

Review of Federal Policies that Contribute to Racial and Ethnic Health Inequities

Committee

Sheila P. Burke

Co-Chair

Sheila P. Burke, M.P.A., R.N., F.A.A.N., is an adjunct lecturer at the J. F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, where she served as Executive Dean. Ms. Burke is currently Vice Chair of the Commonwealth Fund Board of Directors. She also serves as a Senior Public Policy Advisor and Chair of the Government Relations and Policy Group at Baker Donelson. Ms. Burke previously had been Chief of Staff to the Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole and served as Deputy Staff Director of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Secretary of the Senate, the chief administrative officer of the body. She has served as a Commissioner on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission and Chair of the Kaiser Foundation Board. Early in her career, she served as a staff nurse in California. Ms. Burke previously served as the Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer of the Smithsonian Institution, where she received the Secretary's Gold Medal for Exceptional Service. Ms. Burke is a member of the National Academy of Medicine (NAM), where she previously served as a member of the NAM Council and received the David Rall Award. She is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and a member of the National Academy of Public Administration. She has honorary degrees from Marymount University and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Ms. Burke is a graduate of the University of San Francisco and Harvard University.

Daniel E. Polsky

Co-Chair

Daniel E. Polsky, Ph.D., is the Bloomberg Distinguished Professor of Health Economics and Policy at Johns Hopkins University. He holds primary appointments in both the Department of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Carey Business School. As the current Director of the Hopkins Business of Health Initiative and former executive director of the Leonard Davis Institute for Health Economics, Dr. Polsky has extensive experience in leading interdisciplinary teams advancing research to inform U.S. health policy to address challenges of access, affordability, value, and equity. He was the Robert D. Eilers Professor at the Wharton School and the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, where he was faculty from 1996 to 2019. Dr. Polsky is a member of the National Academy of Medicine. He serves on the Health and Medicine Division Committee for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. He was the senior economist on health issues at the President's Council of Economic Advisers. Dr. Polsky received his M.P.P. from the University of Michigan in 1989 and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Pennsylvania in 1996.

Madina Agenor

Member

Madina Agénor, Sc.D., M.P.H., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Center for Health Promotion and Health Equity at the Brown University School of Public Health. She is also Adjunct Faculty at The Fenway Institute and leads the Sexual Health and Reproductive Experiences Lab at Brown University. As a social epidemiologist, Dr. Agénor investigates health inequities in relation to multiple social positions and power relations—especially sexual orientation and heterosexism, gender and (cis)sexism, and race/ethnicity and racism—using an intersectional lens and a mixed-methods research approach. Specifically, she uses quantitative and qualitative research methods to investigate the structural and social determinants of sexual and reproductive health and cancer screening and prevention among marginalized populations, especially sexual minority women, transgender and gender diverse young adults, Black women, and Black and other lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) people of color. Her current research seeks to elucidate how multiple, intersecting forms of structural and interpersonal discrimination, including racism, heterosexism, and (cis)sexism, independently and jointly influence access to and utilization of these preventive services and related health outcomes among multiply marginalized groups. Her research has been published in leading public health and medical peer-reviewed journals, including *American Journal of Public Health*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, and *Annals of Internal Medicine*. Dr. Agénor completed postdoctoral research training in cancer prevention equity as part of the Harvard Educational Program in Cancer Prevention and was Visiting Research Faculty at the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS at Yale University. Prior to joining the Brown University faculty, she was Gerald R. Gill Assistant Professor of Race, Culture, and Society at Tufts University and Assistant Professor at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She holds a Doctor of Science (Sc.D.) in Social and Behavioral Sciences with a concentration in Women, Gender, and Health from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and a Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) in Sociomedical Sciences from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, and a bachelor's degree (A.B.) in Community Health and Gender Studies from Brown University.

Camille M. Busette

Member

Camille M. Busette, Ph.D., is a Senior Fellow in Governance Studies with affiliated appointments in Economic Studies and the Metropolitan Policy programs at the Brookings Institution. She is the Director of the Race, Prosperity, and Inclusion Initiative, focusing on issues of equity, racial justice, and economic mobility for low-income communities and communities of color. Prior to joining Brookings, Dr. Busette was an executive at the World Bank, where she led the World Bank's financial inclusion innovation arm. She was the inaugural CEO of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Office of Financial Education, where she was a member of the Policy and Executive Management teams. Dr. Busette has held executive positions at PayPal, Intuit, and NextCard and is a Public Governor of FINRA, the self-regulatory agency for the broker-dealer industry. She holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in political science from the University of Chicago, and a B.A. in political science from the University of California, Berkeley and is former Ford Foundation post-doctoral fellow.

