JUNE 2021

THE BIOTECHNOLOGY INNOVATION ORGANIZATION’S

CLINICAL TRIAL DIVERSITY SUMMIT

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE & EQUITABLE CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT ECOSYSTEM
Dr. Asha S. Collins, PhD, US Clinical Operations Head, Genentech

Dr. Asha S. Collins is a biologist, strategist, and operational innovator focused on transforming and scaling biopharma businesses. A cancer biologist by training and a leader by nature, her experiences span science policy, angel investing, management consulting, operational leadership roles at a Fortune 5 company, and ground-up operations to scale global health research efforts in East Africa. Currently, she is the head of US Clinical Operations at Genentech, where she is accountable for all, in-sourced, late stage clinical trials conducted in the United States across the entire portfolio, (i.e. Oncology, Infectious Diseases, Immunology, Neuroscience, etc.). She also is the global lead for Roche’s Investigator Technology Platforms group.

She is a mentor for Backstage Capital, an active member of Healthcare Businesswomen’s Association, and as Dealflow co-lead at Pipeline Angels, she liaises with later-stage investors and Pipeline Angels portfolio companies. Asha is also an independent Corporate Director for IDEXX Laboratories where she serves on the Finance, Nominating, and Governance Committees. She also serves on the Scientific Advisory Board for the Translational Research Institute for Space Health (TRISH), an organization that helps support human health research for NASA’s space exploration efforts.

Prior to her current role at Genentech, she was Vice President and General Manager for the US Clinical Trial Sourcing business at McKesson Corporation. In the past, she has leveraged her virology background to work in bioterrorism at the National Academies. She has also served as a management consultant focused on life sciences strategy and operations at Deloitte and Quintiles Consulting.

She earned a Ph.D. in cancer biology from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and a B.Sc. in Biology from the University of Pittsburgh.
Dr. Barbara Bierer, MD, Director, Multi-Regional Clinical Trials Center

Barbara Bierer, MD is a Professor of Medicine (Pediatrics) at Harvard Medical School and a hematologist/oncologist at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH). She co-founded and now leads, as faculty co-director, the Multi-Regional Clinical Trials (MRCT) Center at Harvard, a university-wide and collaborative effort to improve standards for the planning and conduct of clinical trials in the developing world. Dr. Bierer initiated and currently directs the Brigham Research Institute and the Innovation Hub (iHub), a focus for entrepreneurship and innovation. She is the Program Director of the Regulatory Foundations, Law and Ethics Program of the Harvard Catalyst, the Harvard Clinical and Translational Science Award. She serves as the Director of Regulatory Policy at SMART IRB, an NIH-funded platform designed to harmonize and streamline the IRB review process for multisite studies, while ensuring a high level of protection for research participants. Recently, Dr. Bierer co-founded the COVID-19 Collaboration Platform, intended to advance cross-organizational cooperation in research.

She is currently a member of the National Academies of Sciences Committee on Science, Technology and the Law. She serves on the Board of Directors of Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research (PRIM&R), dedicated to promoting the ethical conduct of biomedical and behavioral research; Management Sciences for Health (MSH), an international organization working in partnership globally to strengthen health care, local capability, and access; and the Edward P Evans Foundation, a foundation supporting biomedical research. She has authored or co-authored over 200 publications and is on the editorial boards of a number of journals including Current Protocols of Immunology.

From 2003–2014, Dr. Bierer served as Senior Vice President of Research at the BWH and was the institutional official for human subjects and animal research, for biosafety and for research integrity at the BWH. She established and directed the Center for Faculty Development and Diversity at the BWH; for these efforts, she was the first recipient of the HMS Harold Amos Faculty Diversity Award in 2008. From 2008–2012, Dr. Bierer served as the Chair of the Secretary’s Advisory Committee for Human Research Protections, Department of Health and Human Services. Additionally, she was Co-Chair of the Partners HealthCare Committee on
Conflict of Interest and has served on the Board of Directors for both the Association for Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP) and the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB).

Dr. Bierer received a B.S. from Yale University and her M.D. from Harvard Medical School.

Carolyn Magill, MBA, CEO and Board Director, Aetion

Carolyn Magill is the CEO of Aetion, the digital health company delivering the platform that turns real-world data into the regulatory-grade evidence needed to inform health care’s most critical decisions: which treatments work best, for whom, when, and how much we should pay for them. She serves as a board member of the Center for Health Policy Development, and of Parity.org, an organization that seeks to achieve gender and racial equity at the highest levels of business. Magill also serves on the Entrepreneurial Council of United States of Care, a bipartisan nonprofit focused on improving access to quality health care.

Before Aetion, she held leadership roles at three companies central to the shift from volume to value in health care. As CEO of Remedy Partners, she led the premier company for bundled payments software and services. As Executive Vice President of Payer Strategy and Operations at Evolent Health, she led the team responsible for establishing value-based contracts on behalf of health systems and provider-led health plans. During her four-year tenure, Evolent progressed from start-up through IPO to become a major force in health systems embracing population health. For the preceding eight years, Magill served in leadership positions in the Medicare and Medicaid businesses of UnitedHealth Group. Her roles included Chief Operating Officer of its Community and State plan in New Jersey, and the national Vice President of Medicare Special Needs Plans, supporting people with multiple chronic illnesses and limited incomes.

