

Join the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences on Friday, October 27 at 2:00 pm EDT for a presentation by Paule Joseph, PhD, titled **“The Neglected Senses: Taste and Smell and Implications for Health-Gaps and Vision for the Future.”** Olfaction is a critical sensory modality that is vital for safety, facilitating the detection of potentially harmful environmental substances, such as smoke or dangerous chemicals. Olfactory impairment has been associated with decreased quality of life, impaired food intake, inability to detect harmful gas and smoke, decreased social well-being, and depressive symptoms. Olfactory impairment can signal several health conditions, including Alzheimer’s disease, Huntington’s disease, cancer, traumatic brain injuries, viral respiratory infections such as COVID-19 as well as side effects of medications. Dr. Joseph will discuss the integral role taste and smell play in maintaining health and well-being. She will also report on findings related to the taste and smell loss with COVID-19, the importance of taste and smell screening for early diagnosis of diseases such as Parkinson’s disease and Alzheimer’s disease as well as the need for clinical guidelines and clinical tools to measure the chemical senses routinely.



Paule V. Joseph, PhD, EMBA, MS, RN, FNP-BC, FTNNS, FAAN, is as a Lasker Clinical Scholar at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and a Distinguished Scholar at the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) and the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR). She is Chief of the Sensory Science and Metabolism Section (SenSMet) at the Division of Intramural Clinical and Biological Research. Her research explores how taste and smell influence health, especially in those with chronic illnesses. Specifically, she investigates the neurological mechanisms of chemosensation and its relation to ingestive behaviors in individuals with obesity, and alcohol and substance use misuse. Notably, during the COVID-19 pandemic, she examined the effects of the virus on taste and smell, and she continues to contribute to understanding the effects of post-acute sequelae of COVID-19 on the chemical senses. She is a co-founder of the Global Consortium for Chemosensory Research. Honored with multiple awards, she has been recognized by the National Minority Quality Forum, the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, the Johnson & Johnson- American Association of Colleges of Nursing, and Rockefeller University Heilbrunn Nurse Scholar. She has been recognized with the Ajinomoto Award for Young Investigators in Gustation. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine, and a Fellow of the Transcultural Nursing Society. She is also the Inaugural American Academy of Nursing Fellow at the National Academy of Medicine.