

Board on Higher Education and Workforce

Committee

Pamela A. Padilla

Co-Chair

Dr. Padilla is vice president of research and innovation and served as dean of the college of science, associate dean for research and graduate studies, associate vice president for research and innovation at the University of North Texas, one of 22 R1 Hispanic Serving Institutes in the nation. Professor Padilla's research, supported by NIH or NSF, focuses on how environmental and dietary stress affects living organisms at the cellular, genetic, and molecular levels to model human health challenges. Her recognitions include an NSF CAREER, UNT Early Career Award for Research and Creativity, a HHMI and SACNAS Advanced Leadership Institute Fellow, and Science magazine prize for inquiry-based instruction. She values STEM diversity and student training noted by serving as PI/CoPI for NIH or DOE training grant, NASEM workforce development panel member, and advisory board member for the Biosciences Berkeley lab and for Springer Nature. Notably, she was elected president, treasurer, and board member for SACNAS, largest STEM diversity nonprofit in the nation. Padilla earned her Ph.D. in biology from the University of New Mexico, conducted her post-doctoral research at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Washington, and was a visiting scholar at the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California.

Lamont R. Terrell

Co-Chair

Lamont R. Terrell is currently the Director Partnership Operations. Lamont is responsible for developing talent pipeline programs and recruitment strategies to increase the diversity of the R&D workforce. He serves as the GSK representative on the steering committee for the Philadelphia STEM Equity Collective (PSEC). PSEC's mission is to increase the number of underrepresented individuals in the Philadelphia workforce. Outside of work, Dr. Terrell is dedicated to the scientific community by serving on executive committees of several professional scientific organizations (i.e. American Chemical Society, NOBCChE). Prior to his pivot into leading Human Resource efforts to shape the R&D organization, he spent 14 years as a medicinal chemist leading projects in early drug discovery. His graduate studies consisted of the total synthesis of the antileukemic natural product amphidinolide A and the development of catalytic tin hydride reactions. Upon completion of his graduate studies at MSU, he continued his synthetic training with a two-year postdoctoral stint at Stanford University. Dr. Terrell graduated salutatorian from Texas Southern University as a Fredrick Douglas honor scholar earning a B.S degree in chemistry in 1995. He earned his Ph.D. in 2001 in organic chemistry from Michigan State.

Dominique Baker

Member

Dominique J. Baker is an Associate Professor of Education and Public Policy with a joint appointment in the College of Education & Human Development and the Joseph R. Biden, Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration at the University of Delaware. She previously served as an assistant dean of admissions at the University of Virginia. Her research focuses on the way that education policy affects and shapes the access and success of minoritized students in higher education. She primarily investigates student financial aid/finance, admissions policies, and policies that influence the ability to create an inclusive & equitable campus climate. In recognition of the impact and promise of her scholarly career, she was the 2023 American Educational Research Association Early Career Award winner and past recipient of a National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation postdoctoral fellowship. She earned her Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University and her B.A. and M.Ed. from the University of Virginia.

Rajeev Darolia

Member

Rajeev Darolia is the Wendell H. Ford Professorship of Public Policy, Professor of Public Policy and Economics, and Associate Dean for Research of the Graduate School at the University of Kentucky. He is also Associate Director of the UK Center for Poverty Research, a Visiting Scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, and a Research Fellow at the IZA Institute of Labor Economics. Professor Darolia's research interests include questions about how public policy affects educational decisions and outcomes, and more broadly, economic mobility and financial security. Recent research includes analyses of short-term postsecondary credentials, federal and state financial aid programs, higher education regulations, and pathways into college and the workforce. In 2023, Professor Darolia served as a Senior Advisor in the Office of the Chief Economist at the US Department of Education, and in 2021, he served as the Advisor for Economic Analysis and Data for the US Department of Education's Negotiated Rulemaking Affordability and Student Loans Committee. Professor Darolia earned a PhD in public policy, a master's degree in economics, and a bachelor's degree in finance.

