

# NATIONAL ACADEMIES

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## **Workshop on Aging in Place with Dementia September 13, 14, & 15, 2023**

### **SPEAKER BIOSKETCHES**

#### **Andrew B. Cohen**

Dr. Cohen is an Assistant Professor in the Section of Geriatrics at Yale School of Medicine and the VA Connecticut Healthcare System. He conducts research about health care decision-making for persons living with dementia. He has a particular interest in those who are unrepresented or “unbefriended” in the sense that they have diminished capacity and no suitable surrogate to make decisions on their behalf. In work funded by GEMSSTAR and Beeson awards from the National Institute on Aging, Dr. Cohen has investigated decision-making under guardianship, which is the default mechanism for addressing this issue. In 2020, he received the Outstanding Junior Investigator of the Year award from the American Geriatrics Society. Dr. Cohen received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania and, before medical school, completed a doctorate in English literature from the University of Oxford, where he studied as a Marshall Scholar.

#### **Bruce Finke**

Dr. Bruce Finke is a family physician and geriatrician serving as Elder Health Consultant in the Indian Health Service (IHS) and supporting the newly established IHS Alzheimer’s Grant Program. From 1991-2003, as a primary care physician at the Zuni IHS hospital, he worked with Zuni Tribal programs in the development of clinical and community-based elder services. Since 1998, Dr. Finke has provided leadership in program and policy development in geriatrics and palliative care in the IHS and engaged with Tribes in improvement in geriatric clinical care and the development of long-term services and supports. He co-led the IHS primary care transformation initiative, Improving Patient Care, and served in a number of leadership roles in the Nashville Area of the IHS. Since 2011 Dr. Finke’s time has been shared with the CMS Innovation Center (CMMI) as a Senior Advisor in the Learning and Diffusion Group, supporting the development of new payment and care models through design of learning systems to foster innovation, accelerate performance, and generate insight care delivery. Dr. Finke remains clinically active and represents the IHS on the HHS Alzheimer’s Advisory Council for Alzheimer’s Research, Care and Services.

### **Jessica Finlay**

Dr. Jessica Finlay is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and Institute of Behavioral Science at the University of Colorado Boulder. She is a health geographer and environmental gerontologist who uses mixed methods to investigate how built, social, and natural environments affect health, wellbeing, and quality of life. In particular, she focuses on aging in place and cognitive health disparities among underrepresented and underserved older adults. Dr. Finlay also investigates impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on neighborhood environments and health among aging Americans. Her NIH and NSF-funded research has received recognition including the 2023 NIH Matilda White Riley Behavioral and Social Science Honors. She received the 2023 National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center Rising Star Award and 2022 Gerontological Society of America Carroll L. Estes Rising Star Award. Dr. Finlay has an MA and PhD in Geography and Gerontology from the University of Minnesota and completed a postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of Michigan.

### **Laura N. Gitlin**

Laura N. Gitlin, Ph.D. FGSA, FAAN is a Distinguished University Professor, Dean Emerita, and Founding Executive Director of the Age Well Collaboratory in the College of Nursing and Health Professions, Drexel University and adjunct research professor at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. She is a sociologist by training and internationally recognized as an intervention scientist with continuous NIH funding for over 35 years. Her research focuses on developing, evaluating, implementing and disseminating novel home and community-based interventions to support aging in place and quality of life for older adults and family caregivers. Her interventions have resulted in improved physical and psychosocial outcomes, reduced mortality and health care savings. She has received various awards and select interventions and measures have been translated into different languages, adapted in various countries and deployed in health systems and community-based programs within the United States. She has served as a member on National Academies of Science, Medicine and Engineering committees including Families Caring for an Aging America, and Human Factors in Home Health Care, as well as being a contributor to the decadal review of dementia care and invited speaker at summits hosted by the National Academies.

### **Emily A. Greenfield**

Dr. Emily A. Greenfield is a Professor of Social Work and Director of the Hub for Aging Collaboration at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Dr. Greenfield's scholarship seeks to bolster community-centered approaches for advancing innovation and equity in social programs for long and healthy lives. Her work has helped to accelerate 21st century models for aging in community, including age- and dementia-friendly community initiatives, housing-based supportive service programs, and Village organizations. Hallmark features of Dr. Greenfield's scholarship on aging in community includes both studying and participating in cross-sectoral partnerships, as well as centering the voices of people leading on-the-ground community change efforts. Dr. Greenfield also conducts research on how social inequalities from childhood influence later life cognition and well-being. She obtained a Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and funders of her work have

included the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, National Institute on Aging, Alzheimer's Association, and philanthropic foundations.

