

Sara Rosenbaum, J.D. is the Harold and Jane Hirsh Professor of Health Law and Policy and Founding Chair of the Department of Health Policy at the Milken Institute School of Public Health, George Washington University. She also holds professorships in the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration and the Schools of Law and Medicine and Health Sciences. A graduate of Wesleyan University and Boston University Law School, Professor Rosenbaum has devoted her career to issues of health justice for populations who are medically underserved as a result of race, poverty, disability, or cultural exclusion. An honored teacher and scholar, a highly popular speaker, and a widely-read writer on many aspects of health law and policy, Professor Rosenbaum has emphasized public engagement as a core element of her professional life, providing public service to six Presidential Administrations and nineteen Congresses. She is best known for her work on national health reform, Medicaid and private insurance, Medicaid managed care, health care access for medically underserved communities and populations, and civil rights and health care.

Linda S. Brady, Ph.D. serves as the Director of the Division of Neuroscience and Basic Behavioral Science at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). In this role, she provides scientific, programmatic, and administrative leadership for an extramural research program portfolio in basic neuroscience to support NIMH's mission of transforming the understanding and treatment of mental illnesses. Dr. Brady has directed programs in neuropharmacology, drug discovery, and clinical therapeutics and organized Consortia focused on ways to accelerate the development and clinical application of radiotracers in clinical research. She has provided leadership for many programs, including: Development and Application of PET and SPECT Imaging Ligands as Biomarkers for Drug Discovery and for Pathophysiological Studies of CNS Disorders, the National Cooperative Drug/Device Discovery/Development Groups for the Treatment of Mental Disorders, and First in Human and Early Stage Clinical Trials of Novel Investigational Drugs or Devices for Psychiatric Disorders. Dr. Brady serves as co-chair of the Neuroscience Steering Committee for the Biomarkers Consortium, a public-private research partnership of the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) that focuses on discovery, development, and qualification of biological markers to support drug development, preventive medicine, and medical diagnostics. From 2004-2013, she co-led the Molecular Libraries and Imaging Program, a trans-NIH Common Fund initiative to provide biomedical researchers access to small organic molecules that can be used as chemical probes to study the functions of genes, cells, and biochemical pathways in health and disease. Dr. Brady was trained in pharmacology and neuroscience. She completed her Ph.D. at Emory University School of Medicine, followed by post-doctoral work and research positions at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and the NIMH Intramural Research Program. She is the author of more than 70 peer reviewed scientific publications and is a member of the Society for Neuroscience and a Fellow in the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology. Dr. Brady has received NIH Director's Awards and NIH Merit Awards in recognition of her activities in biomarker development and drug development for mental disorders

Betty Diamond, MD graduated with a BA from Harvard University and an MD from Harvard Medical School. She performed a residency in internal medicine at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center and received postdoctoral training in immunology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Dr. Diamond has headed the rheumatology divisions at Albert Einstein School of Medicine and at Columbia University Medical Center. She also directed the Medical Scientist Training Program at Albert Einstein School of Medicine for many years. She is currently head of the Center for Autoimmune, Musculoskeletal and Hematopoietic Diseases at The Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research and director of the PhD and MD/PhD programs of the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell.

A former president of the American Association of Immunology, Dr. Diamond has also served on the Board of Directors of the American College of Rheumatology and the Scientific Council of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS).

Dr. Diamond is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement

Sarah E. Morris, PhD, is the Chief of the Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders Research Program in the Adult Psychopathology and Psychosocial Intervention Research Branch of the Division of Adult Translational Research and Treatment Development (DATR). Dr. Morris earned her B.A. in Psychology from Scripps College and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of California, Los Angeles, where she studied the processing of emotional and auditory stimuli and error detection in schizophrenia using psychophysiological methods. She completed a clinical internship at the West Los Angeles Veteran Administration (VA) Medical Center and a post-doctoral fellowship at the Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC) at the Baltimore VA Medical Center. Following her fellowship, Dr. Morris joined the faculty in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and continued as an investigator at the MIRECC. She also served as Director of the VA Maryland Health Care System/University of Maryland Baltimore Psychology Internship Consortium. Her research has focused on learning, reward processing and self-monitoring in schizophrenia using event-related brain potentials and on remediation of cognitive deficits in schizophrenia. She joined the NIMH in 2010, where she manages a portfolio of research grants focused on schizophrenia and serves as a member of the Research Domain Criteria (RDoC) workgroup

Ralph Nitkin, Ph.D. is the deputy director for NICHD's National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research (NCMRR). For the past 28 years, he has worked as a science administrator at NICHD, first in intellectual and developmental disabilities and, for the last 18 years, in medical rehabilitation.

Within NCMRR, Dr. Nitkin is particularly involved with research on the fundamental mechanisms and substrate of rehabilitation including neuroplasticity, physiology, exercise, and other adaptive changes. He also leads efforts on NCMRR rehabilitation research infrastructure networks (now the Medical Rehabilitation Research Resource Network), the annual Training in Grantsmanship for Rehabilitation Research grant-writing workshop, and special career-development networks for clinical neurorehabilitation, for physical/occupational therapists, and, more recently, for rehabilitation engineers.