Matthew Hora

Member

Matthew T. Hora is an Associate Professor of Adult & Higher Education and the Founding Director of the Center for Research on College-Workforce Transitions (CCWT) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Hora's interdisciplinary, applied research program focuses on the socio-cultural, cognitive, and structural forces shaping the nature of "soft skills" in the workplace and postsecondary instruction, accessibility and quality issues related to college internships, and the nature of institutional change efforts in STEM active learning and campus-wide career readiness initiatives. Dr. Hora has been the Principal Investigator for \$9.6 million in funding from six National Science Foundation and three Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation supported research projects to conduct this work, and has published 34 peer-reviewed articles, two books, and several public essays on skills, pedagogy, and workforce development. In addition, Dr. Hora has worked as an evaluation specialist in consulting firms and as a grantwriter and farm manager in the non-profit sector. Dr. Hora is a member of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, the Society for Applied Anthropology, and the International Society of the Learning Sciences, and in 2018 won the Frederic Ness award for the nation's best book on liberal education for "Beyond the skills gap: Preparing college students for life and work" (Harvard Education Press), awarded by the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U).

Dr. Hora has a Bachelor's in Literature from the University of California, Santa Barbara, a Master's in Applied Anthropology from the University of Maryland-College Park, and a PhD in Educational Psychology with a concentration in the Learning Sciences from UW-Madison.

Brandy Huderson

Member

Brandy Huderson is an Associate Professor at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) and a former American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science and Technology Policy Fellow (STPF) and was placed at the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR). She is also a DEI Consultant specializing in institutional and organizational change, strategic planning, and program evaluation. Dr. Huderson's research focuses on steroid receptor biology, in normal and abhorrent systems. Dr. Huderson expanded her research beyond the lab to include studying the experiences of early career black and brown women in STEM, advocating for minority students in higher education, and increasing Inclusion, Diversity, and Access in STEM. In 2017, Dr. Huderson was awarded the College of Arts and Sciences Leader of Promise award at UDC. She is currently a member, and former co-chair, of the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's New Voices, cohort 2.

Dr. Huderson has a B.S. in Biology from Xavier University of Louisiana (New Orleans, LA), Masters of Biological Sciences degree with concentrations in Molecular Genetics from the University of New Orleans (LA), and a PhD in Animal Science with a concentration in Dairy Science from Virginia Tech (Blacksburg, VA). In 2022, Dr. Huderson completed the Certificate in Education Program Evaluation at Georgetown's School of Continuing Education.

Tracie B. Lattimore

Member

Tracie currently serves as the Executive Director, Health Readiness Policy and Oversight, within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. Prior to rejoining civil service, in December 2023, Tracie was a senior director for biosecurity solutions and cell engineering at Ginkgo Bioworks.

Tracie's government career spans over 20 years in a variety science and technology policy, global health security, health, and biodefense roles. Her most recent government service was in the White House Office of Management and Budget's National Security Division, where she helped lead oversight and execution of a \$100B budget. Prior to this role, she served in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), as the Executive Director of the National Science and Technology Council. Tracie also served as a senior policy advisor within OSTP's biodefense and health portfolios, specifically leading efforts on Veteran suicide, brain health, and the Joint Committee on the Research Environment (JCORE). In March of 2020, she was assigned to the National Response Coordination Center where among other responsibilities she established and led the COVID-19 interagency data taskforce under the Unified Coordination Group. Prior to joining OSTP, Tracie served as the Director of Traumatic Brain Injury for the U.S. Army, and in a series of other positions at the interface of medicine, policy, and military operations within the Army Office of the Surgeon General, the Defense Health Agency, and in support of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Readiness Policy and Oversight. Tracie also served on active duty in the Navy Nurse Corps, with deployments on the USNS Comfort in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Joint Task Force Katrina.

Tracie holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Virginia and a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She is currently a doctoral candidate, in Health Policy Management and Public Health Leadership, at the University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health. Tracie is a member of The Board on Higher Education and Workforce at The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

Hironao Okahana

Member

Hironao Okahana is Assistant Vice President & Executive Director of Education Futures Lab at the American Council on Education (ACE), where he leads ACE's research & institutional transformation portfolio. Prior to joining ACE, he worked at the Council of Graduate Schools for 8+ years, including five as their head of research. He is also a higher education program affiliate (with a graduate faculty status) at George Mason University and serves on the editorial review board of Innovative Higher Education. Dr. Okahana is an expert on graduate and postdoctoral education, as well as the postsecondary data landscape, who can offer a depth of insight and foresight on enrollment trends, labor market outcomes, and diversity and inclusiveness issues. His prior significant research includes but not limited to serving as a co-PI for "Labor Market Outcomes of STEM Master's Education" and "Understanding PhD Career Pathways for Program Improvement" projects. He was also instrumental as a co-PI in securing an NSF grant for "Understanding Roles of Masters Education in Entry Into, and Upskilling and Reskilling for, the STEM Workforce" project.

