

Standing Committee on Evidence Synthesis and Communications in Diet and Chronic Disease Relationships

Committee

Bruce Y. Lee

Chair

Bruce Y. Lee, M.D., M.B.A. is a Professor of Health Policy and Management at the City University of New York (CUNY) School of Public Health where he is the Executive Director of the Center for Advanced Technology and Communication in Health (CATCH). Dr. Lee is also the Executive Director of PHICOR (Public Health Computational and Operations Research), which he founded in 2007, and the founder and CEO of Symsilico, which develops and uses computational methods, models, and tools to help decision-making. His previous positions include serving as Professor by Courtesy at the Johns Hopkins Carey Business School, Associate Professor of International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Executive Director of the Global Obesity Prevention Center (GOPC), Director of Operations Research at the International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC), Associate Professor at the University of Pittsburgh, Senior Manager at Quintiles Transnational, working in biotechnology equity research at Montgomery Securities, and co-founding Integrigen. Dr. Lee is a systems modeler, computational and digital health expert, writer, and health journalist. He has over two decades of experience in industry and academia developing mathematical and computational models to assist a wide range of decision makers in health and public health. He has been the Principal Investigator for projects supported by a variety of organizations and agencies and has served as a systems science and modeling expert for numerous advisory boards and committees such as the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine committee to evaluate the Dietary Guidelines for Americans process. Dr. Lee has written extensively for the general media. He is a Senior Contributor for Forbes, covering a wide range of health-related topics including medicine, wellness, digital health and the business of health and having written over 1,200 articles. His writing has also appeared in a number of other media outlets including The New York Times, Time, The Guardian, the HuffPost, and the MIT Technology Review. Dr. Lee received his B.A. from Harvard University, M.D. from Harvard Medical School, and M.B.A. from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. He completed his internal medicine residency training at the University of California, San Diego.

Rodolphe Barrangou

Member

Rodolphe Barrangou (NAS; NAE), Ph.D. is the T. R. Klaenhammer Distinguished Professor in Probiotics Research in the Department of Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition Sciences at North Carolina State University, focusing on the evolution and functions of CRISPR-Cas systems, and their applications in bacteria used in food manufacturing. He spent 9 years in R&D and M&A at Danisco and DuPont in the food industry. Dr. Barrangou is also an associate member of the Microbiology graduate program, the Biotechnology graduate program, the Functional Genomics graduate program, the Genetics program, the Genome Engineering and Society Center, and the Comparative Medicine Institute. Recently, for his work establishing the biological function of CRISPR, he received the 2016 Warren Alpert Prize, the 2016 Canada Gairdner International Award, the 2017 NAS Award in Molecular Biology and the 2018 NAS Prize in Food and Agriculture Sciences. Dr. Barrangou was elected into the US National Academy of Sciences in 2018 and the US National Academy of Engineering in 2019. Dr. Barrangou is also the former Chairman of the Board of Directors of Caribou Biosciences, a co-founder and member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Intellia Therapeutics, a co-founder of Locus Biosciences, Ancilia Biosciences and TreeCo, and an advisor to Inari Ag, KiTua and Provaxus, and the Editor in Chief of the CRISPR Journal. Dr. Barrangou earned a Ph.D. in genomics from NC State and a M.B.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Lorraine Brennan

Member

Lorraine Brennan, Ph.D is a Full Professor of Human Nutrition in University College Dublin, Ireland. Professor Brennan is at the forefront of nutrition and metabolomics research, running the Nutrition, Biomarkers, and Health research group, obtaining considerable National and European research funding and publishing high impact peer-reviewed articles. Her research focuses on developing novel biomarker methods to assess dietary intake and to combine biomarker approaches with self-reported data. She also has a focus on development of precision nutrition. Recent funding successes have included a European Research Council (ERC) Consolidator Award and US-Ireland tripartite grant. She is involved in a number of European consortia such as FoodBall and SusFood. Professor Brennan was a member of the EU Food2030 Expert group which assisted the European Commission with the development of FOOD2030 and explored possible future R&I policy recommendations and actions cumulating with a published report. Professor Brennan is Editor in Chief of Nutrition and Metabolism and Associate Editor for the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. She has published over 180 research articles. She has an active public engagement programme engaging with the local community in terms of food and nutrition.