Magill has an undergraduate degree from Harvard University and an MBA in health care management from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.
Dr. Cartier Esham, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer, Biotechnology Innovation Organization

Cartier Esham serves as Chief Scientific Officer and EVP of Emerging Companies at the Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO). In this role, Dr. Esham manages and directs BIO’s policy development, advocacy, research and educational initiatives for BIO’s emerging companies, which comprise approximately 90% of BIO’s membership. This includes capital formation policy and health policy impacting emerging companies, as well as research and analysis of the biopharmaceutical industry and life-sciences investment and financing. Among the priorities of BIO’s Emerging Companies Section are: promoting a science-based FDA regulatory environment; supporting NIH funding and programs/initiatives such as SBIR and NCATS that promote the effective transfer of technology; and working to create a public and private market environment that incentivizes the research and development of innovative treatments and therapies.

Prior to joining BIO, Dr. Esham was a Vice President and Director of Research at Dutko Worldwide, a private consulting firm in Washington D.C., where she worked on a variety of environmental, education, science, technology, and health care-related issues on the federal, state, and local levels. Dr. Esham has a Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Georgia, a master’s degree in Marine Biology from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Kentucky. She has published papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals on water quality, marine microbial ecology, and bacterial phylogeny.

Dr. Cynthia Verst, PhD, President, R&DS Design & Delivery Innovation, IQVIA

Dr. Cynthia Verst is President of Design and Delivery Innovation for the Research & Development Solutions organization at IQVIA. Previously, Dr. Verst served as president, Clinical Operations for the Research and Development Solutions organization. With more than 20 years of biopharmaceutical industry experience, she has a proven track record of operational excellence and innovation and currently sits on the Boards of Q2 Solutions, ACRO, and DIA.
Before being appointed President of Clinical Operations in 2015, Dr. Verst served as President of Real-World & Late Phase Research at Quintiles. In 2014, she was named one of the top women in biotech by FierceBiotech, an annual award that spotlights 15 female leaders in life sciences, academia, and regulatory roles. Prior to joining Quintiles, she served as Senior Vice President, Global Late Phase Research for OptumInsight (a division of UnitedHealth Group), where she and her team successfully established a new global Late Phase Research Business Unit. Dr. Verst began her career in biopharma at Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals as section head in its North American Medical and Technical Affairs group, successfully leading the Phase IIIB/IV research requirements of marketed products.

Dr. Verst holds a doctorate and bachelor’s degree in Pharmacy from the University of Cincinnati, a master’s degree in Structural and Cellular Biology from the University of Illinois, and bachelors’ degrees in Biology and Chemistry from Northern Kentucky University.

Dr. Darryl Sleep, MD (MBBCh, FCS(SA)) Chief Medical Officer, Amgen

Dr. Darryl Sleep, MD, is Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President, Global Medical. He has more than 30 years’ experience across multiple therapeutic areas. Before joining Amgen in 2018, he was SVP, Head of U.S. Medical Office and U.S. Medical Affairs at Takeda Pharmaceuticals. During his eight years at Takeda, Sleep held several senior leadership positions in R&D from translational early clinical development to global clinical science and therapeutic area leadership, driving strategic development of Takeda’s pipeline and supporting transformation within the R&D organization. Prior to Takeda, he held several clinical and medical leadership positions in Global Pharmaceutical R&D at Abbott Pharmaceuticals from 2000 to 2010.

Dr. Sleep received his bachelor of medicine and bachelor of surgery (MBBCh) degree from the University of the Witwatersrand Medicine School, South Africa, in 1983. Sleep specialized in urology, completing his urology training at the University of Witwatersrand, receiving the Fellowship of the College of Surgeons (FCS) from The Colleges of Medicine, South Africa. He served as Head of Urology at the
Johannesburg Academic Hospital before being appointed as Professor of Urology at the University of Pretoria and Academic Head of the Department of Urology at Kalafong Academic Hospital, in Pretoria, South Africa.

David Coman, MBA, CEO Science 37

David Coman is the Chief Executive Officer of Science 37, which makes it easier for people to participate in clinical research by connecting patients with doctors and nurses through telemedicine visits and home health screenings, while managing trial logistics from an integrated, comprehensive platform.

Coman came to Science 37 from ERT, where he led its data and analytics business after serving as the company’s Chief Strategy Officer. In this role, he spearheaded the acquisition of four companies in a 12-month period, generating more than $1 billion in enterprise value, while repositioning ERT as the market leader in clinical trial data generation. Coman joined ERT from Quintiles (now IQVIA) where, as Chief Marketing Officer and founder of its Digital Patient business, he helped lead the company’s growth from $2.7 billion in 2007 to $4.3 billion in 2015. Prior to Quintiles, he served as Chief Marketing Officer at Dendrite International, which is also now owned by IQVIA. He has also held leadership roles in telecommunications at companies such as AOL Local & Long Distance (Talk America), Excel Communications, and Aerial Communications.

Coman earned his bachelor’s degree in Advertising from Michigan State University and his MBA in marketing, entrepreneurship, and finance from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University.

Debra Fraser-Howze, Principle, D. Fraser Associates, Founder, Choose Healthy Life

Debra Fraser-Howze has been widely recognized for more than three decades of global leadership to communities of color regarding teenage pregnancy, social welfare, and HIV and AIDS. She advised two U.S. Presidents while serving on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS from 1995–2001.
Fraser-Howze was the Vice Chair of the HIV Human Services Planning Council in New York City and chaired the National Institute of Heath’s Public Education Technology Committee. In 2003, she was appointed to the New York City Commission on AIDS and in 2007 to the New York State Governors Health Advisory Council. In 2009, she was the recipient of the National Medical Association’s (NMA) highest honor, Scroll of Merit, and in 2010 she was inducted into the Hunter College Hall of Fame for distinguished achievement.

