

In Times of Crisis: Stories from the Gulf of Mexico

Committee

Matthew S. VanDyke

Chair

Matthew S. VanDyke is an assistant professor and graduate program coordinator in the Department of Advertising and Public Relations at The University of Alabama. His research examines processes, effects, and problems associated with the public communication of science and environmental risk information. Most often he employs quantitative and qualitative research methods to understand how organizations communicate about science and environmental risks, and the effects of such communication strategies on audiences. His work is published in journals including Science Communication, Environmental Communication, Risk Analysis, Journal of Risk Research, Applied Environmental Education & Communication, Politics and the Life Sciences, and Public Relations Review. He serves as a member of the steering committee for the Science Public Engagement Partnership (SciPEP) organized by the Department of Energy's Office of Science and The Kavli Foundation.

Justin Dunnivant

Member

Justin Dunnivant is an Academic Pathways Postdoctoral Fellow at Vanderbilt University's Spatial Analysis Research Laboratory. In fall 2021, he will join the faculty of UCLA's Anthropology Department as an Assistant Professor. Dunnivant holds a BA in History and Anthropology from Howard University (2009) and an MA (2014) and Ph.D. from the University of Florida (2017). His current work in the US Virgin Islands investigates the relationship between ecology and enslavement in the former Danish West Indies. Justin has conducted archaeological research in US Virgin Islands, Belize, Jamaica, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Mozambique, and The Gambia. In addition to his archaeological research, Justin is co-founder and President of the Society of Black Archaeologists, an AAUS Scientific SCUBA Diver, and consults for the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture Slave Wrecks Project. In 2021, he was named The Explorers Club "Fifty People Changing the World that You Need Know About." His research has been featured on Netflix's "Explained," Hulu's "Your Attention Please" and in print in American Archaeology and Science Magazine.

Becca Hatheway

Member

Becca Hatheway is a Senior Program Manager at the UCAR Center for Science Education in Boulder, CO. She has over twenty years of experience in informal science education, including creating preK-12 educational resources, developing and facilitating teacher professional development programs, managing climate change education projects, and engaging with communities on climate resilience education projects. She co-authored seven Elementary GLOBE storybooks on Earth system science topics and many of the companion classroom activities in the series. Becca also manages the exhibits program at the NCAR Mesa Lab Visitor Center in Boulder, which includes hands-on science exhibits about weather, climate change, solar physics, air quality, and the atmosphere.

Marccus Hendricks

Member

Marccus D. Hendricks is an Assistant Professor of Urban Studies and Planning and the Director of the Stormwater Infrastructure Resilience and Justice (SIRJ) Lab at the University of Maryland. His primary research interests include infrastructure planning and management, social vulnerability to disaster, environmental justice, sustainable development, public health and the built environment, and participatory action research. To date, he has primarily worked to understand how social processes and development patterns create hazardous human-built environments and vulnerable infrastructure and the related risks in urban stormwater management and flooding. His research takes into account how socio-spatial dynamics, emphasizing participation and action, related to the inventory, condition, and distribution of critical infrastructures and public works, mainly water infrastructure (i.e. stormwater, wastewater, and drinking water) and green space, can modify risks of hazard exposure, resulting disaster impacts, public health outcomes, long-term recovery, and opportunities for community resilience. Dr. Hendricks has received two early-career awards from both the National Academies of Science Gulf Research Program and The JPB Environmental Health Fellows Program at Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health. He also participated in a congressional briefing entitled "Addressing the Impact of Climate Change on Public Health and Natural Disasters" on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. Most recently, he was named as a 2021 "Fixer" by the media company Grist for their annual Grist 50 Fixer list. His research has been published in several journals including the Journal of the American Planning Association, Environmental Justice, Journal of Infrastructure Systems, Risk Analysis, Landscape Journal, and Sustainable Cities and Society. He holds a Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Science and a Master of Public Health, both from Texas A&M University.