Ronald E. Kleinman

Member

Ronald E. Kleinman, M.D., is the Physician in Chief Emeritus of the Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, Emeritus Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Massachusetts General Hospital, and the Charles Wilder Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Kleinman's major areas of research interest include nutrition support of infants and children, nutrition and public health policy, and gastrointestinal immunology. He has been a member of several committees and projects of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine, including the NASEM committees on Standards for School Meals and Obesity Prevention for Young Children. He served as Chair of the Committee on Nutrition for the American Academy of Pediatrics, as Editor of Pediatric Nutrition for the past 5 editions, and as Vice-Chair of the 2020-25 US Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee. He currently serves as the President and Chair of the Board of the Global Child Nutrition Foundation and is a member of several other non-profit boards and of scientific advisory committees focused on child health, nutrition, food production and sustainable agriculture.

Chirag Patel

Member

Chirag J Patel, Ph.D. is Associate Professor in the Department of Biomedical Informatics at Harvard Medical School (HMS). His primary research interests includes developing multi-scale computational and data science methods to dissect the role of environmental exposures and genetic factors in complex traits and disease, with an emphasis on the trajectory from obesity to diabetes and its complications. His portfolio is supported by the National Institutes of Health and ARPA-H. Dr. Patel is a leader in "exposome" science, developing methods to map systems of dietary and environmental exposure factors with disease. He is an active researcher in "meta-science", studying the science of science, with an affiliation and active collaboration in the Meta-Research Innovation Center at Stanford University (METRICS). His work in meta-science has led to participation in an international committee developing recommendations for dietary intake. Dr. Patel was a previous member (2014-2017) of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Standing Committee on Emerging Sciences for Environmental Health Decisions. He serves as an active member of HMS's faculty council. He received his Ph.D. in biomedical informatics from Stanford University.

Nicholas J. Schork

Member

Nicholas J. Schork, Ph.D., M.A. is a Distinguished Professor and Director of Clinical Genomics and Therapeutics at The Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen) in Phoenix, AZ, which is a part of the City of Hope National Medical Center. Dr. Schork is also Adjunct Professor of Population Sciences as well as Molecular and Cellular Biology at City of Hope, Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry and Biostatistics at the University of California, San Diego and Adjunct Professor of Integrative Structural and Computational Biology at Scripps Research. Prior to his current positions, Dr. Schork was Professor and Director of Human Biology at the J. Craig Venter Institute and, previously, Professor, Molecular and Experimental Medicine, at The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) and Director of Bioinformatics and Biostatistics for the Scripps Translational Science Institute (STSI). Dr. Schork has also held faculty appointments at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) and Harvard University. Between 1999 and 2000 Dr. Schork took a leave of absence from CWRU to conduct research as Vice President of Statistical Genomics at the French Biotechnology company, Genset, where he helped guide efforts to construct the first high-density map of genetic variation in the human genome. Dr. Schork has published in many areas of biomedical and translation science, including articles detailing novel methodologies and applications leveraging integrated approaches to disease diagnosis, treatment, and prevention, as well as clinical trials design. Dr. Schork has published papers in the fields of integrated nutrigenomics and the design of personalized nutritional trials. He was a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Food and Nutrition Board from 2003-2007. He also has a long history of collaborative and consortium-related research in which he has contributed analysis methodology and applied data analysis expertise. For example, Dr. Schork is the Principle Investigator and Director of the Longevity Consortium, funded by the National Institute on Aging, which is seeking to identify and characterize factors that contribute to human longevity. He earned his Ph.D. in genetic epidemiology from the University of Michigan.

