SPEAKER BIOS

Janine Austin Clayton, M.D.
NIH Associate Director for Research on Women's Health
Director, NIH Office of Research on Women's Health

Janine Austin Clayton, M.D., Associate Director for Research on Women's Health and Director of the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), is the architect of the NIH policy requiring scientists to consider sex as a biological variable across the research spectrum. This policy is part of NIH's initiative to enhance reproducibility through rigor and transparency. As co-chair of the NIH Working Group on Women in Biomedical Careers with the NIH Director, Dr. Clayton also leads NIH's efforts to advance women in science careers. In 2021, Dr. Clayton was elected to the Board of Directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Prior to joining the ORWH, Dr. Clayton was the Deputy Clinical Director of the National Eye Institute (NEI) for seven years. A board-certified ophthalmologist, Dr. Clayton's research interests include autoimmune ocular diseases and the role of sex and gender in health and disease. She is the author of more than 120 scientific publications, journal articles, and book chapters.
Dr. Clayton, a native Washingtonian, received her undergraduate degree with honors from Johns Hopkins University and her medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine. She completed a residency in ophthalmology at the Medical College of Virginia. Dr. Clayton completed fellowship training in cornea and external disease at the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital and in uveitis and ocular immunology at NEI.

Dr. Clayton has received numerous awards, including the Senior Achievement Award from the Board of Trustees of the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2008 and the European Uveitis Patient Interest Association Clinical Uveitis Research Award in 2010. She was selected as a 2010 Silver Fellow by the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. In 2015, she was awarded the American Medical Women's Association Lila A. Wallis Women's Health Award and the Wenger Award for Excellence in Public Service. Dr. Clayton was granted the Bernadine Healy Award for Visionary Leadership in Women's Health in 2016. She was also selected as an honoree for the Woman's Day Red Dress Awards and the American Medical Association's Dr. Nathan Davis Awards for Outstanding Government Service in 2017. In 2023, Dr. Clayton received the American Medical Women's Association AMWA Presidential Award.

Holly Moore, Ph.D.

Project Officer,
National Institute on Drug Abuse,
Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience Branch (BCN)

Holly Moore, Ph.D. is a Project Officer at the National Institute on Drug Abuse, Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience Branch (BCN). She oversees a portfolio focused on preclinical and basic studies in non-human models on neural mechanisms underlying the cognitive, affective and behavioral processes that mediate the risk and maintenance of compulsive drug taking and dependence. Dr. Moore's background is in behavioral neuroscience and translational research using primarily rodent model systems to probe neural circuit function relevant to psychiatric disease. She received a dual-degree B.S. in Psychology and Chemistry from Wright State University and a PhD in Neuroscience with an emphasis on animal cognition from The Ohio State University. She obtained post-doctoral training in translational neuroscience and techniques including neurophysiology, neurochemistry and neuroanatomy at the University of Pittsburgh. From 2001-2018, Dr. Moore was a faculty of the Department of Psychiatry at Columbia University as Assistant then Associate Professor of Neurobiology in Psychiatry and as a Research Scientist VI for the New York State Psychiatric Institute. Her research program there focused on developing and validating rodent models of the neural circuit-behavioral relationships in schizophrenia and mood disorders. She also established and directed the New York State Psychiatric Institute/Columbia Psychiatry Rodent Neurobehavioral Analysis Core, and served as Director of Research Resource Management. Dr. Moore joined NIDA in 2019.

Marjorie Jenkins, M.D.
Associate Provost at the University of South Carolina (USC), Dean and Professor of Internal Medicine of the USC School of Medicine Greenville (USCSOMG), and chief academic officer for Prisma Health-Upstate

Marjorie R. Jenkins, M.D., serves as the associate provost at the University of South Carolina (USC), dean and professor of internal medicine of the USC School of Medicine Greenville (USCSOMG), and chief academic officer for Prisma Health-Upstate, which is the largest integrated health system in South Carolina.

Prior to joining USC in 2019, Dr. Jenkins was a tenured professor of medicine and associate dean at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and founder and chief scientific officer of the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health, focuses a sex and gender research and education. By invitation of the U.S. FDA, she served from 2015 to 2019 as the director of medical and scientific initiatives for the Office of Women's Health, working in the area of sex and gender health policy and research.

Dr Jenkin’s is a well-recognized expert in women's health and sex and gender-based medicine. During her career, she has developed a sex and gender women’s health fellowship program, launched the first annual US Sex and Gender Education Summit in 2018, which is ongoing and spans multiple disciplines, served as a consultant for the NASA sex and gender decadal review, is a founding member of the Sex and Gender Women’s Health Collaborative, and performed expert advisory roles within NIH and HRSA.

