



Addressing Health Disparities in Central Nervous System Disorders
Virtual Workshop #1: Structural and Social Determinants of Risk
April 13, 2023

Workshop Speaker Biographies

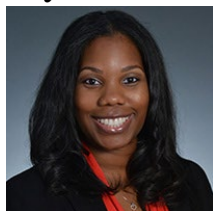
Bernadette Boden-Albala, MPH, DrPH, is the Director and Founding Dean of the



University of California, Irvine's future School of Population and Public Health. In a short span, the Program has gone from one department to four departments – under Boden-Albala's leadership. A renowned researcher and academic administrator, she holds several leadership roles within the public health field, at the UCI campus, and at the UC-system level. For the past 25 years, Boden-Albala has dedicated her career to promoting health equity for all; defining and intervening on social determinants of disease; and leading community-level health assessments and solutions. She also has expertise in cardiovascular disease and stroke, emerging infectious diseases, epidemiology as well as global health. In addition to being a professor in the Departments of Health, Society, and Behavior and Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UCI Public Health, Boden-Albala also holds an appointment at the UCI School of Medicine as a professor of neurology. She is a lead investigator on the National Initiative for Minority Involvement in Neurological Clinical Trials, which has resulted in improving racial-ethnic minorities and women's participation rates in clinical trials. She has also worked with UNICEF and the United Nations World Food Program where she worked on Ebola and Polio response solutions and explored a system's approach to food access. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Boden-Albala has been at the forefront of Orange County's COVID-19 response and has held leadership advisory positions at the Orange County Health Care Agency and at UCI, having started the successful Contact Tracing Program.



Dayna Johnson, PhD, MPH, MSW, MS, is a sleep epidemiologist and Assistant Professor



in the Department of Epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University in Atlanta GA. She received her doctorate degree in Epidemiologic Science from the University of Michigan and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Sleep and Circadian Disorders at Harvard Medical School. Her research is aimed at understanding the determinants and health consequences of sleep health disparities by 1) addressing the social and environmental determinants of sleep disorders and insufficient sleep; and 2) investigating the influence of modifiable factors such as sleep disorders and disturbances on various health outcomes. More specifically, Dr. Johnson's research quantifies the contribution of social, household-level and neighborhood-level factors with objective and well-validated subjective measures of insufficient sleep using data from different epidemiologic cohort studies. She also investigates associations of sleep health and sleep disorders with hypertension, diabetes, metabolic syndrome, and cognition.

Michaela Martinez, PhD, is an ecologist, activist, and serves as the Director of



Environmental Health at WE ACT for Environmental Justice. In 2015, she earned her PhD in Ecology & Evolution and subsequently served as an Assistant Professor at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health and Emory University. Her research has focused on infectious disease ecology, social justice, climate change, maternal and infant health, and how the environment impacts human health. Most recently, Dr. Martinez has been leading WE ACT's Beauty Inside Out campaign, which seeks to raise awareness about toxic chemicals in beauty products, particularly products such as skin lighteners and chemical hair straighteners that reinforce Eurocentric beauty standards and are marketed toward femme-identifying people of color. To learn more about Beauty Inside Out and how to become a member of WE ACT for Environmental Justice, visit: <https://www.weact.org/>



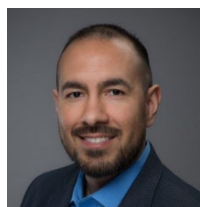
Katie McLaughlin, PhD, is a clinical psychologist with interests in how environmental



experience influences brain and behavioral development in children and adolescents. She has a joint PhD in Clinical Psychology and Epidemiology from Yale University and is a Professor of Psychology at Harvard University.

Her research examines how adverse environmental experiences shape emotional, cognitive, and neurobiological development throughout childhood and adolescence. Specifically, Dr. McLaughlin's work seeks to understand how experiences of stress, trauma, and social disadvantage in childhood alter developmental processes in ways that increase risk for psychopathology. Her research uncovers specific developmental processes that are altered by adverse environmental experiences early in life and that in turn increase risk for mental health problems in children and adolescents. Understanding these mechanisms is critical for the development of interventions to prevent the onset of psychopathology in children who experience adversity. Dr. McLaughlin's overarching goal is to contribute to greater understanding of the role of environmental experience in shaping children's development, so as to inform the creation of interventions, practices, and policies to promote adaptive development in society's most vulnerable members. Dr. McLaughlin's research has been funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, the National Institute on Aging, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Jacobs Foundation, the Charles H. Hood Foundation, the Brain and Behavior Foundation, the One Mind Institute/AIM Youth Mental Health, and the Raikes Foundation. She has received early career awards from the Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology, the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, and the Jacobs Foundation, as well as the Distinguished Scientific Award for Early Career Contribution to Psychology from the American Psychological Association and a MERIT Award from NIMH. Dr. McLaughlin has received the Highly Cited Researcher in Psychology and Psychiatry designation from Web of Science every year since 2016, which is awarded to scientists with the top 1% of citations in their discipline.

