

# *The National Academies of* SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

Food and Nutrition Board

## **Data and Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Systems-Wide Changes to Reduce the Prevalence of Obesity: A Second Workshop Series**

Speaker and Moderator Biographical Sketches



**Mary T. Bassett, M.D.**

*Harvard University*

***Invited Speaker***

Mary T. Bassett is Director of the François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB) Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University and the FXB Professor of the Practice of Health and Human Rights at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She has dedicated her career to advancing health equity. Prior to joining the FXB Center, Dr. Bassett served as New York City's Commissioner of Health from 2014 to 2018. She received her M.D. from Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons. She served her medical residency at Harlem Hospital Center, and has a master's degree in Public Health from the University of Washington, where she was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar.



**Carol Byrd-Bredbenner, Ph.D., R.D.**

*Rutgers University*

***Planning Committee Member***

Carol Byrd-Bredbenner is Distinguished Professor of Nutrition and the Nutritional Sciences Graduate Program Director at Rutgers University. Her research focuses on elucidating the role of cognitive and environmental factors on nutrition behaviors and health outcomes and developing recommendations for nutrition communications and health promotion interventions. Currently, she is leading the innovative childhood obesity prevention program HomeStyles that motivates parents to make quick, easy, evidence-based modifications to their home environment and lifestyle practices (HealthyHomeStyles.com). Dr. Byrd-Bredbenner has published nearly 200 research articles and theory-driven, behaviorally focused nutrition curricula and intervention materials. She received the Helen Denning Ullrich Award for Lifetime Excellence in Nutrition Education from the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior and the Excellence in Nutrition Education Award from the American Society for Nutrition. Dr. Byrd-Bredbenner earned her doctoral degree at Pennsylvania State University.

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**Carlos J. Crespo, Dr.P.H., M.S.**

*Oregon Health and Science University*

*Portland State University School of Public Health*

**Planning Committee Member and Moderator**

Carlos J. Crespo is Professor in the Oregon Health and Science University and Portland State University School of Public Health, and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Training in Biomedical Research at Portland State University. His previous work experience includes working for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at the National Center for Health Statistics, and as a Public Health Analyst for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). His main area of research involves the epidemiology of physical activity in the prevention of chronic diseases, and research on minority health issues. He lists more than 100 publications and has been a contributing author to five textbooks on minority health and sports medicine, and more than 20 government reports, including the Surgeon General's Report on Physical Activity and Health. He received the 1997 U.S. Secretary of Health Award for Distinguished Service as part of the Salud para su Corazon campaign, and in 2003 became a Minority Health Scholar from the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities at NIH. He has served on the board of directors for American Council on Exercise, American College of Sports Medicine, Oregon Health Policy Board, Oregon Public Health Institute, and on the National Advisory Council of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Active Living Research. Dr. Crespo currently serves on the Advisory Committee for the Community Guide for Physical Activity and the Built Environment for CDC, the Physical Activity Alliance Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee, the Executive Steering Committee of the Diversity Program Consortium of NIH, and the Oregon Latino Health Coalition. He is a Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine and a member of the Editorial Board of the journal *Cities and Health*. He graduated from the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, has a Master of Science in Sports Health from Texas Tech University, and a Doctor of Public Health in Preventive Care from the Loma Linda University.



**Sarah de Guia, J.D.**

*ChangeLab Solutions*

**Invited Speaker**

Sarah de Guia is Chief Executive Officer of ChangeLab Solutions, a national, nonpartisan organization that uses the tools of law and policy to advance health equity. Previously, she was executive director of the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN). Sarah has successfully accomplished passage of several legislative, budgetary, and administrative efforts to further health equity including: incorporating health equity into land use and planning regulations; expanding language access provisions for limited English proficiency; and improving the quality of health care for communities of color. Currently, Sarah sits on the advisory committee for the Office of Health Equity at the California Department of Public Health, the advisory council of the Healthiest Cities and Counties Challenge, and the board of directors of the CARESTAR Foundation. She earned her law degree from Santa Clara University School of Law and her bachelor's degree in ethnic studies from the University of California, Berkeley.

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**Joseph E. Donnelly, Ed.D.**  
*University of Kansas Medical Center*

***Invited Speaker***

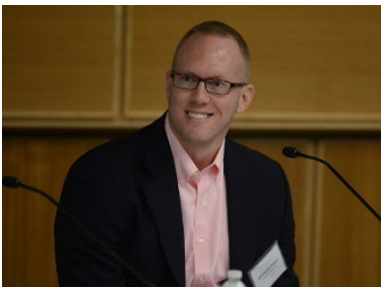
Joseph E. Donnelly is Professor of Medicine and Director for the Center for Physical Activity and Weight Management. He is a nationally recognized researcher in weight loss and maintenance. Since 2000 he has received \$60 million in grants from the National Institutes of Health for his research to help combat obesity in children and adults, including those with disabilities. His current projects involve more than 15,000 area children in strategies to fight obesity involving physical activity and the environment, diet, pharmaceuticals and public policy. Dr. Donnelly received his Ed.D. in Exercise Physiology from West Virginia University.



