Global Health Equity: Envisioning the Future

A symposium focused on bridging gaps in global health with cross-cutting approaches

November 28, 2018

Morehouse School of Medicine
Louis W. Sullivan National Center for Primary Care
720 Westview Drive SW, Atlanta, GA 30310
About Morehouse School of Medicine

Morehouse School of Medicine, located in Atlanta, GA, was founded in 1975 as the Medical Education Program at Morehouse College. In 1981, MSM became an independently chartered institution. MSM is among the nation's leading educators of primary care physicians and has been recognized as the top institution among medical schools for its social mission. Our faculty and alumni are noted in their fields for excellence in teaching, research, and public policy.

MSM Mission: MSM is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of individuals and communities; increasing the diversity of the health professional and scientific workforce; and addressing primary healthcare needs through programs in education, research, and service with emphasis on people of color and the underserved urban and rural populations in Georgia and the nation.
Education
Our education programs include Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Sciences, Master of Public Health, Master of Science in Medical Sciences, Master of Science in Biomedical Research, Master of Science in Clinical Research, and Master of Science in Biomedical Technology degrees. We offer seven residency programs, including Family Medicine (1981), Preventive Medicine (1986), Internal Medicine (1991), Psychiatry (1991), Surgery (1993), Obstetrics and Gynecology (1997) and Pediatrics (2000). The majority of MSM patient care and clinical training occurs at Grady Memorial Hospital, one of the largest public hospitals in the Southeast. Over the past five years, 67 percent of our resident graduates have elected to stay and practice in Georgia.

Research
From the genetic epidemiology of cardiovascular disease in ethnic populations to the physiology of sleep disorders, Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) leads advanced research projects to improve the health and well-being of people everywhere. Thanks to MSM scientists, early detection methods for malaria and HIV/AIDS are improving patient outcomes around the globe. MSM scientists are also responsible for developing a range of innovative tools, including a self-contained mobile clinical research unit that gives investigators access to more diverse populations, particularly in rural areas in Georgia. At MSM, we create a supportive and challenging environment to further faculty research interests. Our state-of-the-art core labs and over 10 research centers and institutes offer tremendous opportunities for discovery.

Clinical Care
Beyond academics and research, Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) provides exceptional primary and specialty care through Morehouse Healthcare, our medical practice. Morehouse Healthcare not only provides MSM’s medical students and residents with outstanding, multidisciplinary clinical experience, but also allows MSM’s clinical faculty to engage in clinical research and continue practicing their trained disciplines.

Comprised of more than 100 practicing physicians—who are all MSM faculty members—Morehouse Healthcare is an integral part of MSM’s mission to provide excellence in medical training and high-quality, comprehensive care to the community. In addition to traditional healthcare services, our clinical practice includes interdisciplinary programs that advance total wellness and offer developmental, family-centered, and social services.

Service
Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) is a renowned leader in community engagement, making positive change through research, community service, and educational outreach. MSM has received both national and local recognition for its community engagement efforts, including:

- The 2018 finalists award for the Spencer Forman Award for Outstanding Community Engagement from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
- The 2011 Prevention Research Centers Best Practice in Community-Based Participatory Research Award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- The 2010 Joseph E. Green in community service from the Healthcare Georgia Foundation
- The 2010 ranking of MSM as number one in social mission of all medical schools in the U.S.
- The 2005 Outstanding Educational Program Award from the Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine
- The 1999 Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Community Service Award

MSM also holds the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching designations (2010 classification and 2015 reclassification) in community engagement, representing a commitment to improving teaching and learning and producing research that makes a difference in communities.

To learn more, visit: www.msm.edu
Welcome, Bienvenue, Sawa, Bienvenido, Sawubona, Bem Vinda!

As Associate Director of the Morehouse School of Medicine’s newly established Office of Global Health Equity (OGHE), I have the distinct honor of extending a special welcome to each of you. It is with immense pleasure that I write this message of welcome to all participants of this inaugural MSM Global Health Equity Symposium. We greatly appreciate your acceptance of the invitation to join us in envisioning a path towards the realization of global health equity for all. I am most grateful to the OGHE team, our sponsors and partners, our speakers and presenters, our symposium planning committee and volunteers for their generous investment of resources, energy, and time to realize this historic convening.