Dr Jenkins is a global leader in the integration of sex and gender into health professionals’

education and clinical care. In addition to her many journal publications, she led the development of the signature textbook in this space, titled How Sex and Gender Impact Clinical Practice: An

Evidence-Based Guide to Patient Care, published by Elsevier (2020), and has co-authored two consumer books Eat Like a Woman and Why Women Aren’t Winning at Health (but can) in 2023.

Nationally and internationally, Dr. Jenkins remains a sought-after speaker, having presented world-wide on the topic of sex and gender research and clinical care, including Sweden’s Karolinska Institute, Royal Swedish Academic of Science, Charite Institute for Gender Medicine, and Canada’s Institute of Gender Health. She has been recognized with numerous awards for her work in sex and gender education, research, clinical care, and health policy.

Denise Hyater Lindenmuth MBA, MA
Executive Director,
National Women's Health Network

Denise Hyater-Lindenmuth is the Executive Director of The National Women's Health Network and leads this organization's mission to improve health by strategically shaping policy, expanding access, and providing accurate, unbiased information. Denise has worked in the Washington DC area in both nonprofit and for-profit industries for nearly 30 years. Her nonprofit leadership roles included creating ground-breaking community-based programs where her efforts were recognized internationally and led organizations such as Brain Injury Services and the American Cancer Society for the National Capital Region. She also served in leadership roles for national/international public relations firms representing healthcare clients and health interests. She has extensive experience serving as spokesperson in many of her leadership roles.

Denise's leadership style is based on the philosophy of community service and is firmly driven by data and results. She has proven successes with leading boards and people through change and overcoming challenges while remaining mission focused. Critical areas of importance include mission and strategy, governance, financial management and development, operations, and marketing.

She earned her MBA at George Washington University in Washington D.C., a master's degree in Community Health Education at Trinity Washington University, in Washington, D.C., and a bachelor's in Public Relations/Marketing at Howard University, in Washington, D.C. Denise also received a certificate in strategic nonprofit management from Harvard University. As a fifth-generation Washingtonian, she lives with her husband, Philip, in the District of Columbia. They have three children who are successfully "adulting".

Kathryn G. Schubert, MPP, CAE
President and CEO,
Society for Women's Health Research

Kathryn (Katie) Schubert joined the Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR) as President and CEO in April 2020. Under Katie's leadership SWHR developed a strategic plan focused on fulfilling the organization's mission of promoting research on biological sex differences in disease and improving women's health through science, policy, and education. She previously worked for the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM), where she served as the organization's chief advocacy officer, growing SMFM's role nationally and building its reputation in women's health.

Katie is a trusted leader and consensus builder among women's health stakeholders, particularly in the policy arena. She has served in multiple Board roles for nonprofit organizations in the Washington, DC-area, including as Chair of the Board of the Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance and as advisor to the John E. Lewy Fund for Children's Health. She is a past president of Women in Government Relations.

Prior to SMFM, Katie served as senior vice president at CRD Associates, where she advised clients — including nonprofit patient advocacy groups, medical professional organizations, and private companies — on government relations and public policy related to health and biomedical research issues, among others. She has also spent time working in key legislative roles on Capitol Hill. She received her BA from Mary Washington College and her Masters of Public Policy from George Washington University. Katie lives in Virginia with her husband, three children, and dog George.

Carolee Lee
CEO & Founder, Women's Health Access Matters (WHAM)

Women's Health Access Matters (WHAM), a 501(c)3, was launched by Carolee Lee in July 2018 as an initiative to focus on increasing awareness of women's health issues, investing in women's health research and implementing strategies to improve the inequities and bias in research while accelerating scientific discovery. A board of 25 leading businesswomen support and steer this initiative.

The Connors Center at Brigham/Harvard is WHAM's Lead Scientific Partner. Partners and Collaborators of The WHAM Reports include The RAND Corporation, American Heart Association, La Jolla Institute for Immunology, BrightFocus Foundation and GO2 for Lung Cancer. And other partners in WHAM's efforts include Northwell Health, KPMG, Research!America, Global Coalition on Aging, Magee-Womens Research Institute and Walgreens.

WHAM is committed to making an impact in diseases and conditions that exclusively, differently, or disproportionately affect women during their lifetime.

Prior to founding WHAM, Carolee Lee, was the founder and CEO of Carolee Designs, one of the world's leading accessories brands. After the sale of her business to Luxottica, Carolee 's vision was to create a global network providing connectivity, knowledge, and access to thought leaders, resources and experiences that transform the health and well-being of women's lives.

Diana Falzone
EndoFound ambassador and
Executive producer for Endo TV,
Endometriosis Foundation of America

Diana Falzone is an EndoFound ambassador and Executive producer for Endo TV. Diana was diagnosed with endometriosis and infertility in 2016. A year later she penned a national essay to raise awareness about the illness. It was during that time she began to volunteer for EndoFound. In 2020, Diana officially joined the Foundation as EndoTV's Executive Producer and host, and serves as an EndoFound Ambassador.