### **Louise Lafortune**

Dr Lafortune is Associate Professor at Cambridge Public Health, University of Cambridge, and co-leads its Life course and Ageing research pillar. She is Principal Investigator for the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) School for Public Health Research and co-lead the NIHR Population Evidence and Data Science theme for the Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) East of England. Her research has focused on developing the evidence base to address the manifold needs of older adults and help them retain quality of life in their communities. She currently leads a multifaceted research program on the social return on investment of Age Friendly Community initiatives. Dr Lafortune serves on the WHO Technical Advisory Group for Measurement, Monitoring and Evaluation of the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing, and recently chaired the Aging Longevity and Health initiative of the International Alliance of Research Universities. She holds a dual PhD in Public Health, specialized in organization of health services and epidemiology from Université de Montreal and Université de Paris, respectively.

### **Raksha Mudar**

Dr. Raksha Mudar is a professor of speech and hearing science at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Her research has two interrelated goals: one, to understand how normal cognitive aging and age-related conditions (e.g., mild cognitive impairment; Alzheimer's dementia; age-associated hearing loss) impact cognitive and social health; two, to develop non-pharmacological interventions to support cognitive and social health in older adults. She has served as the co-chair of the Joint Committee on Interprofessional Relations Between the American Psychological Association (APA) and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and is an ASHA Fellow. Dr. Mudar has a Ph.D. in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the University of Texas at Dallas. Her research is funded by the National Institutes of Health through the National Institute of Nursing Research.

### **Regina Shih**

Dr. Regina Shih is a Professor of Epidemiology at the Emory Rollins School of Public Health with secondary appointments with the Department of Health Policy and Management and the RAND Corporation. She also serves as a Board Member of the National Alliance for Caregiving. Her research focuses on the social and environmental determinants of dementia, quality and access to Medicaid dementia home- and community-based services, and family caregiving for dementia. She previously worked with AARP Age Friendly Communities and the Village-to-Village Network on a CDC-funded project to boost older adult resilience to climate-related disasters. Dr. Shih received her PhD in psychiatric epidemiology from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is serving as a NAS member on the Panel to Evaluate the Quality of the 2020 Census.

### **Frank Oswald**

Dr. Frank Oswald is Professor for Interdisciplinary Ageing Research (IAW), Chair of the Frankfurt Forum for interdisciplinary Ageing Research (FFIA) at the Goethe University, Germany and Director of the Center AGING for Early Career Researcher at the Goethe Graduate Academy (GRADE). His research interests are contexts of adult development, issues of person-environment transaction and transitions in old age, housing, ageing in place, relocation and the role of technologies in later life. He has conducted research in the field of environmental gerontology on the local, national and European level. Dr. Oswald has a Ph.D. in psychology from the University Heidelberg. His research is funded by the European Commission, the German Research Foundation (DFG), several federal German ministries, communities and private foundations (e.g., the Volkswagen Foundation). He is a member and fellow of the Gerontological Society of America (GSA), a member of the International Society for Gerontechnology (ISG) and of the International Association for People-Environment Studies (IAPS).

### **Manish N. Shah**

Manish N. Shah, MD MPH is Professor and Chair of the BerbeeWalsh Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and holds the Azita G. Hamedani Distinguished Chair of Emergency Medicine. As a practicing emergency medicine physician and a researcher with funding from the NIH, AHRQ, CDC, and HRSA, Dr. Shah has dedicated his career to improving the care delivered to acutely ill or injured older adults. His work has helped establish the field of geriatric emergency medicine and advanced the role of ambulance-based paramedics to support community health efforts, now termed “community paramedicine.” Dr. Shah’s recent work, which has taken place in both urban and rural communities in Wisconsin and New York, has focused on helping persons living with dementia. Dr. Shah has received the Paul B. Beeson Career Development Award from the NIA and the Pioneer Award from the Academy of Geriatric Emergency Medicine for his activities. Dr. Shah received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Chicago and his medical doctorate and master’s in public health from the University of Rochester. He completed his residency in emergency medicine at The Ohio State University and further research training through the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program.

### **Laura Trejo**

Dr. Laura Trejo, Director of the Los Angeles County Aging and Disabilities Department, is responsible for launching a new county department along with establishing a proactive, coordinated, and comprehensive strategy and service delivery system for older adults and adults with disabilities. Dr. Trejo oversees programs and operations such as Adult Protective Services, the Area Agency on Aging, fourteen Community and Senior Centers, and the work of the Los Angeles Commission on Older Adults and Commission on Disabilities. Dr. Trejo has over 36 years of experience serving the residents of the Los Angeles region, including as General Manager of the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging and as the first District Chief for countywide older adult mental health for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. Dr. Trejo holds a doctorate in Social Work, Master level degrees in Gerontology and Public Administration, and a Graduate Certificate in Long Term-Care Administration, all from the University of Southern California. A national leader and trailblazer, she has consulted with and

trained other leaders throughout the United States on the development of programs for older adults, focusing on cultural competence. An internationally recognized expert, Dr. Trejo has worked with international organizations and countries around the world to develop initiatives and programs in the areas of aging, mental health, health, Alzheimer's, and rehabilitation. She currently serves as president of the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging and serves on various boards and committees, including the Editorial Board of Generations. She has received numerous awards for excellence and leadership, among them the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Community Health Leadership Award.