Juliet K. Choi

Member

Juliet K. Choi, J.D., is the president and Chief Executive Officer of the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF), a national health justice organization which influences policy, mobilizes communities, and strengthens programs and organizations to improve the health of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. She is an accomplished cross-sector leader and coalition builder who specializes in change management, system reform and stakeholder relations, particularly in the areas of immigration, civil rights, healthcare and disaster relief. She served in the Obama administration as the former chief of staff and senior advisor of two federal agencies: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; and the Office for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Prior to her political appointments, she led disaster relief operations and strategic partnerships at the American Red Cross as a member of the disaster leadership team. She has previously worked at the Partnership for Public Service, Asian American Justice Center, Mental Health America, and a Fortune 500 corporation. Juliet received her law school's Alumni Association Award for Leadership and Character and Rising Star Alumnus Award. The proud daughter of South Korean immigrants, she is humbled to serve on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV and AIDS (PACHA), the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Commission on Data Modernization, the Office of Minority Health Subject Matter Experts Group on AANHPI, and on the boards of the NAPABA Law Foundation and national YWCA USA. Juliet received her J.D. from University of Maryland School of Law and clerked for the Hon. Dennis M. Sweeney (ret.) of the Circuit Court for Howard County, Maryland. She received her B.A. in Economics from University of Virginia.

Juan De Lara

Member

Juan De Lara, Ph.D., M.A., is Associate Professor of American Studies and Ethnicity at University of Southern California Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences. He is a human geographer who studies race, space, and power. Dr. De Lara is the Inaugural Director of the Center for Latinx and Latin American Studies. His research focuses on three broad themes: urban political economy, racialization, and the politics of space; the use of data science and technology to reorganize how various state agencies are restructuring the social relations of race, immigration, and labor; and research that supports community-based organizations in their efforts to resolve social disparities. Dr. De Lara authored the book *Inland Shift: Race, Space, and Capital in Inland Southern California* which uses logistics and commodity chains to unpack the black box of globalization by showing how the scientific management of bodies, space, and time produced new racialized labor regimes inside modern warehouses. Dr. De Lara received his B.A. in Sociology and Labor Studies from Pitzer College, an M.A. in urban planning from University of California, Los Angeles, and a Ph.D. in Geography from University of California, Berkeley.

Thomas E. Dobbs, III

Member

Thomas Dobbs III, M.D., M.P.H., is Dean of the John D. Bower School of Population Health at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. In addition to his role as Dean, Dr. Dobbs teaches Epidemiology for the School of Population Health and School of Health-Related Professions, and has a clinical position within the Division of Infectious Disease, working specifically in the fields of HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections with a focus on the intersection of disease and the social determinants of health. Previously, he was the State Health Officer for Mississippi from 2018 through July 2022. Dr. Dobbs previously served in other public health roles at Mississippi State Department of Health, including District Health Officer and State Epidemiologist. He is a board-certified Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases physician, working at the intersection of public health and patient care, both domestically and internationally, with specific expertise in HIV, tuberculosis, public health, and health equity. He has won numerous awards for work in public health and education, including Mississippi Senate and House resolutions for his work through the COVID pandemic. Dr. Dobbs received his M.D. and M.P.H. from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Megan D. Douglas

Member

Megan D. Douglas, J.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Health and Preventive Medicine and the Director of Research & Policy in the National Center for Primary Care at Morehouse School of Medicine. She is a licensed attorney and her research focuses on studying how laws and other policies improve population health and advance health equity. She has expertise in the field of legal epidemiology, which uses scientific methods to study the effects of laws on health outcomes and has used this approach to study policies related to primary care, behavioral health, developmental disabilities, digital health tools, and structural racism. Ms. Douglas has been awarded funding from the Office of Minority Health, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Institutes of Health. She received her B.S. in Biology from Virginia Tech and her J.D. from Georgia State University College of Law. She was the first attorney to complete the Health Policy Leadership Fellowship in the Satcher Health Leadership Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine.