Officially launched in January 2018, the Morehouse School of Medicine Office of Global Health Equity is comprised of a small but mighty team of committed champions whose passion for global health and unrelenting service have fueled a range of initiatives aimed at rethinking our approach to addressing the health challenges of our world. The OGHE’s work and priorities reflect MSM’s commitment to social accountability, cultural humility, community engagement, and collaboration in health education, service, and research. With deliberate commitment to moving away from the siloed approach that has characterized the early history of global health, this office strives to operate in the multidisciplinary and cross-cutting way required to tackle the complex global health challenges of our time.

To all of you who join us from near and far, please accept this heartfelt and enthusiastic welcome to the Morehouse School of Medicine. On behalf of the entire OGHE team, I invite you to be an active participant in what we hope will be a memorable and transformative day of learning, connecting, and imagining. We challenge each of you to take what you glean from today’s discussions back to your respective arenas and to commit to joining us as we work towards the reduction of health disparities in the U.S. and around the world. We look forward to your contributions as we charge toward the creation and advancement of global health equity!

Mèsi anpil (Thank you)!

Gilberte (“Gigi”) Bastien, Ph.D.
Associate Director
Office of Global Health Equity
Morehouse School of Medicine
8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.  
**Registration and Refreshments**

9:15 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.  
**Convening Remarks**

9:20 a.m.- 9:40 a.m.  
**A Vision for Global Health Equity**  
*Dr. Valerie Montgomery Rice, President and Dean of Morehouse School of Medicine*

9:40 a.m.-10:00 a.m.  
**Shifting the Paradigm: Community, Culture & Collaboration**  
*Dr. Gilberte Bastien, Associate Director of Morehouse School of Medicine's Office of Global Health Equity*

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
**Panel Discussion - Honoring the History and Breaking New Ground in Global Health**  
Moderator: Dr. Valerie Montgomery Rice, President and Dean of Morehouse School of Medicine

Panelists:

*Roger I. Glass, M.D., Ph.D., Director of the Fogarty International Center and Associate Director for International Research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)*

*Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)*

*Gary H. Gibbons, M.D., is Director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH)*

*Jonathan Stiles Ph.D., FAETC, Professor, Microbiology, Biochemistry & Immunology and Co-Director, Global Health Training Fellows Program at Morehouse School of Medicine*

*Elizabeth Ofili, M.D., M.P.H., Professor, Medicine and Director & Associate Dean, Clinical Research Center at Morehouse School of Medicine*

*Herman Taylor, M.D., M.P.H., FACC, FAHA, Professor, Medicine and Director, Cardiovascular Research Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine*

11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.  
**Networking Lunch & Poster Exhibit**

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
**Complementary & Integrative Approaches to Global Health & Wellness, including Documentary Screening: Strong Medicine: The Secret Power of African Healing**  
Moderator: Monica Kaufman Pearson
Panelists:

*Ambassador Andrew J. Young, American Politician, Diplomat, Human Rights Activist and President, Andrew J Young Foundation*

*Erick V. A. Gbodossou, M.D., Founder and president of PROMETRA International*

*Michael Powell, Ph.D., Professor. Microbiology, Biochemistry & Immunology at Morehouse School of Medicine*

*Mahfuz Khan, M.S., Senior Researcher, Department of Microbiology, Biochemistry and Immunology at the Morehouse School of Medicine*

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Global Health Stories – Exemplars from the Field**
Moderator: Jenelle Williams, MBA, Director of Programs for Global Health Action

Panelists:

*Lilly Immergluck, M.S., M.D., Associate Professor, Depts of Microbiology, Biochemistry & Immunology and Pediatrics, Morehouse School of Medicine*

*Wilson Mbewe, BScHB, MBChB, MCS, MMED - Med Superintendent, Kanyama District, Zambia*

*Marie Guerda Nicolas, PhD - Professor, University of Miami*

*Robert Demont, MS - Director, Bioscience-Healthcare Ecosystem Expansion at Metro Atlanta Chamber*

*Kofi Kondwani, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Community Health and Preventive Medicine at Morehouse School of Medicine*

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

**Afternoon Break**

3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

**Panel Discussion – Harnessing Human Resources for Global Health Equity**
Moderator: Ben Chi, MD, MSc - Co-Director, Fogarty Global Health Fellowship Program

*Jose Francisco Garcia Gutierrez, M.Sc, Ph.D - Regional Advisor on Human Resources for Health, PAHO-WHO*

*Eve H Byrd, D.M.P, M.P.H - Director, Mental Health Program, Carter Center*

*Kashef Ijaz, M.D. - Deputy Director, Center for Global Health, CDC*

*Monique Wubbenhorst, M.D. - Senior Advisor, USAID Global Health Program*

4:45 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

**Event Concludes**

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**Evening Reception**
Speakers & Moderators
Dr. Montgomery Rice is the sixth president of Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) and the first woman to lead the free-standing medical institution, serving as both the president and dean. A renowned infertility specialist and researcher, she most recently served as dean and executive vice president of MSM, where she has served since 2011.