Dr. Okahana earned a BA in Economics from California State University, Long Beach, and earned a Master's in Public Policy and a Ph.D in Education from University of California, Los Angeles.

John Phillips

Member

John Phillips is Chief of Staff of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC). AIHEC provides leadership on public policy in American Indian higher education issues through advocacy, research, and program initiatives; strengthens Indigenous languages, cultures, and communities; and serves member Tribal Colleges and Universities. Previously, Dr. Phillips was the director of AIHEC land grant programs and policy. Dr. Phillips is also the Executive Director of First Americans Land Grant Consortium (FALCON), a non-profit association of tribal university land grant administrators, directors, faculty and staff.

From 2000-2005, Dr. Phillips was the first 1994 Land-Grant Institutions liaison with USDA. He was responsible for representing the interests of the 1994 Land-Grant Institutions throughout USDA and the public. Dr. Phillips directed the Cooperative Extension Program at Si Tanka College on the Cheyenne River Reservation, South Dakota, from 1997 to 1999, for which he was awarded a USDA Secretary's Honors Award. In 2017, Dr. Phillips was inducted into the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Hall of Fame. John earned his Ph.D. in Rural Sociology at the University of Missouri-Columbia, a M.S. degree in Environmental Systems from Humboldt State University, California, and a B.S. degree in Computer Science from California State University, Sacramento.

Joerg C. Schlatterer

Member

Joerg Schlatterer is the Director of the Office of Research Grants at the ACS where he oversees the distribution of approximately \$20 million in grants annually. He is the co-PI on the NSF INCLUDES Alliance grant for the Inclusive Graduate Education Network, and he led the development of the ACS Bridge Project which aims to create ecosystems in higher education where everyone can develop a feeling of belonging. In previous roles at ACS, Dr. Schlatterer led the office Student & Postdoctoral Scholars Development to support the career and professional development of students and postdoctoral investigators. Prior to joining the ACS in 2017, Dr. Schlatterer served as Program Director in the Division of Graduate Education at the US National Science Foundation. He began his professional career as a faculty member in biochemistry at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City; and later served as Assistant Dean of Faculty Professional Development at Columbia University Medical Center. Dr. Schlatterer received his bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry from the Free University of Berlin, and his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Heidelberg

Amanda Vernon

Member

Amanda Vernon is a Science & Engineering Policy Analyst in the office of the National Science Board, where she serves as a liaison to the Committee on National Science and Engineering Policy and the Committee on Awards and Facilities. In this capacity, among other subjects, she supports the Board's guidance of STEM higher education and workforce components of the Science and Engineering Indicators reports as well as S&E policy analysis on those topics. Prior to joining the NSBO in 2021, Amanda was a Program Officer for Science, Engineering, and Technology at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Amanda earned a PhD in Brain & Cognitive Sciences from MIT and her ScB in Neuroscience from Brown University. She is a New Voices Member with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

Talithia Williams

Member

Dr. Talithia Williams is a trailblazer and a passionate advocate for making STEM relevant and empowering for all. In her popular TED Talk, “Own Your Body’s Data”, Dr. Williams emphasizes the critical role of statistics in quantifying and understanding personal health information. With an educational background that includes a bachelor’s degree in Mathematics from Spelman College, master’s degrees in both Mathematics from Howard University and Statistics from Rice University, and a Ph.D. in Statistics from Rice University, Dr. Williams embodies the fusion of scholarship and real-world impact. Dr. Williams graces our screens as the host of several PBS NOVA documentaries, including “Zero to Infinity” and “NOVA Wonders”. Through captivating storytelling, she explores the wonders of science and mathematics and their impact on our modern world. Talithia’s voice resonates behind the scenes as the narrator of several science documentary films, including “Hindenburg: The New Evidence”, “Our Beautiful Planet”, “Secrets in Our DNA” and the 5-part BBC NOVA series, “The Universe: Revealed”. She has held research appointments at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), the National Security Agency (NSA), and NASA Johnson Space Center. She has partnered with the World Health Organization to develop a cataract model that predicts surgical rates in African countries. Her scholarly contributions, spanning over several years, have not only deepened our understanding of health disparities but also illuminated the intricate connections between data, science, and society. Faith and family round out a busy life that she shares with her husband Donald and three amazing boys, Josiah, Noah and Micaiah, all of whom infuse her life with joy and purpose.