**Colby D. Duren, J.D.**  
*Intertribal Agriculture Council*

***Invited Speaker***

Colby D. Duren is the Director of Policy and Government Relations for the Intertribal Agriculture Council. Previously, he was Director of the Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative at the University of Arkansas' Office of the Vice Chancellor for Economic Development (IFAI). He has also served as Policy Director and Staff Attorney for IFAI since 2017. Mr. Colby has over 13 years of experience in federal Indian law and policy, with a specific focus on food, agriculture, nutrition, natural resources, and economic development, which includes work on three Farm Bills. Prior to joining IFAI, he worked as Staff Attorney and Legislative Counsel for the National Congress of American Indians, the Native American Rights Fund Washington, DC office, and OFW Law. In 2016, Mr. Colby was nominated by the Native American Bar Association of Washington, DC for its Significant Contribution in Indian Law Award for his work on environmental issues in Indian Country. He was also recognized by the Intertribal Agriculture Council membership in December 2018 for his work supporting Tribal governments and Tribal producers in the development of the 2018 Farm Bill. Mr. Colby earned his law degree from the American University Washington College of Law in 2012 and his Bachelor of Arts from Vassar College in 2006.



**Jeff Niederdeppe, Ph.D.**  
*Cornell University*

***Invited Speaker***

Jeff Niederdeppe is Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Communication at Cornell University. He is Director of Cornell's Health Communication Research Initiative and Co-Directs the Cornell Center for Health Equity. Dr. Niederdeppe's research examines the mechanisms and effects of mass media campaigns, strategic messages and news coverage in shaping health behavior and social policy. He is committed to producing, catalyzing and disseminating innovative and rigorous research to support efforts to achieve health equity. He has published over 140 peer-reviewed articles in communication, public health, health policy, and medicine journals, and his work has

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been funded in recent years by the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Town Creek Foundation. Dr. Niederdeppe received the Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) Research and Extension Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in Science and Public Policy in 2019, the Early Career Award in 2016 from the Public Health Education and Health Promotion Section of the American Public Health Association and the Lewis Donohew Outstanding Scholar in Health Communication Award in 2014 from the Kentucky Conference on Health Communication. He is an Associate Editor of *Communication Methods and Measures* and serves on the editorial boards for eight other journals. Dr. Niederdeppe earned his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.



**Patrick J. O'Connor M.D., M.A., M.P.H.**

*HealthPartners Institute*

### ***Invited Speaker***

Patrick J. O'Connor is Senior Clinical Investigator and Co-Director of the Center for Chronic Care Innovation at HealthPartners Institute. After completing his clinical training at Duke and an M.P.H. at Chapel Hill, Dr. O'Connor worked for three years on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona, where he was interested in research on diabetes and how to improve diabetes care. With colleagues, he has developed a number of successful strategies to improve chronic disease care in primary care settings, been a co-author of the ADA Standards of Diabetes Care for 5 years, published over 250 peer-reviewed articles, and served on the Editorial Boards of several journals including *Annals of Family Medicine* and *Diabetes Care*. He has been a consultant to the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and National Institutes of Health (NIH); visiting professor at many university medical centers; and has reviewed many grants for NIH, CMS, International Diabetes Federation, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality national research institutes in India and Ireland, and other organizations. Dr. O'Connor has led or participated in over 35 large NIH-funded grants, served on National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Expert Committees that designed the Action to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes (ACCORD) Trial, and was a coinvestigator in that landmark trial. He now leads a new National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases-funded grant to implement a Clinical Decision Support system that will provide patients with type 2 diabetes and their primary care clinicians with accurate, patient-specific estimates of benefits and risks of lifestyle, pharmacologic, and surgical treatment options related to obesity management.

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**Angela M. Odoms-Young, Ph.D.**

*University of Illinois at Chicago*

***Planning Committee Co-Chair and Moderator***

Angela Odoms-Young is Associate Professor and Director of the Nutrition, Obesity, and Health Equity Research Laboratory in the Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition, College of Applied Health Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago. She also serves as the Associate Director for Research and Education in the Office of Community Engagement and Neighborhood Health Partnerships