Jennifer Marshall

Member

Jennifer Marshall is an Associate Professor at the University of South Florida (USF) College of Public Health, Chiles Center. Dr. Marshall teaches and supervises courses in Maternal and Child Health, Community Partnerships and Advocacy, and Community-based Research Methods and Program Evaluation. She serves on the College Executive Committee as Interdisciplinary Faculty Lead and is also Director of Research and Evaluation and Deputy Director of Outreach for the NIOSH funded Sunshine Education, Research and Training Center (ERC) for occupational health, safety, and wellness. Leading Florida's HRSA-funded Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) evaluation since 2013 and the statewide Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Impact Project evaluation, she conducts interdisciplinary public health systems research assessing perinatal support and infant mortality prevention programs; family-centered care and access to services for women, families and children; mental health programs; and Florida's Early Childhood Courts. Her research interests stem from over 25 years of experience working with community programs that support perinatal women's health, underserved communities, and parents of young children with special health care needs. Areas of expertise include mixed-methods research, community-based participatory research, program evaluation, and cross-cultural research. Dr. Marshall has worked with the Florida Birth Defects Registry and USF Birth Defects Surveillance Program for 10 years as the lead for community-based research examining systems of care and family supports for children with birth defects and developmental disabilities, including Zika virus epidemic response and hurricane preparedness.

Daniel I. Pineda

Member

Daniel I. Pineda is an Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering at UTSA. Prof. Pineda's primary research focus is on spectroscopy and optically-based sensor development, including laser absorption spectroscopy, with experimental applications to advanced chemical propulsion, hypersonic flight, and energy conversion systems. His interests include the chemical kinetics of ignition, fuel reformation, as well as fire toxicant and pollutant formation for broader environmental and health monitoring applications. Originally a native of San Antonio, Texas, Dr. Pineda completed his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering (Combustion) at the University of California, Berkeley. He subsequently held a postdoctoral appointment in the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering department at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he gained extensive experience field-testing rocket engines to advance both project-based engineering education and next-generation propulsion research.

Ari Daniel Shapiro

Member

Ari Daniel Shapiro has always been drawn to science and the natural world. As a kid, he packed his green Wildlife Treasury box full of species cards. As a graduate student, Ari trained gray seal pups (*Halichoerus grypus*) for his Master's degree at the University of St. Andrews, and helped tag wild Norwegian killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) for his Ph.D. at MIT and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. These days, as Senior Digital Producer for NOVA and an independent science reporter for outlets including public radio, Ari works with a species he's better equipped to understand – *Homo sapiens*. He has reported on science topics across five continents. He is a co-recipient of the AAAS Kavli Science Journalism Gold Award for his radio stories on glaciers and climate change in Greenland and Iceland. Ari also co-produces the Boston branch of Story Collider, a live storytelling show about science. In the fifth grade, Ari won the "Most Contagious Smile" award.

Amy D. Thierry

Member

Amy Thierry is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences at Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans where she teaches in the MPH in Health Equity program. Dr. Thierry completed her BS in Biological Sciences in 2004 from LSU in Baton Rouge and her MPH in Behavioral and Community Health Sciences from the LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans in 2010. As an MPH student, she was an Albert Schweitzer Fellow from 2009-2010. Dr. Thierry then earned her PhD in Biobehavioral Health with a minor in Demography in 2016 from the Pennsylvania State University. Upon completing her doctorate, she was a NIA T32 postdoctoral fellow at Duke University in the Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development from 2016-2018. With expertise in quantitative analysis of national survey and biomarker data, Dr. Thierry's research focuses on understanding how social inequality via chronic stress pathways drives population-level disparities in chronic disease, physical disability, and cognitive impairment in Black and Hispanic older adults.

Rodney Washington

Member

Rodney Washington is an Associate Professor in the Department of Population Health Science at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. His research areas includes using equity-driven research practices to improve health and educational outcomes for children and families living in high poverty communities. Dr. Washington is also a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Leader and a Fellow with the Obesity Health Disparities PRIDE Program. Dr. Washington has a background in criminology and justice services, mental health counseling, and early childhood education. His research interests include population-specific program evaluation methods, HIV Testing among African American men-who-have-sex-with men (MSM), barriers to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) adherence and use among sexual minority populations.