Workshop on Structural Racism and Rigorous Models of Social Inequity

National Academy of Sciences Building
Room 120
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20418

MAY 16-17, 2022

Structural racism refers to the public and private policies, institutional practices, norms and cultural representations that inherently procure unequal freedom, opportunity, value, resources, advantage, restrictions, constraints, or disadvantage to individuals and populations according to their race/ethnicity both across the life course and between generations. The purpose of this workshop is to identify and discuss the sources and mechanisms through which structural racism operates. Invited experts will not only provide insights into known sources of structural racism and models of health equity, but also go beyond these to discuss novel sources and approaches. The workshop will help identify key research and data needs and priorities for future work on structural racism and health inequity.

After the workshop, the National Academies Press will publish a rapporteur-prepared proceedings volume that summarizes the workshop presentations and discussions.

DAY 1: Monday, May 16, 2022
10:00 am – 4:00 pm

10:00 – 10:30 am   WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- **Malay Majmundar**, Director, Committee on Population
- **Frank Bandiera**, National Institute on Aging, Division of Behavioral and Social Research
- **Hedwig (Hedy) Lee,** Department of Sociology, Washington University in St. Louis *(Chair, Workshop Steering Committee)*

> ➢ Review of Core Guiding Question for Workshop
>   - How can we apply insights regarding conceptualization, measurement, and modeling of structural racism to inform decisions about:
>   - What new measures of structural racism we ought to collect (or what data linkages are needed) in ongoing or future studies to help advance aging research?
>   - What are the mechanisms we ought to collect (or what data linkages are needed) in ongoing or future studies that link structural racism to disparities in health and well-being over time and place?

- What study designs can be used to study how structural factors operate to shape health over the life course?

10:30 am – 12:30 pm   **SESSION 1: Setting the Foundation: Studying Race and Structural Racism Responsibly**

There has been increasing interest in population and population health research in the measurement of structural racism and its role in a multitude of outcomes over the life course. However, work in this area requires a grounding in foundational work in the humanities and humanistic social sciences on race, race-making, and racism that has been ongoing since the turn of the century (e.g., work of W.E.B Dubois). In this session, experts in the study of race and racism will provide key insights that are required to ensure that future life course and aging population health research acknowledges and understands the complexity of these concepts and applies them to data collection and analysis to move the needle in improving population health and well-being and reducing health disparities

10:30 am   Speaker Talks (15 minute each)

❖ What is Race and Race-Making? How is Race Used to Control Populations?

- **Stephanie Li,** Washington University in St, Louis, Lynne Cooper Harvey Distinguished Professor of English

- **Evelyn Hammonds**, Barbara Gutmann Rosenkrantz Professor of the History of Science, Professor of African and African American Studies, Harvard University; Professor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health *[VIRTUAL]*

❖ The Many Faces of Racism: What is Structural Racism?: Embracing the Complexity of Structural Racism; Understanding the Interlocking Roles and Features of Cultural and Structural Racism

✓ *How should we understand and conceptualize the many faces of racism?*

- **Eduardo Bonilla-Silva**, James B. Duke Distinguished Professor of Sociology, Duke University *[VIRTUAL]*

✓ *How have we understood, measured, and modeled racism in population health and aging research and how does this align with conceptualizations of racism?*

- **Margaret Hicken**, Research Associate Professor, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan *(Member, Workshop Steering Committee)* **[VIRTUAL]**

11:30 am   Discussant Questions and Reflections
- **Trevon Logan**, Hazel C. Youngberg Distinguished Professor of Economics, Ohio State University *(Member, Workshop Steering Committee)*

11:40 am   BREAK

11:50 am   General Discussion

12:30 – 1:30 pm   LUNCH

1:30 – 4:00 pm   **SESSION 2: Assessing the Landscape: The Measurement and Modeling of Structural Racism (Part I)**

Many researchers have developed unique and rigorous measurement and modeling approaches to capture the complexity of structural racism that are theoretically driven and have implications for population health and well-being across the life course. In this session, experts will discuss the different approaches they have used to measure structural racism (e.g., laws, policies, institutions) and model structural racism (e.g., causal models, cumulative impacts) and the consequences of structural racism. The experts will describe the mechanisms that link structural racism to disparities in health and well-being across the life course. They will also consider the strengths and weaknesses of these approaches for population health and aging research.