Jason Mendoza, PhD, is Head of Multiple Sclerosis and Immunology, US Medical, at Biogen.



He has been committed to the multiple sclerosis disease state for 19 years.

Jason joined Biogen in 2015 as US Medical Director before expanding to lead Biogen's entire portfolio of MS disease modifying therapies. Jason and his medical team have led multiple clinical trials and have published numerous



peer-reviewed papers in the fields of multiple sclerosis and immunology. Jason started his industry career at Teva Pharmaceuticals in medical affairs, launching a disease modifying therapy for MS in the US. Jason received his bachelor's degree in Biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology then pursued his Ph.D. in Immunology at UT-Southwestern Medical Center. Jason completed a postdoctoral fellowship in neuroimmunology where he led clinical studies in MS patients on the immediate immune response to MS therapies and the immunology during an exacerbation.

Monica Rivera Mindt, PhD, a board-certified neuropsychologist, is Past-President of the Hispanic Neuropsychological Society and a tenured Professor of Psychology, Latinx Studies, and African & African American Studies at Fordham University with a joint appointment in Neurology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Her multidisciplinary, community-based research is funded by the NIH/National Institute of Aging (NIA), the Alzheimer's Association, NSF, and Genentech. Her work primarily focuses on the intersection between cultural neuroscience and health inequities in cognitive aging. Her current studies are examining genetic, cerebrovascular, and sociocultural risk factors for cognitive impairment and dementia in ethnoculturally diverse populations, as well as ways to increase diverse representation in cognitive aging and dementia research. She has authored more than 100+ peer-reviewed publications and book chapters. In addition, she is Co-Lead of the NIA-funded Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative's (ADNI) Engagement Core. At the national level, Dr. Rivera Mindt recently served as Chair of NIH/NIA's AGCD-4 Study Section, and is a member of the CDC's BOLD Public Health Center of Excellence on Dementia Risk Reduction Expert Panel, and the CDC/National Alzheimer's Project Act's (NAPA) Physical Activity, Tobacco Use, and Alcohol Workgroup. Locally, she serves as a Board Member for the Alzheimer's Association's NYC Chapter and a Treasurer for the Harlem Community & Academic Partnership (HCAP). As a bilingual (Spanish/English), Afro-Latinx/Indigenous neuroscientist, she brings a unique perspective to her research and is the recipient of several awards for her research, teaching, and contributions to the field, including the 2020 Martha Bernal Award for the Advancement of Diversity Training and Education in Clinical Psychology from the Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology (CUDCP) and 2019 Hispanic Health Leadership Award from the National Hispanic Medical Association. She is also a Fellow





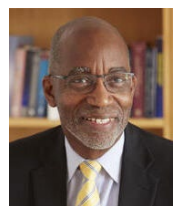
of the American Psychological Association (Division 40, Society for Clinical Neuropsychology), the National Academy of Neuropsychology, and Hispanic Neuropsychological Society.

Jon Strum is the founder and host of the RealTalk MS podcast. Since its launch, over 290



episodes of RealTalk MS have been downloaded more than 2,000,000 times by listeners in over 100 countries around the world. Jon also hosts the National MS Society's award-winning "Ask an MS Expert" webcast, streamed weekly on Facebook, YouTube, and Twitch. Jon's wife, Jeanne, was diagnosed with progressive MS in 1997, and Jon served as her caregiver until Jeanne lost her battle with the disease in February 2020. Jon's story as Jeanne's caregiver was featured in the documentary film, "Seeing MS From the Inside Out", which had its premiere at ECTRIMS 2018 in Berlin, Germany.

David Williams, MPH, PhD, is the Norman Professor of Public Health and Chair,



Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, at the Harvard Chan School of Public Health. He is also a Professor of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. His prior faculty appointments were at Yale University and the University of Michigan. He is an internationally recognized authority on social influences on health. The author of more than 500 scientific papers, his research has enhanced our understanding of the ways in which race, socioeconomic status, stress, racism, health behavior and religious involvement can affect health. The Everyday Discrimination Scale that he developed is the most widely used measure of discrimination in health studies. He has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences. He has also been ranked as the Most Cited Black Scholar in the Social Sciences, worldwide. Dr. Williams has been involved in the development of health policy at the national level. He has served on 10 committees for the National Academy of Medicine, including the committee that prepared the Unequal Treatment Report. He was also a key scientific advisor to the award-winning PBS film series, *Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?* Currently, he serves on the Board of Trustees of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and on the Kellogg Foundation's Solidarity Council on Racial Equity. He has been featured by some of the nation's top print and television news organizations and in his TED Talk.