visiting fellow. During his time as a fellow, Dr. Ramkissoon served on the NHLBI Fellows Advisory Committee and was his Institute's basic science representative on the NIH Fellows Committee. He also served as Co-chair of the NIH Science Policy Discussion Group and was an active in a number of NIH scientific interest groups. Currently, Dr. Ramkissoon is a Health Science Policy Analyst in the Office of Science Policy within the Office of the Director at the National Institutes of Health (NIH/OSP). In this capacity, he applies his scientific, analytical, and project management skills towards the evaluation of emerging biotechnologies, and the development and implementation of Federal policies aimed at enhancing biosafety and biosecurity across the biomedical research enterprise. Current areas of activity include national and international efforts to address antibiotic resistance, dual use research of concern, and gain-of-function studies; as well as issues surrounding national preparedness and response for/to emerging infectious diseases.

Mahendra Rao, M.D., Ph.D.

Vice President of Strategic Affairs
Q Therapeutics
Adjunct Faculty Member
Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine

Mahendra Rao received his M.D. from Bombay University in India and his Ph.D. in developmental neurobiology from the California Institute of Technology. Mahendra Rao is internationally known for his research involving human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) and other somatic stem cells and has worked in the stem cell field for more than twenty years with stints in academia, government and regulatory affairs and industry. Dr. Rao has published more than 300 papers on stem cell research and is the co-founder of a neural stem cell company Q therapeutics based in Salt Lake City (Utah) and more recently, NxCell based in California. Dr. Rao was the founding Director of the NIH Center of Regenerative Medicine and also the Chief of the Laboratory of Stem Cell Biology at the NIH. Currently, Dr. Rao is an adjunct faculty member at Wake-Forest Center For Regenerative Medicine and the V.P. of strategic Affairs at Q Therapeutics. He serves as a consultant on Regenerative Medicine for the New York Stem Cell Foundation and continues to provide consultant and advisory services to biotechnology companies in the regenerative medicine field.

David Reif, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Biological Sciences
North Carolina State University

David M. Reif (www.reif-lab.org) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at NC State University and a resident member of the Bioinformatics Research Center. He earned his B.S. in biology from the College of William and Mary, where he was a Monroe Scholar. He earned his M.S. in

applied statistics and his Ph.D. in human genetics from Vanderbilt University, under the mentorship of Jason H. Moore. Upon graduation, David came to the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) as a postdoc under Elaine Cohen Hubal. Prior to joining the faculty at NC State, David was a Principal Investigator (PI) with the US EPA's National Center for Computational Toxicology. His overarching research goal is to understand the complex interactions between human health and the environment through the integrated analysis of high-dimensional data from diverse sources. His efforts in research, teaching, and outreach have been recognized with several awards, including the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), and selection to expert committees, including those for the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer (WHO / IARC).

Kathryn Remington, Ph.D.

Principal Scientist
BioReliance

Kathryn Remington joined BioReliance in 2010 as a Principal Scientist. BioReliance provides biological safety testing for biopharmaceuticals as well as biomanufacturing of cell banks, virus seed stocks, vaccines and gene therapy products. Kathy assists clients in designing their viral clearance studies to demonstrate the capacity of manufacturing processes for biopharmaceuticals to inactivate or remove adventitious viruses. She also provides technical expertise to support Clearance Services. Kathy came to BioReliance from Catalent Pharma Solutions, where she established and managed their viral safety program for 7 years. Prior to that, she was the Section Head of the Viral Validation group for Bayer Healthcare. During her 18 years in viral clearance, she authored a number of publications on the viral safety of biopharmaceuticals. She has also worked in research, studying drug resistant feline immunodeficiency viruses. Kathy earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in microbiology from the University of Montana and was an IRTA fellow under Dr. Kashia Bebenek at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

Luke Roode, Ph.D.

Medical Writer
Quintiles

Luke spent 7 years in graduate school (2 advisors, multiple failed projects) before receiving his Ph.D. in Molecular Pharmaceutics department at UNC in April 2014. He then began working as a Medical Writer/Editor at Education and Training Systems International (ETSI), a small company located in Chapel Hill that creates paper and electronic based training materials for pharmaceutical sales representatives. In July 2015, Luke took a job as a medical writer for Quintiles. At Quintiles, Luke is responsible for writing clinical/regulatory documents, such as investigator brochures, clinical study protocols, protocol amendments, and clinical study reports. In addition to on-the-job training, Luke has also earned the Essential Skills Certificate from the American Medical Writers Association and participated in the North Carolina Regulatory Affairs US RAC workshop. Luke's favorite thing about his job is the constant variety and exposure to diverse topics in biomedical and pharmaceutical science.

Beth Sullivan, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Molecular Genetics and Microbiology
Duke University

Beth Sullivan is Associate Professor of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology at Duke University. She graduated from Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College) in 1990 with a B.A. in biology, and minors in chemistry and classics. She earned her Ph.D. in human genetics from University of Maryland at Baltimore in 1995. Dr. Sullivan did postdoctoral work at the MRC Human Genetics Unit (Edinburgh, Scotland), and at the Salk Institute. In 2002, she established her lab at Boston University, but was recruited to Duke in 2005. Dr. Sullivan's research focuses on genomics and epigenetics of human centromere function and formation of chromosome abnormalities associated with birth defects, reproductive abnormalities, and cancer. Her lab uses genomics, high-resolution microscopy, and chromosome engineering to study *de novo* centromere assembly and behavior of experimentally produced dicentric human chromosomes. In addition to doing graduate teaching, Dr. Sullivan teaches in and is director of the Duke Focus Genetics and Genomics cluster, an undergraduate course for first semester freshman. Outside of Duke, Dr. Sullivan is also an Associate Editor for *PLOS Genetics* and Executive Editor of *Chromosome Research*.

Richard Watkins, Ph.D.

CEO and Founder
The Science Policy Action Network, Inc.
Program Coordinator
Chancellor's Science Scholars Program
University of North Carolina

Richard earned his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) in microbiology and immunology with a specialty in virology. Richard's research focused on the factors that influence disease progression in HIV infected patients. Prior to attending UNC-CH, Richard earned a bachelor's degree in science in psychology with a minor in sociology from Fayetteville State University, making him an extremely well rounded and dynamic scientist.

With a deep passion for service, Richard has extensive experience bridging the gap between the scientific enterprise and stakeholders.

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