**Donna R. Cryer, JD, President & CEO of the Global Liver Institute**

Donna R. Cryer, JD is Founder, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Global Liver Institute, the only patient-driven liver health nonprofit operating in the US and Europe. She has channeled her personal experience as a patient with inflammatory bowel disease and a 25-year liver transplant recipient into professional advocacy across a career in law, policy, consulting, public relations, clinical trial recruitment, and nonprofit management. Cryer has been named one of the Top Blacks in Healthcare by the Milken Institute at GW School of Public Health and by BlackDoctors.org; one of the Top 10 Patients Who Make an Impact by Health 2.0; and one of PharmaVoice’s 100 Most Inspiring People.

In addition to her role at the Global Liver Institute, Cryer also founded and has led CryerHealth, a healthcare consulting firm, since 2005. She currently serves on the Boards of Directors of the Council of Medical Specialty Societies, the Innovation and Value Initiative (IVI), Sibley Memorial Hospital/Johns Hopkins Medicine, and the Executive Committee for the Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative.

Previously, she was appointed by the U.S. Government Accountability Office to serve as the patient and consumer representative on the Health Information Technology Policy Committee, the federal advisory body to the National Coordinator for HIT. Additionally, she has served on the Executive Committee of the People-Centered Research Foundation; on the Stakeholder Advisory Group to the NIH Learning Health System Research Collaboratory; on the ABIM Gastroenterology Specialty Board; and on a committee of the American Society of Clinical Oncology.
Guidelines. Cryer has also served as a patient representative to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Cryer received an undergraduate degree from Harvard/Radcliffe Colleges and a Juris Doctorate from the Georgetown University Law Center.

Dr. Elena V. Rios, MD, MSPH, FACP, President & CEO, National Hispanic Medical Association, & President, National Hispanic Health Foundation

Dr. Rios serves as President & CEO of the National Hispanic Medical Association, (NHMA), representing 50,000 Hispanic physicians in the United States. The mission of the organization is to improve the health of Hispanics. Dr. Rios also serves as President of NHMA’s National Hispanic Health Foundation to direct educational and research activities.

Prior to her current positions, Dr. Rios served as the Advisor for Regional and Minority Women’s Health for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women’s Health from November 1994 to October 1998. In 1998-2004, Dr. Rios served as Executive Director, Hispanic Serving Health Professions Schools. In 1993, Dr. Rios was appointed to the National Health Care Reform Task Force as Coordinator of Outreach Groups for the White House. From 1992-94, Dr. Rios worked for the State of California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development as a policy researcher.

Dr. Rios earned her BA in Human Biology/Public Administration at Stanford University in 1977, MSPH at the UCLA School of Public Health in 1980, MD at the UCLA School of Medicine in 1987, and completed her Internal Medicine residency at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose and the White Memorial Medical Center in East Los Angeles in 1990, and her NRSA Primary Care Research Fellowship at UCLA Division of General Internal Medicine in 1992.
Esther Krofah, MPP, Executive Director, Faster Cures, a Center of the Milken Institute

Esther Krofah is the Executive Director of FasterCures, a center of the Milken Institute. She has deep experience in the government, nonprofit, and for-profit sectors, where she has led efforts to bring together diverse stakeholder groups to solve critical issues and achieve shared goals that improve the lives of patients.

Most recently, Krofah was the Director of Public Policy leading GlaxoSmithKline’s engagement with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and relevant Executive Branch agencies on broad healthcare policy issues, including leadership in improving vaccinations and care for people living with HIV. Prior to GSK, Krofah served as the Deputy Director of HHS’ Office of Health Reform, where she led the development of policy positions for significant regulatory priorities, including the health insurance marketplaces. Prior to HHS, Krofah served as a program director at the National Governors Association (NGA) health-care division, working directly with governors’ health policy advisors, state Medicaid directors, and state health commissioners on health insurance, health workforce, and Medicaid coverage issues. Before joining the NGA, Krofah worked in consulting at Deloitte Consulting LLP, where she worked with public sector and commercial clients, including assisting states in developing state-based exchanges.

Krofah received a BA from Duke University and a Master of Public Policy from the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Dr. James Powell, MD, National Medical Association, Project IMPACT

Dr. James Powell leads Project IMPACT (Increase Minority Participation and Awareness of Clinical Trials), an initiative of the National Medical Association (NMA) aimed at increasing the awareness, knowledge, and participation of African American physicians and consumers/patients in all aspects of biomedical research and clinical trials. As Principal Investigator, he has designed and directed programs to develop diverse physicians as clinical investigators and educate thousands of consumers in diverse communities on the benefits, processes, and
protections in current clinical trials. He currently sits on the Board of Closing the Health Gap, a community health advocacy organization in Greater Cincinnati, and is co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer of knowRX, Inc., a company focused on innovations in the delivery of equity in therapeutics.

Dr. Powell spent 24 years as a clinical research executive in the pharmaceutical industry and also served on the Board of Trustees of the American Academy of Pharmaceutical Physicians and Investigators, receiving its Lifetime Honorary Membership Award. He is a past member of the Secretary’s Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections, Baylor College of Medicine’s EDICT Project (Elimination of Disparities in Clinical Trials) and a charter member of Alliance of Multicultural Physicians advocating for clinical trial inclusion.