Zakiya Wilson-Kennedy

Member

Zakiya S. Wilson-Kennedy is the Ron and Dr. Mary Neal Distinguished Associate Professor of Chemistry Education and the Associate Dean for Academic Innovation and Engagement within the College of Science at Louisiana State University (LSU). Formerly, she has held faculty, administrative, and professional positions at the University of Delaware, Louisiana State University, and North Carolina A&T State University. Her research investigates the persistence of individuals from all backgrounds in STEM higher education and careers. Through these efforts, she employs mentoring models that integrate the theories of identity development, empowerment, social cognitive career theory, and community cultural wealth to create and test development structures that cultivate self-efficacy and agency, particularly for groups historically underrepresented in STEM. She was elected as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in 2021 and served as the PI of the 2014 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM) organizational recognition for the LSU Office of Strategic Initiatives. Additional honors include the NOBCChE Winifred Burks-Houck Award (2019) and Henry C McBay Outstanding Educator Award (2014), the ACS Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences (2011), Woman of Color STEM Achievement Award for Promotion of Education at the Collegiate Level (2011), and the National Administrator Role Model Award from Minority Access, Inc. (2009). Dr. Wilson-Kennedy received her bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Jackson State University and her PhD in inorganic chemistry from Louisiana State University.

Josh Wyner

Member

Joshua (Josh) Wyner is founder and executive director of the College Excellence Program (Aspen CEP) at the Aspen Institute, where he also serves as a vice president. Mr. Wyner has spent nearly three decades designing and building new organizations that promote talent development and social mobility, as Executive Director of the DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice (1995-2001), Executive Vice President of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation (2001-2010), and since 2011 with Aspen CEP. Over that time, he has developed expertise in community college practice, higher education leadership, nonprofit management, and urban policy reform. He has authored numerous publications about education, including a book, *What Excellent Community Colleges Do: Preparing All Students for Success* (Harvard Education Press, 2014). Earlier in his career, Mr. Wyner was an environmental attorney with Beveridge and Diamond and a policy analyst and program evaluator with the US Government Accountability Office, Clean Sites, and Citizen Action.

Mr. Wyner has a B.A. in history from Vassar College, a MPA from Syracuse University, and a J.D. from New York University School of Law.

Keith R. Yamamoto

Member

Keith Yamamoto is special advisor to the chancellor for science policy and strategy, vice chancellor for research emeritus, and professor of cellular & molecular pharmacology emeritus at UCSF. He was an international leader in research on signaling and transcriptional regulatory mechanisms and networks. He has led or served on NRC or other national committees on human genome editing, US-China science interactions, equity in biomedical technology research and development, public and science policy, public understanding/support of scientific research, science education and the biomedical workforce, research funding, and peer review. He is chair of the Coalition for Life Sciences and the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory School of Biological Sciences External Advisory Committee, co-chair of the NASEM Roundtable on Aligning Incentives for Open Science and of the Science and Technology Action Committee, vice chair of the California Initiative to Advance Precision Medicine Advisory Council, and Past President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). He sits on the Boards of Directors of the Public Library of Science, the Engineering Biology Research Consortium, Research!America, and Rapid Science, the Governing Board of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, the Board of Counselors for the Radiation Effects Research Foundation, the Board of Trustees for the Morgridge Institute for Research, and the Advisory Board for Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. He received a PhD from Princeton, and was elected to NAS, NAM, AAA&S, and the American Academy of Microbiology, and is a fellow of AAAS.

Rian Lund Dahlberg

Staff Officer