

Workshop on the Utility, Feasibility, Security, and Ethics of Verifiable COVID-19 Credentials for International Travel

Committee

Saskia Popescu

Chair

Saskia Popescu, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.A., CIC, (Chair) is a Term Assistant Professor in the Biodefense Program within the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University.

She received her PhD in Biodefense from the Schar School in 2019; a Master's in Public Health with a focus on infectious disease epidemiology and a Master's of Arts in International Security Studies from the University of Arizona. While completing her PhD, she served as a student ambassador for the Global Health Security Agenda Ministerial Meeting in Bali, Indonesia, and has served as a signatory on the NGO statement for the Biological Weapons Convention. During her epidemiology graduate studies, she was a recipient of the Frontier Interdisciplinary eXperience (FIX) HS-STEM Career Development Grant in Food Defense through the National Center for Food Protection and Defense. Popescu is an Alumni Fellow of the Emerging Leaders in Biosecurity Initiative (ELBI) at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Center for Health Security. She currently serves as a member of the Federation of American Scientists (FAS) Coronavirus Taskforce and is a member of the Committee on Data Needs to Monitor Evolution of SARS-CoV-2 within the Health and Medicine Division of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM).

Prior to joining Mason, Popescu worked as infection prevention epidemiologist in several large healthcare systems, working to enhance readiness and biopreparedness. More recently, she created and disseminated a gap analysis for a six-hospital system to establish vulnerabilities for high-consequence diseases, helping to guide the creation of a high-consequence disease initiative to enhance readiness at the healthcare level. This work aided in rapid and coordinated responses to COVID-19. Her assessment and leadership regarding healthcare biopreparedness efforts has resulted in several peer-reviewed literature. She is certified in infection prevention (CIC), hospital preparedness through FEMA's NIMS, and pandemic preparedness from the DHS Center for Domestic Preparedness. Popescu's research addresses gaps within global health security, biodefense, healthcare biopreparedness, and the integration of antimicrobial resistance into global health security initiatives. She also serves as an adjunct professor in the University of Arizona College of Public Health Epidemiology and Biostatistics program.

Brian Anderson

Member

Brian Anderson, M.D., is Chief Digital Health Physician at MITRE where he leads research and development efforts across major strategic initiatives in Digital Health, including partnering with the United States government on public-private partnerships during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Anderson is also responsible for co-founding the Vaccination Credential Initiative; leading MITRE's development of machine learning techniques to leverage real world health data; and linking genomic and clinical data to provide insight into the efficacy of therapeutics and vaccines. He also leads MITRE's largest Health R&D effort in Oncology and Personalized Medicine. His teams help to architect, implement, and analyze health data and information systems for federal agencies including HHS, NIH, CDC, ASPR, CMS, the FDA and VA.

Prior to joining MITRE, Dr. Anderson led the Informatics and Network Medicine Division at athenahealth where he launched a new model of clinical decision support leveraging artificial intelligence. He has also served on several national health information technology committees in partnership with the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC).

Dr. Anderson completed his clinical training at Massachusetts General Hospital. He completed his BA ('00) and MD ('06) degrees, both with honors, at Harvard College and Harvard Medical School.

Ezekiel J. Emanuel

Member

Ezekiel Emanuel, M.Sc., M.D., Ph.D., Ezekiel J. Emanuel is the Vice Provost for Global Initiatives, the Diane v.S. Levy and Robert M. Levy University Professor, and Co-Director of the Healthcare Transformation Institute at the University of Pennsylvania. From January 2009 to January 2011, Dr. Emanuel served as a Special Advisor on Health Policy to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and National Economic Council. Prior to that he was the founding chair of the Department of Bioethics at the National Institutes of Health from 1997 to August of 2011. Dr. Emanuel received his M.D. from Harvard Medical School and his Ph.D. in political philosophy from Harvard University. Dr. Emanuel served on President Clinton's Health Care Task Force, the National Bioethics Advisory Commission (NBAC), and on the bioethics panel of the Pan-American Healthcare Organization. He has published over 300 articles mainly on health care reform, research ethics, and end of life care in the New England Journal of Medicine, the Lancet, JAMA, and many other medical journals. He has also authored or edited 15 books. His latest book entitled Which Country Has the World's Best Health Care? was published in June 2020.

Lawrence O. Gostin

Member

Lawrence O. Gostin, J.D., is an internationally distinguished scholar on global health. Gostin serves as Faculty Director and Founding Chair, O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, and holds Georgetown's highest academic rank, "University Professor" conferred by the University president. He is a Member of the National Academy of Medicine and Council of Foreign Relations, and Fellow of the Royal Society of Public Health.

Gostin is director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Center on Public Health Law & Human Rights and he has served on major WHO committees including the Director-General's advisory committee for reforming the WHO. He served on two global commissions investigating WHO's response to the West Africa Ebola outbreak. In 2016, President Obama appointed Gostin to the National Cancer Advisory Board.

Gostin holds international academic professorial appointments at Oxford University, the University of Sydney, and the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, among others, and has received numerous awards and honorary degrees. The National Consumer Council (UK) conferred the Rosemary Delbridge Memorial Award on Prof. Gostin for the person "who has most influenced Parliament and government to act for the welfare of society." The American Public Health Association awarded Gostin its Distinguished Lifetime Service Award. He is JAMA's Legal & Global Health Correspondent.