1:30 pm   Speaker Talks (15 minute each)

❖ Experimental Design

- **René D. Flores**, Neubauer Family Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago *(Member, Workshop Steering Committee)* **[VIRTUAL]**

❖ Quasi-Experimental Approaches

- **Jamein Cunningham**, Assistant Professor, Department of Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell University

❖ Quantitative Historical Data

- **Amy Kate Bailey**, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Chicago **[VIRTUAL]**

❖ Data for Understudied Populations

- **Desi Small-Rodriguez**, Assistant Professor of Sociology and American Indian Studies, University of California at Los Angeles *[VIRTUAL]*

❖ Machine Learning

- **Ziad Obermeyer,** Blue Cross of California Distinguished Associate Professor of Health Policy and Management, University of California at Berkeley, School of Public Health *[VIRTUAL]*

2:45 pm   Discussant Questions and Reflections
- **David Takeuchi**, Professor and Associate Dean for Faculty Excellence, School of Social Work, University of Washington *(Member, Workshop Steering Committee)* *[VIRTUAL]*

3:00 pm   BREAK

3:10 pm   General Discussion

4:00 pm   Day 1 Adjournment

DAY 2: Tuesday, May 17, 2022
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

9:00 am   Brief Introduction to Day 2

9:10 – 11:00 am   SESSION 3: Assessing the Landscape: The Measurement and Modeling of Structural Racism (PART II)

9:10 am   Speaker Talks (15 minutes each)

❖ Mixed-Methods Approaches

- **Paris "AJ" Adkins-Jackson**, Assistant Professor, Departments of Epidemiology and Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

❖ Place-Based Approaches

- **Michelle Johnson-Jennings**, Professor and Director of Environmentally-based Health & Land-based Healing, University of Washington, School of Social Work

  ❖ Novel Approaches to Survey Data

    - **Courtney Boen**, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania

  ❖ Novel Approaches to Administrative and Crowd-Sourced Data

    - **Frank Edwards**, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, Rutgers University

10:10 am   Discussant Questions and Reflections
    - **René D. Flores**, Neubauer Family Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago *(Member, Workshop Steering Committee)* **[VIRTUAL]**

10:20 am   General Discussion

11:00 am   BREAK

11:15 am – 12:50 pm   SESSION 4: Moving Forward: Data Infrastructure Needs in Harnessing Data for Research in Structural Racism

In this session, experts will discuss the data necessary to not only measure and model structural racism, but also to identify and measure the mechanisms that link racism to population health and well-being over time, with a focus on aging.

11:15 am   Speaker Talks (15 minute each)

    - **Marjory Givens**, Associate Director, University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute; Co-Director, County Health Rankings & Roadmaps **[VIRTUAL]**

    - **Seth Sanders**, Ronald Ehrenberg Professor of Economics, Cornell University **[VIRTUAL]**

    - **Jennifer Manly**, Professor of Neuropsychology, Columbia University, *(Member, Workshop Steering Committee)* **[VIRTUAL]**

12:00 pm   Insights from the Center for Antiracism Research for Health Equity

    - **Rachel Hardeman**, Associate Professor and Blue Cross Endowed Professor of Health and Racial Equity, Division of Health Policy and

Management, School of Public Health, University of Minnesota
[VIRTUAL]

12:10 pm   Discussant Questions and Reflections
- **Margaret Hicken**, Research Associate Professor, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan *(Member, Workshop Steering Committee)* **[VIRTUAL]**

12:20 pm   General Discussion

1:00 – 2:00 pm   LUNCH

2:00 – 3:00 pm   **CLOSING SESSION: The Future Agenda: A Round Robin Discussion of Key Takeaways**

3:00 pm   Meeting Adjournment