Abigail Echo-Hawk

Member

Abigail Echo-Hawk, M.A., is enrolled citizen of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma. She is currently the Chief Research Office at Seattle Indian Health Board and the Director of Urban Indian Health Institute. Currently, Abigail is part of multiple committees, Boards, and workgroups that are focused on ending health disparities through health equity approaches including the Best Starts for Kids Board, the March of Dimes Health Equity Workgroup, the Tribal Collaboration Working Group with the NIH All of Us Research Program, the Advisory Committee for Health Equity Research at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the NIDA American Indian and Alaska Native Collaborative Research Engagement Workgroup, and Data for Indigenous Justice Board. Abigail spent eight years as the Tribal Liaison with Partnerships for Native Health at the School of Public Health at The University of Washington. In 2016, she became the Co-director of Partnerships of Native Health at the Washington State University Institute for Research and Education to Advance Community Health. Abigail was also the Tribal Relationship Facilitator at the Institute of Translational Health Sciences at the University of Washington from 2010 to 2015. In 2015, she became a Board Member for the Center for Indigenous Law and Justice. She is an expert in American Indian and Alaska Native health, including strengths and resiliencies as well as disparities and was recently awarded the Washington State Public Health Association Secretary of Health Award and 2020 Indian Woman of the Year by a national organization of Indigenous women. Abigail began working in health equity in 2000 as a community advocate to address the high rates of infant mortality among American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN). After recognizing the lack of evidence-based practices that were informed and shaped by AI/AN communities, she began working in research on health disparities and achieving health equity in 2010. Since then, Abigail has been the tribal liaison for 26 multi-year, NIH-funded studies of Native health. Her role in each study was to ensure that relationships between academia and Native communities are bi-directional and grounded in health equity principles. In her current role as the Director of Urban Indian Health Institute (UIHI), Abigail directs the only national tribal epidemiology center, and they are conducting COVID-19 epidemiologic surveillance with urban Indian health programs. An essential component of Abigail's work in facilitating protocols and ground rules for research partnerships has included negotiating equity through tribal data-sharing, control, and ownership. Many communities have experienced untrustworthy practices where agencies and individuals have exploited and used data with little to no meaningful impact, while people of color continue to bear the burden of health disparities. Much of her work involves community-based participatory research, with a strong emphasis on cultural humility, respect for tribal sovereignty, and achieving health equity to undo health disparities. Abigail has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and a Master of Arts degree in Policy Studies, both from the University of Washington who honored her with the Distinguished Alumna of the Year Award in 2011.

Hedwig Lee

Member

Hedwig (Hedy) Lee, Ph.D., is a Professor of Sociology at Washington University in St. Louis and holds a courtesy joint appointment at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. She is also the Associate Director of the University's new Center on the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Equity and Scholar in Residence of Sociology, Duke University. Prior to joining Washington University, she was a Professor at the University of Washington Department of Sociology in Seattle. Her research focuses on the social determinants and consequences of population health and health disparities, with a particular focus on the role of structural racism (e.g., mass incarceration) in racial/ethnic health disparities. She serves on the board of the Population Association of America and the research advisory board for the Vera Institute for Justice. She is also a member of the General Social Survey Board of Overseers and a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, Committee on Population. Lee received her Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and was a Carolina Population Center Predoctoral Trainee. She was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Society Postdoctoral Scholar at the University of Michigan.

Margaret Moss

Member

Margaret P. Moss, Ph.D., J.D., R.N., FAAN, is an enrolled member of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation and is also Dakhóta. She is Associate Vice President of Equity and Inclusion, Interim at the University of British Columbia. She has been a nurse for 32 years, a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing since 2008, and was recently elected to the American Academy of Nursing Board of Directors. Dr. Moss is the first and only American Indian to hold both nursing and juris doctorates. Dr. Moss was appointed to the Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. She was named on the inaugural Forbes 50 over 50 Impact List 2021, in part due to her editing and authoring the first nursing text on American Indian health winning two book-of-the-year awards. Her second text, Health Equity and Nursing, was published in 2020. Dr. Moss has been a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow, staffing the Senate Special Committee on Aging 2008; a Fulbright Research Chair at McGill University on Indigenous contexts since 2014; and was on the British Columbia Minister of Health's investigation team and report-In Plain Sight: Addressing Indigenous-specific Racism and Discrimination in B.C. Health Care. Dr. Moss received her Ph.D. from The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and her J.D. from Mitchell Hamline School of Law.

Sela Panapasa

Member

Sela V. Panapasa, PhD., is an Associate Research Scientist at the Research Center on Group Dynamics at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research. As a social demographer, Dr. Panapasa conducts research in population dynamics, family demography, racial and ethnic health disparities, and mixed-methods research on the health and well-being of hard-to-survey populations. Specific areas of expertise include lifecourse perspective on health outcomes and quality of life among Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander populations. Panapasa received her Ph.D. in sociology and was a Population Studies and Training Center trainee at Brown University. She was a Postdoctoral Scholar at the University of Michigan.