Diana's passion for endometriosis education and advocacy has brought her to Capitol Hill both in-person and virtually. She serves on the UpEndo Coalition to support the Endometriosis Congressional Caucus. While she actively supports federal legislation, the journalist helps to support state legislation.

In addition to her work at EndoFound, Falzone is a Rolling Stone contributor and previously was contributing editor for The Daily Beast. Her work has been in Vanity Fair, Vice News, Fox News, SiriusXM, and more.

Annika Ehrlich, MS, FNP-C, AQH, CNRN
Vice-President of the Executive Board,
Alliance for Headache Disorders Advocacy

Annika Ehrlich is the Vice-President of the Executive Board with the Alliance for Headache Disorders Advocacy (AHDA). She is a Nurse Practitioner at the UCSF Headache Center in San Francisco, CA, and a Doctor of Nursing Practice candidate (UCSF School of Nursing). She is a certified Family Nurse Practitioner, certified Neuroscience Nurse and holds an Additional Qualification in Headache from the National Headache Foundation. As an active member of the American Headache Society (AHS), she is currently an Emerging Leader and the chair of the AHS Advanced Practice Provider special interest section. She serves as Social Media and Advocacy Director on the Board of the Headache Cooperative of the Pacific.

As a national lecturer and author of numerous scientific articles on headache and migraine, her interests include women's health, inpatient and outpatient headache care, clinical research, advocacy, interdisciplinary care and integrative medicine.

Ayesha Patrick
Patient advocate for the Autoimmune Association and Founder of Sistas With Psoriasis

New Jersey native Ayesha Patrick has lived with psoriasis nearly her entire life; she remembers as a child her mother telling her that she and her twin sister had growing dandruff to help them to cope and deal with their scalp psoriasis. Whenever she experienced mild flares on her body, she was told she had winter itch. It was not until later in her teen years and early adulthood that she had a skin condition.

Ayesha’s flares remained mild, and easy to conceal; it was not until many years later at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic at 40 years old when she experienced the worse flare up in her life. At that time, Ayesha’s flare overtook more than half of her body, and her entire scalp resulting in her losing all her hair in the crown of her scalp. She also began to experience issues with her joints that ultimately resulted in mild psoriatic arthritis. During this time Ayesha was desperate to find others like herself and found there to be a lack of information and resources specifically for women of color with psoriasis. This propelled her to begin an online Facebook support group Sistas With Psoriasis to serve as a safe space and support for women of color managing psoriasis.

Ayesha later became heavily involved as an advocate and one-to-one mentor with the National Psoriasis Foundation (NPF). Her hopes for her involvement in the NPF were to elevate the voices of those in the black community struggling with psoriasis. As her voice and advocacy grew, she became involved with the Autoimmune Association and other organizations committed to awareness of those living with autoimmune, or immune mediated diseases.

Ayesha is employed with the state of New Jersey for the Department of Child and Families. She is also heavily involved in community service efforts through her membership within the graduate chapter of her organization Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Her greatest joy in life is being a mom to her two incredible children who are her inspiration and life source. She hopes that she can leave them a legacy of gratitude and service with a heart for helping others.

Wendy Rodgers, M.ED., MPH
Director, Care & Support Services,
Lupus Foundation of America

Wendy Rodgers holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of Houston, a Master of Education with a Specialization in Multicultural Teaching from National University, and a Master of Public Health degree from the George Washington University. Wendy resides in Southern California and currently works for the Lupus Foundation of America as the Director of the Care and Support Services where she develops national support services; oversees the national educational program; works with the team of health education specialists and connects the local community with the Foundation's efforts to improve the quality of life for those impacted by lupus.

In early 2000, Wendy experienced acute changes in her health that led her to the diagnosis of systemic lupus, kidney failure, and ultimately a life-threatening battle with a myriad of complications. After enduring nine years on dialysis, Wendy was fortunate to receive a kidney transplant in 2009. Her acute blend of health conditions motivated her to serve as an advocate and educator through several health organizations including the Lupus Foundation of America.

Over the years, Wendy has reached out to encourage patients and families; model hope to others who live with the daily health challenges; and advocate for better health policy and medical treatment.

Wendy was honored to participate in the first National Lupus Awareness Campaign, "Could I Have Lupus?" and the LFA "Know/No Lupus" campaign where she shares her face, voice, and personal experience with lupus to stimulate national public awareness and raise funding for research. Wendy's story has also been featured in other media sources including Oprah.com, the Tournament of Roses Parade, the New York Times Patient Voices Series, and MORE magazine.

Professionally, Wendy has contributed to various projects addressing health disparities and testified at the FDA for the approval of the first lupus specific treatment – Benlysta. More importantly, she lends her time to serving communities suffering with lupus. She started a local SoCal lupus support group in 2017 after observing the need for emotional support and education. This group has become a model for developing quality support for other communities across the country.