Prior to joining MSM, Montgomery Rice held faculty positions and leadership roles at various academic health centers. Most notably, she was the founding director of the Center for Women's Health Research at Meharry Medical College, one of the nation's first research centers devoted to studying diseases that disproportionately impact women of color.

Dedicated to the creation and advancement of health equity, Montgomery Rice lends her vast experience and talents to programs that enhance pipeline opportunities for academically diverse students, diversifies the physician and scientific workforce, and fosters equity in health care access and health outcomes. To this end, she holds membership in many organizations and boards, such as the following: National Academy of Medicine, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, Board of Directors for Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine, Board of Directors for The Nemours Foundation, Board of Directors for UnitedHealth Group, Ni-Q Medical Advisory Team and the Association of American Medical Colleges Council of Deans.

A Georgia native, Montgomery Rice holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the Georgia Institute of Technology, a medical degree from Harvard Medical School and an honorary degree from the University of Massachusetts Medical School. She completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Emory University School of Medicine and her fellowship in reproductive endocrinology and infertility at Hutzel Hospital.

Montgomery Rice has received numerous accolades and honors. She was named to the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans and received the 2017 Horatio Alger Award. For two consecutive years (2016, 2017) Georgia Trend Magazine selected Montgomery Rice as one of the 100 Most Influential Georgians. Other honors include the following: Trumpet Vanguard Award (2015), The Dorothy Heights Crystal Stair Award (2014), National Coalition of 100 Black Women – Women of Impact (2014), YWCA – Women of Achievement (Atlanta-2014 and Nashville-2007), American Medical Women's Association Elizabeth Blackwell Medal (2011) and Working Mother Media Multicultural Women's Legacy Award (2011).
A clinical psychologist and Haiti native, Dr. Gilberte (“Gigi”) Bastien currently serves as the Associate Director for the Office of Global Health Equity at Morehouse School of Medicine and is Assistant Professor within MSM’s Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Bastien's research and clinical interests focus on the intersection of culture and mental health with the aim of improving accessibility, acceptability, and efficacy of mental health services for underserved populations. Dr. Bastien's complementary interests in disaster mental health and global mental health capacity building were largely influenced by her involvement in the mental health response to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

During her stint as a Satcher Health Leadership Institute (SHLI) health policy fellow at Morehouse School of Medicine, Dr. Bastien gained invaluable training in health leadership and the use of effective strategies for advancing policy solutions to mental health and broader health disparities both domestically and globally. This training was brought to bear in completing an NIH Fogarty Global Health Fellowship project in collaboration with the Carter Center’s Mental Health Program in Liberia. Specifically, this project focused on understanding mental health and resilience in Ebola affected communities in Liberia. Dr. Bastien’s experiences during the Fogarty fellowship further strengthened her interest in leveraging large-scale emergencies as a pathway to addressing pre-existing mental health disparities in LMICs and other resource constrained settings.

Dr. Gibbons oversees the third largest institute at the NIH, with an annual budget of approximately $3 billion and a staff of nearly 2,100 federal employees, contractors, and volunteers. NHLBI provides global leadership for research, training, and education programs to promote the prevention and treatment of heart, lung, and blood diseases and enhance the health of all individuals so that they can live longer and more fulfilling lives. His research focuses on investigating the relationships between clinical phenotypes, behavior, molecular interactions, and social determinants on gene expression and their contribution to cardiovascular disease. Dr. Gibbons has received several patents for innovations derived from his research in the fields of vascular biology and the pathogenesis of vascular diseases.

Dr. Gibbons was a member of the faculty at Stanford University in Stanford, CA, from 1990-1996, and at Harvard Medical School from 1996-1999. He joined the Morehouse School of Medicine in 1999, where he served as the founding director of the Cardiovascular Research Institute, chairperson of the Department of Physiology, and professor of physiology and medicine at the Morehouse School of Medicine, in Atlanta. Throughout his career, Dr. Gibbons has received numerous honors, including election to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of Sciences; selection as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Minority Faculty Development Awardee; selection as a Pew Foundation Biomedical Scholar; and recognition as an Established Investigator of the American Heart Association (AHA).