Dr. Janelle Sabo, PharmD, VP of Clinical Capabilities: Clinical Design, Delivery & Analytics (CDDA), Eli Lilly

Dr. Janelle A. Sabo, a recognized leader in product delivery and drug development, currently heads up product delivery at Eli Lilly and Company, enabling product development while delivering the right drug to the right patient at the right time – every time. The recipient of multiple awards at Eli Lilly and in the industry, she has been named to the Global Product Development President’s Council; honored with the Lilly Research Laboratories President’s award; and selected as the University of Missouri Pharmaceutical Industry Alumni of the Year. She has also served on dean’s advisory boards, including Butler University and UMKC Dean’s Advisory Board. Dr. Sabo remains a guest lecturer at several universities and colleges of pharmacy on drug development, has spoken at conferences within the pharmaceutical industry, and most recently was the keynote graduation speaker for the UMKC School of Pharmacy.

Dr. Sabo has extensive drug development experience including development and implementation of next generation drugs, portfolio management and project management organizations. She also has CMC, clinical research and global research and development for multiple medicines, including CIALIS and ADCIRCA®. In her current role at Eli Lilly, her team is accountable for supporting the portfolio globally from bench to end of life cycle for development and research. Over the
last 5 years, this organization has doubled the portfolio supported, improved cycle
times by 15% YOY, created operational efficiency exceeding $45M while
dramatically improving customer satisfaction. In her current role, she oversees:

- CMC (chemistry, manufacturing, controls) Project Management,
- CMC Quality System,
- Drug Product Manufacturing (large and small molecules),
- CMC Supply Planning (raw materials, drug substance, drug product and
clinical trial material),
- Clinical Trial Material Production and Management,
- Commercial Comparators,
- Supply Chain Collaborations/Partnership Management, and
- CMC Portfolio Management and Analytics.

Dr. Sabo holds a Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Missouri, Global
Executive MBA from Georgetown University, and a Global Executive MBA from
ESADE- Barcelona, Spain.

John L. Newby II, JD, CEO, Virginia Biotechnology
Association

John Newby is the CEO at Virginia Bio, the statewide non-profit trade association
for the life science industry. Approximately 300 companies spanning
biopharmaceuticals, medical devices, med tech, diagnostics, digital health,
bioinformatics, agriculture, and industrial bio and related fields are based in
Virginia, mainly clustered around research universities and medical institutions.
Virginia Bio is the sole state affiliate and works closely with key national industry
organizations BIO, AdvaMed, MDMA, PhRMA and We Work for Health.

Newby was formerly the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Veterans
Services (VDVS), where he led an 850-member Agency located across 50 Virginia
locations, delivering employment, education, benefits, behavioral health, and long-
term health care services to Virginia’s Reservists, Guardsmen, transitioning service
members and 725,000 veterans. Prior to leading VDVS Newby practiced corporate,
intellectual property, and Hatch-Waxman biopharmaceutical law at international
law firms in Richmond and Washington DC, and at a multinational company.
Newby previously commanded an Air Force special operations unit supporting the U.S. Army’s 3rd and 7th Special Forces Groups (Airborne), and served in Iraq as an aviator aboard the Boeing B-1B Lancer strategic bomber.

Newby earned a Bachelor of Science from the United States Air Force Academy with Military Distinction, and his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law.

**Dr. Julie Gerberding, MD, MPH, Chief Patient Officer, Executive VP of Population Health, Global Policy, and Strategic Communications, Merck**

Dr. Julie Gerberding is Executive Vice President and Chief Patient Officer at Merck & Co. Inc., where she is responsible for global public policy, communications, patient engagement, and corporate social responsibility, among other functions. She serves on the board of Cerner Corporation, and of MSD Wellcome Trust Hilleman Laboratories, a non-profit that develops new technologies for developing countries. Dr. Gerberding also co-chairs the CSIS Commission on Strengthening America’s Health Security and serves as an Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Prior to joining Merck in 2010 as the President of Vaccines, she was the Director of the CDC, where she led the agency through SARS and over 40 emergency responses to public health crises.

Dr. Gerberding received her undergraduate and M.D. degrees from Case Western Reserve University and a Master of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley. She completed her internship and residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship in Clinical Pharmacology and Infectious Diseases at the University of California, San Francisco.

**Kim Cantor, MPA, Senior Director, Pyxis Partners, NIH All of Us Community and Provider Partner Network**

Kim Cantor brings her extensive experience in patient advocacy and community engagement to her work as Senior Director at Pyxis Partners, primarily leading the community and provider engagement efforts for the National Institutes
of Health, All of Us Research Program. This engagement work is focused on building relationships with trusted voices to raise awareness of the value of participation in research within communities that have been historically underrepresented in medical research.

Prior to joining Pyxis, Cantor served as Vice President, Advocacy and Government Relations for the Lupus Foundation of America. During her tenure, she successfully secured funding increases for key federal lupus programs through congressional appropriations and created the Congressional Lupus Caucus. Working in cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Cantor led the efforts to create and disseminate the first-ever National Public Health Agenda for Lupus. She also co-led a Food and Drug Administration Regulatory Initiative aimed at improving lupus clinical trials and ensuring the patient voice was an integral part of the process.

Cantor holds a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Bates College and a Master’s in Public Administration from the New York University.