S. Karthick Ramakrishnan

Member

S. Karthick Ramakrishnan, Ph.D., is professor of public policy at the University of California, Riverside, and serves as the executive director of California 100, a transformative statewide initiative focused on building a shared vision and strategy for California's next century that is innovative, sustainable, and equitable. Dr. Ramakrishnan also founded the Center for Social Innovation at UC Riverside, and AAPI Data, a national publisher of demographic data and policy research on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs). He has published many articles and seven books, including most recently, *Citizenship Reimagined* (Cambridge, 2020) and *Framing Immigrants* (Russell Sage, 2016). Ramakrishnan was named to the Frederick Douglass 200 and is currently working on projects related to racial equity in philanthropy and regional development. Dr. Ramakrishnan serves on the Board of The California Endowment and the Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni, chairs the California Commission on APIA Affairs, and serves on the U.S. Census Bureau's National Advisory Committee. Ramakrishnan also founded Census Legacies, which builds on the foundation of census outreach coalitions to build more inclusive and equitable communities, and the *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*, an official section journal of the American Political Science Association. He holds a B.A. in international relations from Brown University and a Ph.D. in politics from Princeton.

Diane Schanzenbach

Member

Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach, Ph.D., is Director of the Institute for Policy Research at Northwestern University. She is also the Margaret Walker Alexander Professor in the School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern. She is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, a nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, and a research associate at the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Schanzenbach is an economist who studies policies aimed at improving the lives of children in poverty, including education, health, and income support policies. Her work traces the impact of major public policies such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, school finance reform, and early childhood education on children's long-term outcomes. Dr. Schanzenbach was formerly the Director of the Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution. She is an elected member of the National Academy of Education and the National Academy of Social Insurance. Dr. Schanzenbach graduated magna cum laude from Wellesley College in 1995 with a B.A. in economics and religion, and received a Ph.D. in economics in 2002 from Princeton University.

Lisa Servon

Member

Lisa Servon, Ph.D., is the Kevin and Erica Penn Presidential Professor Department Chair in the Weitzman School of Design at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Servon was previously Professor of Management and Urban Policy at The New School, where she also served as Dean at the Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy. She conducts research in the areas of urban poverty, community development, economic development, and issues of gender and race. Specific areas of expertise include economic insecurity, consumer financial services, and financial justice. Dr. Servon holds a B.A. in political science from Bryn Mawr College, an M.A. in history of art from the University of Pennsylvania, and a Ph.D. in urban planning from University of California, Berkeley.

Vivek Shandas

Member

Vivek Shandas, Ph.D., is a professor of climate adaptation and Founder and Director of the Sustaining Urban Places Research (SUPR) at Portland State University. He specializes in developing strategies for addressing the implications of climate change on cities. His teaching and research examine the intersection of exposure to climate-induced events, governance processes, planning mechanisms, and relevant implications on the public's health. As an interdisciplinary scholar, Dr. Shandas studies the emergent characteristics that generate vulnerability among communities and infrastructure. He teaches courses in environmental planning, urban ecology, health impact assessments, and climate adaptation. As the Founder and Director of the SUPR, he brings a policy-relevant approach to research, including the evaluation of environmental stressors on human health, developing of indicators and tools to improve decision making, and the construction of frameworks to guide the growth of urban regions. Funding for his research comes primarily from Federal agencies, and focuses on understanding the disparate health impacts emerging from the built environment, planning policies, and coping capacities of communities to the increasing effects of climate change. Dr. Shandas has written articles on water quality and use, climate justice, air quality, and interdisciplinary education for diverse publications including *Urban Geography*, *Journal of the American Planning Association*, *Landscape and Urban Planning*, *BioScience*, *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, *Urban Climate*, *Journal of Environmental Management*, and several other international journals. Prior to serving at Portland State University, he was a school teacher in Oregon (Vernonia); curriculum developer in California (San Jose); and, a health and environmental policy analyst for the Governor of New York State (Albany). He serves on several national and local advisory boards, and is an advisor to CAPA Strategies, a global consulting firm specializing in preparing communities for climate-induced extreme events. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Washington, Seattle.

Melissa A. Simon

Member

Melissa A. Simon, M.D., M.P.H., is the George H. Gardner Professor of Clinical Gynecology and 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 serves as the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center's Associate Director for Community Outreach and Engagement. 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 her election to the National Academy of Medicine and the Association of American Physicians. She has received the Presidential Award in Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentorship and is a Presidential Leadership Scholar. Dr. Simon is a former member of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and serves on the National Institutes of Health Office of Research in Women's Health Advisory Committee. She currently is a member of the NASEM Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice and a member of the Roundtable on the Promotion of Health Equity.