Dr. Gibbons earned his undergraduate degree from Princeton University in Princeton, N.J., and graduated magna cum laude from Harvard Medical School in Boston.
Dr. Fauci is a physician-scientist who directs the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. He oversees an extensive research program on infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, influenza, tuberculosis, Ebola and Zika, as well as diseases of the immune system. Dr. Fauci also serves as one of the key advisors to the White House and Department of Health and Human Services on global infectious disease issues. He was one of the principal architects of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), a program that has saved millions of lives throughout the developing world. Dr. Fauci also is the long-time chief of the NIAID Laboratory of Immunoregulation where he has made numerous important discoveries related to HIV/AIDS and is one of the most-cited scientists in the field. He is a member of the US National Academy of Sciences and the US National Academy of Medicine and has received numerous prestigious awards for his scientific and global health accomplishments, including the National Medal of Science, the Robert Koch Medal, the Mary Woodard Lasker Award for Public Service, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He has been awarded 45 honorary doctoral degrees and is the author, coauthor, or editor of more than 1,300 scientific publications, including several major textbooks.

Dr. Glass is the Director of the Fogarty International Center and the Associate Director for Global Health at the NIH. He graduated from Harvard’s College, Medical School and School of Public Health and received a doctorate in microbiology from the Univ. of Gothenberg, Sweden. Dr. Glass’ research interests are in the prevention of gastroenteritis from rotavirus through the use of vaccines. He established the Viral Gastroenteritis Unit at CDC and trained a generation of epidemiologists and laboratory researchers to address the global problem of gastroenteritis. Dr. Glass has received numerous awards including the Charles C. Shepard Lifetime Scientific Achievement Award presented by the CDC, the Dr. Charles Merieux Award from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases for his work on rotavirus vaccines in the developing world, the Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal Award, Georgetown University’s Cura Personalis Award, Research! America’s Geoffrey Beene Builders of Science Award, Rice University’s Rice 360° Institute for Global Health Award, the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award from the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, and the Harvard T H Chan School of Public Health 2018 Alumni Award of Merit. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine of the U.S. National Academy of Medicine. Dr. Glass has co-authored more than 600 research papers and chapters.
A national and internationally recognized clinician scientist with particular focus on cardiovascular disparities and women’s health, Dr. Ofili has been continuously funded by the NIH and industry/foundations since 1994, with a track record in clinical trials that impact health disparities. In 2002, as president of the Association of Black Cardiologists, she led the initiative to implement the landmark African American Heart Failure Trial (AHEFT), whose findings led to a change in practice guidelines for the treatment of heart failure in African Americans.

Over the past seventeen years, she has led the growth of the clinical research infrastructure and training programs at Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) with awards totaling over $150 million, including serving as the founding director of the U54 Center of Clinical Research Excellence, the Community Physicians Network, the U54 RCMI Center of Excellence for Clinical and Translational Research and the R25 Clinical Research Education and Career Development Program. Dr. Ofili has mentored over 30 MD and PhD clinical and translational science investigators, many of who remain at MSM. She is currently the senior co-PI of the Georgia Clinical and Translational Science Institute, a statewide collaborative CTSA at Emory University, Morehouse School of Medicine, the University of Georgia and Georgia Institute of Technology, along with their partnering health systems and statewide research organizations. She has also delivered over 600 scientific presentations and published over 130 scientific papers in national and international journals.
Dr. Taylor is a nationally-recognized cardiologist leader with broad experience and success in key areas including invasive practice/research. Over the last decade he has focused predominantly on preventive cardiology and leadership of the landmark Jackson Heart Study (JHS) and ancillary observational research projects. He was appointed in 1999 as the Principal Investigator and Director of the Jackson Heart Study, the largest epidemiological study of African Americans and cardiovascular disease of its kind ever undertaken.