Dr. Lisa Dunkle, MD, VP of Clinical Development, Global Medical Lead for COVID-19 Vaccine, Novavax

Dr. Lisa Dunkle is currently the Vice President and Global Medical Lead for the COVID-19 Vaccine at Novavax. Following an impressive four-decade career spanning academia and the pharmaceutical industry, she came out of retirement to join the fight against COVID-19.

Most recently, Dr. Dunkle was Chief Medical Officer at Protein Sciences, a Sanofi company, where she was instrumental in bringing modern recombinant DNA technology to the arena of influenza vaccines and supported its use in the rapid development of threatening emerging viral diseases (e.g., SARS, MERS). Prior to her role at Protein Sciences, she co-founded and served as Senior Vice President of Drug Development for Achillion Pharmaceuticals, the Executive Director of Global Clinical Research at Schering-Plough, the Executive Director of ID Clinical Research; and early-on in her career as the first Director of Antiviral Clinical Research at Bristol-Myers Squibb following her departure from academia. During her tenure
with these companies, Dr. Dunkle headed teams that were influential in developing several cutting-edge antiviral and antiretroviral agents for HIV/AIDS and hepatitis B.

Prior to her lengthy career in the pharmaceutical industry, she spent 15 years in academic medicine as an Infectious Disease specialist, during which time she rose to Professor of Pediatrics at St. Louis University and Chief of Pediatric Infectious Diseases. She has been honored as a Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, by Who’s Who in America, and as a Distinguished Alumna of Johns Hopkins University (2011).

Dr. Dunkle holds a B.A. in biological sciences from Wellesley College and an M.D. from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

**Dr. Loretta Christensen, MD, MBA, MSJ, FACS, Chief Medical Officer, Navajo Area Indian Health Service**

Dr. Loretta Christensen is the Chief Medical Officer for the Navajo Area Indian Health Service and is an enrolled member of the Navajo Tribe, where she belongs to the To’tsohnii, Naakai, and Bilaga’ana clans. A specialist in trauma, critical care, and integrative medicine; she is a Board-Certified General Surgeon and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons with specialty training in lifestyle medicine, palliative care, and mind-body medicine. She has served as the co-lead for the COVID-19 Response Branch and the lead for the Medical Branch of the Unified Command for Navajo.

Dr. Christensen served for 17 years as the Clinical Trauma Director and Associate Director of the Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Jersey Shore University Hospital. She was also the Director of Integrative Medicine and Non-Invasive Pain Management Services. Dr. Christensen had a private practice in Integrative Medicine providing Medical Acupuncture, Functional Medicine, Nutrition and Chinese Medicine.

Dr. Christensen received her undergraduate degree in Biological Anthropology from Harvard University and her medical degree from Hahnemann University Medical School (Drexel). She completed her General Surgery residency at Monmouth Medical Center in New Jersey and a fellowship in Trauma and Critical Care at Cooper University Hospital/UMDNJ. Dr. Christensen has an MBA from
Georgian Court University and a Masters in Jurisprudence with a specialty in Healthcare Law from Seton Hall Law School.

**Matt Walz, MBA, CEO, Trialbee**

Matt Walz is the CEO at Trialbee, the leading global data and technology platform for patient matching and enrollment in clinical trials. An expert in data science and regulated life sciences technology, Walz has more than 20 years of experience building innovative software platforms and providing strategic leadership in the life sciences field, including a decade of strategic development and plan execution at life science technology companies.

Walz started his career as a software developer and held various technical and leadership roles at companies such as Datalabs, Microsoft, Rollins Corporation, PSCI, and Morgan Lewis. He went on to co-found and serve as Board Director, Chief Strategy Officer, and Chief Technology Officer for NextDocs Corporation in 2006, which became a leader in regulated content management for clinical, regulatory, and quality processes. After its acquisition by Aurea Software in 2015, a move that Walz was instrumental in achieving, he served as the General Manager for Life Sciences and Vice President of Strategic Accounts for Aurea Software.

Mr. Walz received a BS Degree in Computer Science and an MBA, both from University of Delaware.

**Maulik Mehta, MBA, Chief Business Officer, TriNetX**

Maulik Mehta is the Chief Business Officer at TriNetX, the global health research network that optimizes clinical research and enables discoveries through the creation of real-world evidence. In 2016, Mehta first joined the leadership team at TriNetX as the Senior Vice President and Head of Corporate Development. He has held numerous corporate and market development roles within the healthcare industry, lending him over 20 years of experience leading business partnerships, mergers & acquisitions, and strategic investments.

Mehta started out as a research chemist at the specialty chemicals technology company, Atotech, before switching over to the business operations side where he
became a Market Development Specialist working on packaging, pricing, and the promotion of global production. He oversaw capital solutions at NovaQuest Investments, before joining Quintiles (now IQVIA). For more than a decade he worked at IQVIA, leading efforts in global business development and ultimately served as the Vice President of Enterprise Strategic Partnering.

Mehta earned his MBA from Wake Forest University and BS in chemistry, with distinction, from North Carolina State University.

Maya Bermingham, JD, Senior VP, Public Policy and Government Affairs, Regeneron

Maya Bermingham, JD, joined Regeneron in 2015 and currently serves as the Senior Vice President of Public Policy and Government Affairs. Bermingham and her Washington, DC–based team play a critical role in helping Regeneron shape and maintain its industry-leading reputation among governmental stakeholders. In 2020, she also stepped forward to serve as the company’s interim head of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DE&I).