Margaret A. Hamburg

Member

Margaret A. Hamburg, M.D., is an internationally recognized leader in public health and medicine, who currently serves as chair of the NTI | bio Advisory Group. She previously served as foreign secretary of the National Academy of Medicine and is a former Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), having served for almost six years. Before joining FDA, Hamburg was founding vice president and senior scientist at the Nuclear Threat Initiative. Previous government positions include Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Commissioner for New York City, and Assistant Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health.

Hamburg recently stepped down from her position as Foreign Secretary of the National Academy of Medicine, the health arm of the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. In her former role, she served as senior advisor on international matters and was the liaison with other Academies of Medicine around the world. She is an elected member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the National Academy of Medicine. Hamburg currently sits on the boards of the Commonwealth Fund, the Simons Foundation, the Urban Institute, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, the Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy and the American Museum of Natural History. She is chair of the Joint Coordinating Group for the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness and Innovation, and a member of the Harvard University Global Advisory Council, the Global Health Scientific Advisory Committee for the Gates Foundation, the Harvard Medical School Board of Fellows, and the World Dementia Council.

Hamburg earned her B.A. from Harvard College, her M.D. from Harvard Medical School and completed her medical residency at Weill Cornell Medical Center. She is the recipient of multiple honorary degrees and numerous awards.

Kathleen M. Neuzil

Member

Kathleen Neuzil, M.D., M.P.H. is the Myron M. Levine Professor in Vaccinology, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, and the Director of the Center for Vaccine Development and Global Health at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. She is an internationally recognized research scientist and advocate in the field of vaccinology. Throughout her career, Dr. Neuzil has conducted clinical and epidemiologic studies on vaccine-preventable diseases, yielding high-profile publications that inform policy decisions and public health actions. Dr. Neuzil's work has spanned dozens of low-resource countries with multiple vaccines, including influenza, rotavirus, human papillomavirus, Japanese encephalitis, typhoid conjugate vaccines, and most recently, COVID-19 vaccines. Dr. Neuzil is central to the domestic and global response to COVID. As a co-PI of the NIH-funded Leadership Group for the Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit network, Dr. Neuzil is part of the strategic team evaluating COVID vaccines and therapeutics in the US and was part of the study team who designed the first COVID-19 clinical vaccine trial in the US. The CVD is likewise participating in COVID treatment and post-exposure prophylaxis trials. Dr. Neuzil also directs TyVAC, the Typhoid Vaccine Acceleration Consortium, with the goal to accelerate the introduction of typhoid conjugate vaccines into low-resource countries. She has more than 230 scientific publications on vaccines and infectious diseases. Dr. Neuzil's research capabilities are complimented by 20 years of involvement in domestic and international policy, including past membership on the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. She is a member of the World Health Organization Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization and is a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine.

Mark Pearson

Member

Mark Pearson, M.Sc. is Deputy-Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs (ELS) at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Mr. Pearson works with the Director to provide leadership in the co-ordination and management of the activities of ELS and ensure that it is at the forefront of the international social, health and employment agenda.

In 2009 he became Head of the Health Division where the central focus of work was on how to deliver health care with greater efficiency, including putting much more effort into prevention of obesity and harmful use of alcohol. He gave evidence to the US Senate on 'Obamacare', and has been on a panel advising the Chinese government on its health reforms.

More recently, Mr. Pearson led the cross-OECD initiative for Safe International Travel during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Pearson is British, and has a degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford, and an MSc in Economics and Econometrics from Birkbeck, University of London

Megan Walklet-Tighe

Member

Megan Walklet-Tighe, M.A., is the Director of the Office of Transportation Policy (OTP) in the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. OTP works to increase global capacity and safeguard the commercial aviation and maritime sectors. Working with U.S. and foreign partners, OTP promotes adherence to the highest international standards to enhance the safety and security of the global transportation system. As the principal staff officer for European and multilateral affairs in the Office of Transportation Policy from 1999 - 2003, she managed aviation issues with the European Union (EU), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and the World Trade Organization (WTO). From 2003, Megan was OTP's Team Leader for the aviation section, and in 2013 she was promoted to Office Director with responsibility for both aviation and maritime policy. She was a member of the negotiating team that concluded the landmark US-EU Air Transport Agreement in 2007, as well as the US-EU Aviation Safety Agreement in 2010, and participated in international efforts to reach agreement on a global mechanism to reduce emissions from aviation in the International Civil Aviation Organization. Prior to joining the State Department, Megan worked for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the Americas Division of the Office of International Affairs. Megan is a Senior Fellow in the Partnership for Public Service's Excellence in Government leadership program. She earned her Master's Degree in International Policy Studies from the Monterey Institute for International Studies at Monterey, California in 1990, and her undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina-Charlotte in 1997. Megan lives in Virginia with her husband and daughter.

Abbey Wojno

Member

Abbey E. Wojno, Ph.D., serves as the Lead of Innovation with the Office of Innovation, Development, Evaluation, and Analytics in CDC's Division of Global Migration and Quarantine. In this role, Abbey works with her CDC colleagues to push forward novel solutions to public health challenges faced by globally mobile populations and the practitioners engaged with them.

Abbey earned her PhD in organizational and health communication in 2011 from the Scripps College of Communication at Ohio University.

Julie Pavlin

Staff Officer