Dr. Taylor is a Fellow in the American College of Cardiology and in the American Heart Association. He is the recipient of numerous awards and recognition, including American Heart Association Physician of the Year, the Herbert W. Nickens Award for Excellence in Epidemiological Research, the Best Doctors in America (2000-2013 consecutively); the University of Mississippi Medical Center’s highest Research Award (Platinum Level Award for Excellence in Research), the Wooster Public Health Hero Award, (UAB School of Public Health); the Thurgood Marshall Foundation “Award of Excellence”; and Princeton University Distinguished Alumnus Award, Association of Black Princeton Alumni. He is a Councillor of the Harvard Medical School Alumni Association and President–Elect of the Greater Southeastern Affiliate of the American Heart Association.

Dr. Taylor earned his bachelor’s degree from Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, an M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School, and a Master of Public Health degree from Harvard School of Public Health.

Monica Kaufman Pearson was the first woman and first minority to anchor the daily evening news in Atlanta at WSB TV, Channel 2, Action News in 1975. Over the years, she earned 33 regional and local Emmys for her reporting and anchoring. She retired after 37 years in 2012 and earned her Masters Degree, magna cum laude from the University of Georgia in 2014, at the age of 66. She now hosts a weekly three-hour radio show on Sundays on KISS104.1 FM that is a mixture of R&B music and conversation, highlighting community organizations and issues. She is married to John Pearson Sr and has an adult daughter and stepson. She is a native of Smoketown in Louisville, Kentucky.
Dr. Gbodossou is Founder and president of PROMETRA International, an African international NGO dedicated to the preservation of African traditional medicine, culture and indigenous science through research, education, development, advocacy and service with the goal of improving the health and wellbeing of Africa and the diaspora. Trained as a western physician (psychiatry and OB/GYN) he also is an initiated traditional healer in the indigenous science systems of Benin. He walks, works and is respected in both worlds of modern and traditional medicine. As the PROMETRA International representative, he serves as an expert consultant to UNESCO, WIPO, WHO/AFRO and ECOWAS. Through the work of building bridges between modern and traditional medicine he has worked to conduct research into traditional medicine and traditional knowledge systems that meets international standards and simultaneously respects the indigenous systems from which this knowledge emanates.

He designed the education pedagogical system entitled FAPEG to culturally and respectfully provide scientific based knowledge to large groups of African traditional healers and frontline workers. Since its inception over a decade ago, PROMETRA International has utilized this training system to train over 18,000 healers throughout Africa. PROMETRA International maintains a formal MOU with Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) and the Andrew J Young Foundation. Dr. Gbodossou is an adjunct faculty member at MSM. He is the author of multiple books and inventor of multiple patents. He is fluent in both French and English, in addition to five African languages.

Andrew J. Young has earned worldwide recognition as a pioneer in and champion of civil and human rights. Ambassador Young’s lifelong dedication to service is illustrated by his extensive leadership experience of over sixty-five years, serving as a member of Congress, African American U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Mayor of Atlanta, and ordained minister, among other positions. During the 1960s, Young was a key strategist and negotiator during civil rights campaigns that led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Appointed as an Ambassador to the United Nations in 1977, Young negotiated an end to white-minority rule in Namibia and Zimbabwe and brought President Carter’s emphasis on human rights to international diplomacy efforts. As two-term Mayor of Atlanta, Young brought in over 1,100 businesses, over 70 billion dollars in foreign direct investments and generated over a million jobs.

Ambassador Young has received honorary degrees from more than 100 universities and colleges in the U.S. and abroad and has received various awards, including an Emmy Lifetime Achievement award in 2011 and the Dan Sweat Award in 2017. His portrait also became part of the permanent collection of the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. Ambassador Young also serves on a number of boards, including, but not limited to, the Martin Luther King Center for Non-Violent Social Change, Morehouse College, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State and Americas Mart. In 2003, he and his wife Carolyn McClain Young founded the Andrew J. Young Foundation to support and promote education, health, leadership and human rights in the U.S., Africa, and the Caribbean. Young currently serves as the Chairman of the Andrew J. Young Foundation. In 2012, Young retired from GoodWorks International, LLC, after well over a decade of facilitating sustainable economic development in the business sectors of the Caribbean and Africa.