Before joining Regeneron, Bermingham served as Vice President and Senior Counsel at PhRMA, where she developed and helped lead many of the Association’s key legal and policy initiatives over a 12-year span. Prior to that role, she worked in the Washington office of the law firm, Morgan Lewis. She also served on the health policy staff of the Senate Finance Committee and on the staff of the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Bermingham earned her bachelor’s degree at Harvard University and her J.D. from the New York University School of Law, where she was a Staff Editor for the Review of Law and Social Change.
Dr. Melanie Ivarsson, PhD, MBA, Chief Development Officer, Moderna

Dr. Melanie Ivarsson is the Chief Development Officer at Moderna where she heads up the Clinical Development Operations department, leading her team in delivering all clinical programs within the Moderna portfolio. Dr. Ivarsson has more than 20 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry.

Prior to her current role, she was the Vice President and Head of Global Clinical Operations at Takeda where she oversaw clinical operations experts in the delivery of all clinical trials across oncology, neuroscience, rare disease, gastroenterology, and plasma-derived therapies. Previously, she also served as Senior Director, Head of Clinical Strategy and Operations at Pfizer where she led strategic and business operations for the clinical organization. Dr. Ivarsson also held roles within the early clinical development group at Eli Lilly.

After receiving her Ph.D. from University of Bristol, Dr. Ivarsson completed postdoctoral research at Lund University and New York University. She also holds an Executive MBA from MIT Sloan School of Management.

Dr. Merdad Parsey, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Officer, Gilead

Merdad Parsey, MD, PhD is Gilead’s Chief Medical Officer, responsible for overseeing the company’s global clinical development and medical affairs organizations. In his role, Merdad supervises all clinical trials and development operations. Together with the leadership team, he works to advance clinical development strategies and programs with the goal of changing the trajectory of disease, and transforming care for the patients of today and tomorrow.

Merdad joined Gilead in 2019, after serving as Senior Vice President of Early Clinical Development at Genentech, where he led clinical development for areas including inflammation, oncology and infectious diseases. Prior to Genentech, Merdad served as President and CEO of 3-V Biosciences (now Sagimet BioSciences), held development roles at Sepracor, Regeneron and Merck and was Assistant Professor of Medicine and Director of Critical Care Medicine at the New York University School of Medicine.
He completed his MD and PhD at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, his residency in Internal Medicine at Stanford University and his fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Colorado. Merdad currently serves on the Board of Directors for Sagimet BioSciences.

**Dr. Michelle McMurry-Heath, MD, PhD, CEO, Biotechnology Innovation Organization**

A medical doctor and molecular immunologist by training, Dr. McMurry-Heath’s experience spans the executive branch, the U.S. Senate, the nonprofit sector, and the biopharmaceutical industry. A trailblazer in many respects, she received her MD and PhD from Duke’s Medical Scientist Training Program, becoming the first African American to graduate from the prestigious program. More recently, she became the first woman and person of color to hold the title of Chief Executive Officer at BIO. Driven by her family’s experiences navigating clinical trials and funding uncertainties within the rare disease community, she calls “the distribution of scientific progress the social justice issue of our age.”

Early on, Dr. McMurry-Heath received training in science policy from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation before working as Senator Joe Lieberman’s top legislative aide for science and health, a role where she drafted legislation to protect the country from biological attacks. She later went on to serve as the Founding Director of the Aspen Institute’s Health, Biomedical Science, and Society Policy Program, where she promoted personalized medicine and bolstered international preparation for pandemic disease threats.

As a leader in government, the Obama-Biden transition team tapped her to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the National Science Foundation’s policies, programs, and personnel. President Obama then named her Associate Science Director of the FDA’s Center for Devices and Radiological Health. In this position, she drove collaborations between patients and life sciences leaders – creating new entities like the Medical Device Innovation Consortium and the National Evaluation System for Health Technology. After leaving the public sector, she served as the Vice President of Global External Innovation and Global Leader for Regulatory Sciences at Johnson & Johnson, leading a global team of 900 with responsibilities in 150 countries around the globe.
Dr. McMurry-Heath earned her undergraduate degree in molecular biology at Harvard University and her PhD and MD from Duke University.

Dr. Randall C. Morgan, Jr., MD, MBA, President & CEO, W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute

Randall C. Morgan, Jr., MD, MBA, is the President and CEO of the W. Montague Cobb/NMA Health Institute based in Washington DC, where he leads a staff of scholars and research specialists who focus upon the elimination of Health Disparities. He is also an active orthopedic surgeon who has practiced in Sarasota and Bradenton, Florida since 2005. He serves as founder and President of University Park Orthopedics in that community. He is also Clinical Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at Florida State School of Medicine and is also a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Community Medicine at the University of Connecticut. He has written and published extensively throughout his career on Orthopedics, Social Responsibility, Health Equity and the Education Pipeline for Underrepresented young scholars. He is a Diplomat of the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery and the American Board of Managed Care Medicine. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of Alpha Omega Alpha honorary medical society.

Dr. Morgan served as the 95th President of the National Medical Association during the years 1996 and 1997. He was the first board-certified orthopedic surgeon to hold that position. Dr. Morgan is a true pioneer in his profession and was among the first surgeons to perform total joint replacement surgery at Northwestern University. Dr. Morgan has practiced General Orthopedic Surgery and Pediatric Orthopedics in Evanston, Illinois, and as well in his hometown of Gary, Indiana, for more than 30 years prior to his relocation to Sarasota. With the assistance of his father, Mr. Randall C. Morgan, Sr., he founded the Orthopedic Centers of Northwest Indiana and served as its president from 1975 to 1999. At one time, this was the largest minority-owned orthopedic practice in the United States.