where her responsibilities include supporting staff in SNAP-ED. Dr. Odoms-Young has over 20 years' experience in diversity and equity research, teaching/training, and community engagement in the fields of public health, nutrition, and medicine. Her research explores the social and structural determinants of dietary behaviors and related health outcomes in low-income and Black/Latinx populations and centers on identifying culturally appropriate programs and policies that promote health equity, food justice, and community resilience. Dr. Odoms-Young has over 200+ academic publications, book chapters, and presentations and has served on numerous advisory committees and boards, including the National Academies' Food and Nutrition Board/Institute of Medicine committees to develop the nutrition standards for the National School Lunch Program/School Breakfast Program and to revise the food packages provided in the Supplemental Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and the Council on Black Health. Locally, Dr. Odoms-Young has been a board member at the Greater Chicago Food Depository (previous), American Heart Association Chicago Metro Board (current), Grow, Greater, Englewood (current), and Blacks in Green (current). Additionally, she currently serves as the Chair for the American Heart Association-Chicago, citywide Health Equity Advisory Committee. Dr. Odoms-Young received her B.S. in Foods and Nutrition from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and M.S./Ph.D. in Community Nutrition from Cornell University. She completed a Family Research Consortium Postdoctoral Fellowship examining family processes in diverse populations at the Pennsylvania State University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Community Health Scholars Fellowship in community-based participatory research at the University of Michigan School of Public Health.



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**Nicolaas (Nico) P. Pronk, Ph.D., M.A., FACSM, FAWHP**

*HealthPartners Institute and HealthPartners, Inc.*

***Planning Committee Co-Chair and Chair of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions***

Nico Pronk is President of the HealthPartners Institute and Chief Science Officer at HealthPartners, Inc. and holds a faculty appointment as Adjunct Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in Boston, Massachusetts. HealthPartners Institute is one of the largest medical research and education centers in the Midwest, the Institute has about 450 studies underway each year, trains more than 500 medical residents and fellows and more than 500 students, and provides continuing medical education for 25,000 clinicians as well as patient education and clinical quality improvement. HealthPartners, founded in 1957 as a cooperative, is an integrated, non-profit, member-governed health system providing health care services and health plan financing and administration. It is the largest consumer governed nonprofit health care organization in the United States. Dr. Pronk's work is focused on connecting evidence of effectiveness with the practical application of programs and practices, policies, and systems that measurably improve population health and well-being. His work applies to the workplace, the care delivery setting, and the community and involves development of new models to improve health and well-being at the research, practice, and policy levels. His research interests include workplace health and safety, obesity, physical activity, and systems approaches to population health and well-being. Currently, Dr. Pronk serves as co-chair of the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services' Advisory Committee on National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives for 2030 (aka Healthy People 2030) and is a member of the Community Preventive Services Task Force. He was the founding and past president of the International Association for Worksite Health Promotion and has served on boards and committees at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, the American Heart Association, the Health Enhancement Research Organization, among others. He is widely published in both the scientific and practice literatures with more than 400 articles, books, and book chapters and is an international speaker on population health and health promotion. Dr. Pronk received his doctorate degree in exercise physiology at Texas A&M University and completed his post-doctoral studies in behavioral medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center at the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

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**Stephanie A. Navarro Silvera, Ph.D., M.S., C.P.H.**

*Montclair State University*

***Planning Committee Member and Moderator***

Stephanie A. Navarro Silvera is Professor of Public Health at Montclair State University (MSU). After completing her masters' degrees, she worked as a Nutrition Educator at the Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Food Program (WIC) at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Paterson, New Jersey. She then went on to work as an epidemiologist at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the department of Epidemiology and Population Health before joining the faculty at MSU. During her professorship her work has focused on racial/ethnic disparities in health outcomes and she was awarded the prestigious National Cancer Institute's K01 Career Development Award in 2009 to pursue this work. She has also served on the boards of the American Public Health Association Cancer Caucus, on the American Society for Preventive Oncology Junior Member and Membership Committees, and is a current member of the New Jersey Society for Public Health Education Academic Advisory Board. She has, more recently, been called upon by the New York and New Jersey media to serve as an expert to interpret and explain the epidemiology of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Silvera holds a Bachelor's degree in biology from Rutgers University, a Master's of Science in nutritional sciences from Rutgers University, and a doctorate in epidemiology from the Yale School of Medicine.



**Melissa A. Simon, M.D., M.P.H.**

*Northwestern University*

***Planning Committee Member and Moderator***

Melissa A. Simon is the George H. Gardner Professor of Clinical Gynecology, Vice Chair of Research in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. She is also the Founder and Director of the Center for Health Equity Transformation and the Chicago Cancer Health Equity Collaborative. She is an expert in implementation science, women's health across the lifespan, minority health, community engagement and health equity. Dr. Simon has been recognized with numerous awards for her substantial contribution to excellence in health equity scholarship, women's health and mentorship, including the Presidential Award in Excellence in Science Mathematics and Engineering Mentorship. She is a former member and current consultant to the US Preventive Services Task Force. She is also a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity and the National Academy of Medicine Leadership Consortium's Culture Inclusion and Equity Collaborative. She received her M.D. from Rush Medical College and her M.P.H. from University of Illinois at Chicago.