Ambassador Andrew J Young
American Politician, Diplomat, Human Rights Activist and President, Andrew J Young Foundation

Erick V. A. Gbodossou, M.D.
Founder and current president of PROMETRA International

Dr. Gbodossou is Founder and president of PROMETRA International, an African international NGO dedicated to the preservation of African traditional medicine, culture and indigenous science through research, education, development, advocacy and service with the goal of improving the health and wellbeing of Africa and the diaspora. Trained as a western physician (psychiatry and OB/GYN) he also is an initiated traditional healer in the indigenous science systems of Benin. He walks, works and is respected in both worlds of modern and traditional medicine. As the PROMETRA International representative, he serves as an expert consultant to UNESCO, WIPO, WHO/AFRO and ECOWAS. Through the work of building bridges between modern and traditional medicine he has worked to conduct research into traditional medicine and traditional knowledge systems that meets international standards and simultaneously respects the indigenous systems from which this knowledge emanates.

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Dr. Powell has been an HIV/AIDS researcher for over 25 years. His most recent research interests have been centered around the role of exosomes in HIV pathogenesis, particularly neuropathogenesis. He has published over 50 articles in peer-reviewed journals and his research has been continuously funded by NIH for over 15 years. He teaches in both the medical and graduate programs and has trained many postdocs, graduate students, medical students and undergraduate students. He has worked with the African NGO (PROMETRA NGO) to develop traditional treatments for HIV/AIDS and other viral diseases for over 15 years. He received his MS and PhD degrees from The University of Texas at Dallas in 1994 and postdoctoral training in HIV/AIDS from the NIH (NICHD) in Bethesda, MD.

Mahfuz Khan has worked at Morehouse School of Medicine since 1999 in the research lab of Dr. Michael Powell. Mahfuz completed her MS in Molecular Biology from Georgia State University and MSc in Zoology from Rajasthan University. Her main research focus at MSM has been HIV/AIDS, particularly the role of exosomes in the pathogenesis of AIDS. Currently, her main research project is investigating the role of Nef containing exosomes in the pathogenesis of HIV Associated Neurological Disorders (HAND) including a recent project funded by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS). Ms. Khan also has done most of the work on characterizing a traditional plant-based therapy used by our NGO partner, PROMETRA International. Her work has provided evidence that this traditional therapy has a basis in scientific fact. This work shows that this traditional therapy can potently inhibit HIV-1 in a cell-based infectivity assay by blocking entry into susceptible cells. This work has been funded, in part, by the Ford Foundation, the MSM innovation fund and recently through a phase I grant from the Georgia Research Alliance (GRA).
Dr. Immergluck is a pediatrician, a pediatric infectious disease specialist, and population health services researcher. She has remained in academic medicine, primarily because it provides her the opportunity to provide healthcare, while teaching both general pediatrics and infectious diseases to the next generation of physicians and biomedical scientists. She is committed to providing healthcare for all children and adolescents, particularly those from resource challenged areas and to contribute meaningfully in domestic and global health equity. As a health services researcher, she works towards closing the gap in pediatric health disparities, particularly as it relates to infections and vaccine preventable conditions. Over the last decade, she has tried to address how children’s socio ecological conditions impact their health and wellness. In 2015, she was awarded a five-year grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to apply spatial statistical modeling to examine the impact of socio environmental factors which affect child health.

Dr. Immergluck completed pediatric residency and infectious diseases fellowship at the University of Chicago; she received her MSCR degree from Morehouse School of Medicine. She serves on the Executive Board for the Section on Infectious Diseases for the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and is a member of AAP’s School Health section. She is also an adjunct Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Emory University.

Wilson Mbewe is a General Surgeon and serves as the Medical Superintendent for the Kanyama subdistrict of Lusaka, Zambia. His jurisdiction oversees a level one hospital and six primary health care centres. Kanyama Level One Hospital is one of the highest-volume sites in Lusaka, with an average of 2,000 daily attendees, 12,630 clients for the ART department, and upwards of 50 deliveries daily from a catchment population of nearly 263,000. Kanyama Level One Hospital was the epicentre in the recent cholera outbreak in early 2018 and Mbewe oversaw treatment of the nearly 4,000 affected.