He is a graduate of Grinnell College with a B.A. in Chemistry. He received the M.D. degree from Howard University. He served as a resident in Orthopedic Surgery at Northwestern University and served a Pediatric Orthopedic Fellowship at Children's
Hospital in Cincinnati. He later received an MBA degree from the University of South Florida.

Dr. Reed V. Tuckson, MD, FACP

Reed V. Tuckson, MD, FACP, is Managing Director of Tuckson Health Connections LLC, a vehicle to advance initiatives that support optimal health and wellbeing through the intersection of individual and community health promotion and disease prevention; applied data and analytics; enhanced quality and efficiency in care delivery; and the application of telehealth and biotech innovations.

A recognized leader in his field, Dr. Tuckson is honored to have served as the Commissioner of Public Health for the District of Columbia and President of the Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles. Additionally, he has been appointed to leadership roles at the National Institutes of Health; National Academy of Medicine; numerous Federal Advisory Committees; and corporate, nonprofit, and academic boards. He has been recognized several times by Modern Healthcare Magazine’s listing of the “50 Most Powerful Physician Executives” in healthcare, by Ebony magazine as one of the 100 most powerful executives in corporate America, and as a “Washingtonian of the Year” by the Washingtonian magazine.

Previously, he enjoyed a long tenure as Executive Vice President and Chief of Medical Affairs for UnitedHealth Group, a Fortune 20 Health and wellbeing company.

He is a graduate of Howard University, Georgetown University School of Medicine, and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania’s General Internal Medicine Residency and Fellowship Programs, where he was also a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar studying at the Wharton School of Business.

Silas Buchanan, CEO, Institute for eHealth Equity

Silas Buchanan is the Founder and CEO of the Institute for eHealth Equity, a social impact consulting firm. He is known as a passionate and experienced underserved-community engagement strategist dedicated to building
partnerships and crafting web-based ecosystems that solve for known, underserved-community outreach and engagement failure points.

Buchanan has worked with various healthcare payer, provider, government and academic stakeholders across the United States and has expertise in recruiting, activating and connecting with trusted faith and community-based organizations. Buchanan partnered with the AME Church to build and launch www.amechealth.org as their international health information sharing and data collecting website. He then led the development of strategic partnerships with healthcare, pharmaceutical and wellness organizations, and community-wide health improvement campaigns. Buchanan still owns the Domain and consults the AME Church enterprise.

He is currently working with OurHealthyCommunity.com to redevelop the platform to better engage underserved communities both secularly and non-secularly. He is also currently part of the Milken Institute, Faster Cures Workgroup on DEI in Clinical Trials.

Dr. Stacey J. Adam, PhD, Associate VP of Research Partnerships, Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH)

Dr. Stacey Adam is the Associate VP of Research Partnerships at the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH). In this role she oversees various partnerships including the Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines (ACTIV) Therapeutics–Clinical Working Group, Partnership for Accelerating Cancer Therapies (PACT), the Lung Master protocol (Lung–MAP) clinical trial, and the cancer steering committee of the Biomarkers Consortium. A molecular pharmacologist by training she is skilled in molecular biology techniques, animal modeling, clinical genomics, and systems biology.

Previously, Dr. Adam was a Manager at Deloitte Consulting within the Federal Life Sciences and Healthcare Strategy practice where she supported federal and non-profit clients. In this role, she managed institute-wide strategic research planning efforts; development a novel technology platform to assist scientific non-profits
with combining clinical, genomic, and patient-generated data; and review of grants and development of new programs for a federally associated non-profit.

Before working in the private sector, Dr. Adam conducted her postdoctoral fellowship at Stanford University with both NIH and American Cancer Society fellowships. While at Stanford, her research focused on developing better animal models for studying lymphoma and osteosarcoma; performing large cancer genomics screens for genes related to self-renewal, differentiation, and tumor recurrence; merging high-throughput biological techniques with novel animal models to define molecular disease signatures relevant to cancer; and working with companies to test novel compounds in pre-clinical trials.

She earned her PhD in Pharmacology with a Mammalian Toxicology certificate from Duke University, and her bachelor’s degree in Clinical Laboratory Science-Medical Technology from the University of Nebraska-Medical Center.

**Staci Hargraves, MBA, VP, Portfolio Management, Janssen (Johnson & Johnson)**

Staci Hargraves is the Vice President of R&D Portfolio Management for Janssen, the Pharmaceutical Company of Johnson & Johnson. In this role, she is responsible for managing and driving unprecedented value across Janssen’s multi-billion-dollar Research & Development portfolio.

A passionate executive, Hargraves is active in several professional and community-based organizations. She is an active member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women (NCBW100), founder of the Diversity Council at the Iona Preparatory School, and participant in several STEM programs for diverse populations. She is also currently the Executive Sponsor for Janssen’s Diversity in Clinical Trial efforts.

Hargraves started her career at the National Institute of Health (NIH) in the Protocol & Information Office of the National Cancer Institute. Throughout her career, she has held various supply chain related positions with increasing level of responsibilities at companies including UCB Pharma, Pharmaceutical Product Development (PPD), and Otsuka. Most recently, she was the Senior Director of
Clinical Operations at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals before joining Janssen as the Vice President of R&D Strategy and Operations in 2017.