Susan C. Scrimshaw

Member

Susan C. Scrimshaw (NAM), Ph.D. is past President of Russell Sage College, Troy and Albany, NY. Previous positions include President of Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts, Dean of the School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Associate Dean of Public Health and Professor of Public Health and Anthropology at the University of California at Los Angeles. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of Speare Memorial Hospital in Plymouth, N.H. She recently co-chaired the National Academies of Science Committee on Women's Empowerment, Population Dynamics, and Socioeconomic Development and co-edited the committee report (2025). Earlier, she chaired the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Birth Settings and co-edited the report Birth Settings in America: Outcomes, Quality, Access and Choice (National Academies Press 2020). She was lead editor for the second edition of The Handbook of Social Studies in Health and Medicine, (2021, Sage Publications, London). Her research includes community participatory research methods, combining qualitative and quantitative research methods, health disparities, pregnancy outcomes, health communication, and culturally appropriate delivery of health care. When she was elected to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) in 1993, she and her father, Dr. Nevin S. Scrimshaw became the first father/daughter members of the NAM. She is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Anthropological Association. She served on the Chicago and Illinois State Boards of Health and the New York State Minority Health Council. She is past president of the Society for Medical Anthropology, and former chair of the Association of Schools of Public Health. She was a member of the board of governors of the US-Mexico Foundation for Science (FUMEC) for 10 years and served as board president for 3 of those years. Her honors include the Yarmolinsky Medal, given by the National Academy of Medicine for distinguished service, the Margaret Mead Award from the American Anthropological Association, and a Hero of Public Health gold medal awarded by President Vicente Fox of Mexico. Dr. Scrimshaw lived in Guatemala until age 16. She speaks Spanish, French and Portuguese. She obtained a Ph.D. in anthropology from Columbia University.

Dorothy Teegarden

Member

Dorothy Teegarden, Ph.D. is a Professor in the Department of Nutrition Science at Purdue University. She also serves as the Director of the Women's Global Health Research at Purdue and the Associate Director for the Institute for Cancer Research leading the Cancer Research Education and Training activities for the Institute. One of her primary research areas is identifying molecular mechanisms that regulate alterations in energy metabolism, with a particular focus on obesity, to identify dietary targets to prevent cancer. Her interdisciplinary research team utilizes a variety of approaches including modeling of labeled isotopes, metabolomics, proteomics, state-of-the-art imaging techniques and multiple models in their investigations. She previously served for seven years as the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate programs in the college of Health and Human Sciences. She received her doctorate in human nutrition and nutritional biology from the University of Chicago.

Linda V. Van Horn

Member

Linda V. Van Horn, Ph.D., RDN is Professor, Nutrition Research Division, Department of Preventive Medicine, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University in Chicago. She is a clinical nutrition epidemiologist with research focusing on primary prevention of cardiometabolic and other chronic diseases beginning in utero and continuing throughout the life course. Her research includes the study of Cardiovascular Risk Development in Young Adults (CARDIA), the Multiple Risk Factor Intervention Trial (MRFIT), and the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos (SOL) and in SOL Youth. As principal investigator she served on several multi-center collaborative trials, including the Diet Intervention Study in Children (DISC), the Women's Health Initiative (WHI) and the International Study of Macro/Micro Nutrient Intake and Blood Pressure (INTERMAP). She studied the DASH diet intervention among the offspring of mothers with overweight/obesity recruited from MOMFIT, a randomized clinical trial preventing excessive gestational weight gain. Dr. Van Horn served as editor of the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics from 2003-2013. She chaired the 2010 US Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee (DGAC) and served on the 2020 US DGAC. She chaired /served on several NIH task forces and workshops including the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute's Workshop on Medical Nutrition Education. She is an active member of the American Heart Association's Council on Epidemiology and Lifestyle specifically serving on the Nutrition Committee. Dr. Van Horn did her undergraduate training in nutrition and dietetics at Purdue, her doctoral work at the University of Illinois, Chicago involving adolescent blood pressure response to a sodium restricted diet. She is currently a Principal Investigator in the massive NIH study on Nutrition in Preventive Health (NPH).