He also directs the voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) program, one of the hospital’s interventions aimed at the reduction of HIV transmission. During a two-month campaign, he oversaw the circumcision of more than 15,000 clients. As a Senior Clinical Care Specialist, Mbewe has served on special assignment at the Lusaka District Health office, providing oversight of all health services in Lusaka. Mbewe desires to increase his capacity to lead and advance his skillset by pursuing studies in research methods and in health administration.
Dr. Nicolas is a multicultural (Haitian American) and multilingual psychologist (Spanish, French, and Haitian Creole), whose research is reflective of her background and interests. Her current research focuses on the integration of race and culture and well-being for ethnically diverse and immigrant communities. Her current projects include: promoting academic excellence among ethnically diverse youth, identifying development of Black youths, and empowering ethnically diverse parents to be effective parents. Additionally, she conducts research on social support networks of Caribbean populations with a specific focus on Haitians. She has published several articles and book chapters and delivered numerous invited presentations at the national and international levels in the areas of women’s issues, depression and intervention among Haitians, social support networks of ethnic minorities, and spirituality. Her recent books include: Contemporary Parenting: A Global Perspective; Building Mental Health Capacity in Haiti through Collaborative Partnerships; and Conséquences Psychologiques de la Pauvreté Extrême En Haïti (The Psychological Consequences of Extreme Poverty in Haiti).

Dr. Nicolas is also Secretary General of the Caribbean Alliance of National Psychological Association; and Co-Founder of Ayiti Community Trust. She obtained her doctoral degree in clinical psychology from Boston University. She completed her predoctoral training at Columbia University Medical Center and her postdoctoral training at the New York State Psychiatric Institute/Columbia University, Department of Child Psychiatry.

Rob Demont is the Director of Bioscience-Healthcare Ecosystem Expansion at the Metro Atlanta Chamber and is working in partnership with the Georgia Global Health Alliance on the Global Health ATL initiative. Robert came to the Chamber after completing work towards his second master’s degree in chemistry and biochemistry at Georgia Tech, with a focus on biochemistry and immunology. During his time performing graduate research in the area of new vaccine development, Rob completed the two year Ti:GER technology commercialization program that resulted in the founding of NanoCliq, a vaccine development startup company. Rob currently serves as Chief Science Officer for NanoCliq, guiding the company through the FDA pre-clinical process and focusing on the development and commercialization of a vaccine for a neglected tropical disease. Rob has taken the company through the National Science Foundation’s Innovation Corps program, concentrated around customer discovery and lean startup principles. Having been engaged with the Metro Atlanta bioscience and global health ecosystems for over half a decade, Rob has a passion for promoting and advocating for the region in these verticals. Rob holds a master’s degree in chemistry from Florida State University and a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.
Dr. Kondwani has served as the meditation treatment provider in six randomized clinical control trials supported by the National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense, and the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Medicine. He developed Consciously Resting Meditation (CRM) and has taught CRM to thousands of individuals in hospitals, prisons, clinics, schools, corporations and low-income communities. Dr. Kondwani’s collaborative research has found improvements in mental clarity, anxiety and sleep function through meditation. In addition, he has investigated meditation’s effect on stress, blood pressure, diabetes, metabolic syndrome and other cardiovascular diseases such as left ventricular hypertrophy and arteriosclerotic plaque. These randomized clinical trials have consistently shown immediate and long-term benefits from meditation.

As the Principal Investigator of an NIH, Fogarty Global Health Fellows and Scholars Program, Dr. Kondwani collaborates with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Johns Hopkins University and Tulane University (UJMT). This UJMT collaborative, with mentoring and research training locations in seventeen countries in Africa, Asia, and South America, supports the development of competitively selected US medical students and post doctorates as well as in-country pre and post-doctorate candidates. Over the past fifteen years, Dr. Kondwani has interacted with PROMETRA International, headquartered in Dakar, Senegal, to preserve African traditional medicine, culture and indigenous sciences. With Dr. Kondwani’s involvement, MSM has maintained a Memorandum of Understanding and other agreements that allow for collaborative investigations. Currently, the Andrew Young Foundation, MSM and PROMETRA are investigating the use of herbal compounds to treat diseases that can improve health equity for vulnerable populations.

Dr. Kofi A. Kondwani received his Bachelor’s, Master’s and Ph.D. in Psychophysiology (Mind/Body Medicine) from Maharishi International University, in Fairfield, Iowa.