Staci is a graduate of George Mason University, Fairfax VA where she excelled both on and off the track as a 6 Time NCAA Division I Track & Field All American.

Dr. Stephaun Wallace, PhD, Director of External Relations, HIV Vaccine Trials Network & Staff Scientist, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Stephaun Wallace is the Director of External Relations of the HVTN. His focus is on building long-term relationships with key stakeholders by leading the Network’s external relations strategies and efforts, globally. Those strategies create opportunities for consultation with key stakeholders and communities to inform the design and implementation of Network studies. Those consultations optimize the inclusion and participation of populations and communities who bear the greatest burden of HIV.

Dr. Wallace is a Staff Scientist in the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Division at Fred Hutch, and a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Global Health at the University of Washington. An internationally recognized public health/social justice leader, public speaker, and thought leader, Dr. Wallace has more than 20 years of sexual/public health experience and more than 25 years of grassroots social justice/community mobilization experience, with diverse populations, including MSM and transgender populations. Dr. Wallace views public health work through a social justice lens to understand how population-level health is impacted by structural and social factors like stigma, racism, sexism, historical trauma, and education and income inequalities.

Tamar Thompson, MPH, VP, US Government Affairs & Policy, Alexion Pharmaceuticals

Tamar Thompson is a corporate affairs executive and health policy strategist with more than 20 years of leadership experience. Tamar has extensive market access and commercial experience; over the course of her career she has worked with governmental agencies, private payers, Congressional leaders, and patient
advocacy groups to ensure optimal patient access to existing and new medical therapies, including rare disease.

Prior to joining Alexion, Tamar lead Federal Executive Branch Strategy and State Government Affairs for Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, Mrs. Thompson served a strategic policy advisor and consultant for three premiere Washington DC based firms, ADVI, Kimbell & Associates and Avalere Health, where she managed a diverse portfolio of clients, including medical device, biotech, pharmaceutical, and specialty drug, companies. Preceding her time in Washington DC, Ms. Thompson was Director of Health Policy & Reimbursement at Molecular Insight Pharmaceuticals (MIP) where she was charged with developing and launching reimbursement strategy for cutting-edge molecular diagnostic and therapeutic treatments options. She has also held health policy and reimbursement leadership strategy roles at GE Healthcare and Bracco Diagnostics. Tamar has also served as claims operations director and benefit plan manager in the managed care sector for Humana and ValueOptions. Tamar serves on the board of directors for Avidity Bioscience, MassBio, and Healthy Women. She also sits on the Schwartz Center (MassGen) Leadership Council.

Tamar holds a M.S. in Health Sciences with a concentration in Public Health from Trident University in Cypress California. She also has an Executive Leadership certificate from Columbia University and maintains active certifications from the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) as a Certified Coding Specialist (CCS) and Certified Coding Specialist – Physician Based (CCS-P).

**Dr. Ted W. Love, MD, CEO, Global Blood Therapeutics**

Dr. Ted Love is a biopharmaceutical industry leader with more than 20 years of broad management experience, supported by nearly a decade of providing clinical care as a practicing physician. He was inspired to re-join the industry in 2014 after an early retirement when presented with the opportunity to lead Global Blood Therapeutics as its President and Chief Executive Officer. He was particularly moved by the mission of GBT to combat sickle cell disease because of its prevalence in, and disproportionate impact on, the Black community. In addition to his role at GBT, he currently serves on the boards of directors of Royalty Pharma, Seagen, and the Biotechnology Innovation Organization.
Early on in his career, after completing his residencies in internal medicine and cardiology at Massachusetts General Hospital, he joined the faculty at Harvard before transitioning to industry. His first role in drug development was at Genentech where he rose through the ranks eventually holding a number of senior management positions in medical affairs and product development, including Chairman of Genentech’s Product Development Committee.

More recently, Dr. Love served as Executive Vice President of Research and Development and Technical Operations, at Onyx Pharmaceuticals, where he played an instrumental role in initiating and completing several of Onyx’s first Phase 3 clinical trials. Prior to Onyx, Dr. Love served as President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of Nuvelo, where he led growth of the company to a market capitalization of $1 billion. He also served as Senior Vice President of Development at Theravance.

Dr. Love holds a Bachelor’s in Molecular Biology from Haverford College and an MD from Yale Medical School.

Tom Anderson, MPH, Executive Director, Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP)

Tom Anderson is the Executive Director of the Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP). Leveraging his many years of community and stakeholder engagement, he leads the AAIP in partnering with tribes, tribal health programs, and public health stakeholders to advance the health and well-being of American Indian people. Anderson is an enrolled citizen of the Cherokee Nation and participates on regional and national tribal workgroups, boards, taskforces, tribal consortiums, tribal associations, and planning committees.

Previously, Anderson worked at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences serving as Director of the Office for American Indians in Medicine and Sciences. His prior tribal-related endeavors include serving as Senior Health Strategist, Tribal Health Consultant, and Director of the Oklahoma Area Tribal Public Health & Epidemiology Center at the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board. Throughout his career, he has remained committed to serving as a voice
for tribes, tribal health issues, and tribal advocacy at the local, regional, and national levels.

Anderson has a B.S. from Northwestern Oklahoma State University and a Master’s Degree in Public Health from the University of Oklahoma College of Public Health.