In addition to his NCMRR work, Dr. Nitkin has helped promote NIH research initiatives in diverse areas such as genomic factors that affect rehabilitation outcomes, promotion of exercise and diet in children with disabilities, clinical trial design in rehabilitation, technologies for healthy independent living, and research workforce diversity. He also fosters interaction with rehabilitation researchers as well as those in allied fields.

Dr. Nitkin received his undergraduate and master's degrees in biological sciences from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his Ph.D. in cellular neurobiology from the University of California, San Diego. His postdoctoral studies at Stanford University and later work as an assistant professor at Rutgers University focused on the cellular and molecular basis of nerve-muscle synapse formation markers in colon neoplasia and in ovarian neoplasia. In training programs at UNC he has directed the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program and the NIH-funded K30 faculty development program, to train junior faculty to build careers in clinical and translational research.

Patricia M. Owens has been a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance since 1993. She currently serves on the Board of Directors and recently accepted the position of Chair to the Development Committee.

Owens consults internationally on disability policy in both public and private sectors. Previously, she was Senior Disability Advisor and Vice President at UNUM Life Insurance Company. Before that, she was Vice President of Group and Individual Underwriting at The Paul Revere Insurance Group. From 1982–1986, Owens served as Associate U.S. Commissioner for Disability at the Social Security Administration. While at SSA, she received the Health and Human Services Distinguished Leadership Award, and a Social Security Commissioner's Public Service Citation.

She was a Switzer Fellow and Author of the National Rehabilitation Association and was a member of the Notch Commission. She served on the National Academy of Social Insurance Disability Policy Panel. Owens has written a number of reports and monographs on disability related issues and legislation.

Sarah Ruiz, Ph.D., is a Program Officer at the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research. Her current research focuses on evidence-based programs and practices for individuals aging with long-term disability. She has more than fifteen years of experience designing and analyzing research studies on health outcomes for older adults and people with disabilities, with extensive experience working on projects at the federal, state, and local level. In her past role at NORC at the University of Chicago, she led large scale program evaluation efforts to understand health care innovation for older adults and people with disabilities under the Affordable Care Act. Dr. Ruiz has also held leadership positions in the non-profit and private sectors. She served as the Research Director for the National Self-Management Alliance, a public-private partnership to scale chronic disease self-management interventions at the National Council on Aging that arose from the HHS Strategic Framework on Multiple Chronic Conditions. Dr. Ruiz was previously a research associate at RAND Corporation and IMPAQ International, where she managed and oversaw projects on health policy, long-term care, and evidence-based programs and services for older adults. She holds a Ph.D. in gerontology from the University of Southern California.

Ira Shoulson, M.D. is Professor of Neurology, Pharmacology and Human Science and Director of the Program for Regulatory Science and Medicine (PRSM) at Georgetown University, Washington, DC. From 1990 until 2011, Dr Shoulson was the Louis C. Lasagna Professor of Experimental Therapeutics and Professor of Neurology, Pharmacology and Medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry in Rochester, New York, where he currently holds adjunct appointments as Professor of Neurology, Pharmacology & Physiology.

Dr. Shoulson founded the Parkinson Study Group in 1985 and the Huntington Study Group in 1994 — international academic consortia devoted to research and development of treatments for Parkinson disease, Huntington disease and related neurodegenerative and neurogenetic disorders. He was a key investigator in the US-Venezuela Collaborative Huntington Disease Project, which identified the gene responsible for this fatal hereditary disorder. Dr Shoulson has served as principal investigator of the National Institutes of Health-sponsored trials “Deprenyl and Tocopherol Antioxidative Therapy of Parkinsonism” (DATATOP), the “Prospective Huntington At Risk Observational Study” (PHAROS), and in the leadership of more than 35 other multi-center clinical research studies. He played an instrumental role in the development of 10 new drugs for neurological disorders, including seven for Parkinson disease (selegiline, lazabemide, pramipexole, entacapone, clozapine, rasagiline, rotigotine), two for Huntington disease (tetrabenazine, dutetetrabenazine) and one for attention deficit disorder (Concerta). He was formerly a health policy fellow in the US Senate, a member of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Council, and president of the American Society for Experimental NeuroTherapeutics (ASENT). He is currently principal investigator of the FDA-Georgetown University Collaborating Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation (CERSI – FD004319), associate editor of JAMA Neurology and an active elected member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He has authored more than 310 scientific reports.

Robert B. Wallace, M.D., M.Sc. is interested in the occurrence and prevention of chronic illnesses and disabilities in older persons. He has worked in the areas of prevention of coronary artery disease, stroke, osteoarthritis, dementia, osteoporotic fractures and various common cancers. In addition to the HRS, he has participated in trials of the prevention of disease, disability and falls, and in the common chronic conditions of post-menopausal women. He has been an investigator or consultant for other cohort studies of older persons, including NHATS, ELSA, NSHAP, MHAS and H-EPESE.