Ben Chi, MD, MSc holds appointments in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Department of Epidemiology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He lived in Lusaka, Zambia from 2003 to 2015, where he developed an extensive research portfolio focused on the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT), HIV care and treatment, and maternal-child health. He has served as PI for numerous grants funded by the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation. Although he moved back to Chapel Hill in June 2015, he retains strong collaborative ties with the University of Zambia, the Zambian Ministry of Health, and other local partners. Alongside his research, Dr. Chi leads several training programs designed to foster U.S. collaborations abroad, including the UNC Global Women’s Health Fellowship and the UJMT Fogarty Global Health Fellowship Consortium.
Dr Garcia graduated as a medical doctor at the University of Salamanca (Spain) and worked as rural general practitioner till 1987. In 1988 he moved to Trinity College (University of Dublin, Ireland) to obtain his Master and PhD Degrees in Public Health. In 1992 he returned to Spain and until 1999 occupied different managerial and teaching posts for the Ministry of Health and the National Institute of Health, with special focus in primary health care and human resources for health development, including participation in international projects related with health system reforms in East European Countries. In the year 2000, he was transferred to the Andalusian School of Public Health in Granada-Spain as a professor of health systems management, where he remained till 2013. From 2014 to 2016, he was Subregional Advisor on Human Resources for Health (HRH) for South-America of the Pan American Health Organization /World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), based in Lima-Peru. At present, he is Regional Advisor on HRH Development at PAHO/WHO HQ in Washington DC-USA. He specially enjoys working in multicultural projects and initiatives aimed to transform health systems and services to minimize health inequities and disparities at the global level.

Dr. Eve H. Byrd became director of the Carter Center’s Mental Health Program in February 2017. Prior to joining the staff of the Mental Health Program, she was a faculty member of the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing and served as the Executive Director, Fuqua Center for Late-Life Depression/ Emory School of Medicine.

Dr. Byrd is a long-term friend of The Carter Center Mental Health Program, having participated in each of the program’s initiatives over the last 14 years. Eve has held leadership positions both nationally and locally engaged in work aimed at eliminating the stigma of behavioral health disorders and improving persons with behavioral health disorders access to care. She has been a consultant to the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, the Georgia Division of Aging, the Atlanta Regional Commission, National Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Georgia Representative Pat Gardner. Until coming to the Carter Center, Eve also practiced as a nurse practitioner in geriatric psychiatry establishing on-site services in affordable housing for older adults and young disabled as well as practicing in a patient-centered medical home for persons with dementia. Eve began her career as a public health nurse in Georgia.

She her Doctorate in Nursing Practice with an emphasis in systems change and implementation science at Emory School of Nursing in 2017. She earned a Master of Public Health in health policy from Rollins School of Public Health/Emory University and a Master of Nursing with a concentration in psychiatric/ mental health nursing from the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing/Emory University. She earned a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Emory School of Nursing and a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Florida State University.
Dr. Ijaz is the Principal Deputy Director for the Division of Global Health Protection in the Center for Global Health. In the recent past, he has served as the Senior Regional Advisor for Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program for the Middle East and North Africa Region in the Division of Public Health Systems and Workforce Development. During his tenure at CDC, he has also served the Chief of the Outbreak Investigations team in the Division of Tuberculosis Elimination, and then as Chief of the Field Services and Evaluation Branch in the Division of Tuberculosis Elimination. As the lead for the outbreak investigations team, he trained numerous Epidemic Intelligence Service Officers and responded to numerous TB outbreak investigations both in the United States and internationally.

He is a physician trained in internal medicine and has a master’s degree in public health from University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. He is also the adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Epidemiology, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University. His research involves prevention and control of infectious diseases, molecular epidemiology and genotyping of Mycobacterium tuberculosis. Dr. Ijaz has more than 40 publications in peer-reviewed journals and a book chapter.

Dr. Monique Chireau Wubbenhorst, MD, MPH, FACOG, FAHA, is an obstetrician-gynecologist who has extensive experience in international health and policy. She graduated from Mount Holyoke College and received her MD from Brown University and her MPH from Harvard University in 1991. She completed her residency in OB/GYN at Yale-New Haven hospital in 1995 and did her postdoctoral fellowship in health services research at the University of North Carolina, before joining the faculty at Duke University School of Medicine. Dr. Chireau Wubbenhorst has been involved in patient care and health systems in a variety of domestic and international settings, including the inner city, rural North Carolina, and Native American reservations in the US, as well as in Kazakhstan, Ghana, South Sudan, the Philippines, Nepal, Cameroon, India and South Sudan. Dr. Chireau Wubbenhorst has been involved in national and international health policy. Her research interests include the epidemiology and molecular biology of adverse pregnancy outcomes and reproductive health, health services research, and ethics in reproductive health. Dr. Chireau Wubbenhorst is a Senior Public Policy Fellow at the Notre Dame Institute for Ethics and Culture. She is currently Senior Advisor in Global Health at the United States Agency for International Development.
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