

Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education

Leadership Committee

Jessie Brown

Member

Ms. Jessie Brown serves as the Executive Vice President at the American Council on Education (ACE), the nation's largest higher education membership organization representing more than 1,600 accredited, degree-granting colleges and universities. She leads strategic initiatives and planning for ACE, overseeing the Council's public-facing work including advancement, research, communications and marketing, and board relations.

Brown came to ACE from the National Association of College and University Attorneys (NACUA), where, as deputy CEO, she led NACUA's educational programming to assist university counsel in responding to myriad legal challenges on campus. She previously served as senior counsel in the Office for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education, working on a wide range of anti-discrimination initiatives, including a focus on Title IX enforcement and harassment prevention strategies. Brown serves on the board of the Association for Collaborative Leadership. She earned her law degree from Harvard Law School and graduated magna cum laude, with honors, from Brown University.

Mary Sue Coleman

Member

Dr. Mary Sue Coleman is president emerita of the University of Michigan and former president of the Association of American Universities. She also is former president of the University of Iowa.

Time magazine named her one of the nation's "10 best college presidents," and the American Council on Education honored her with its Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014.

At the AAU, she led landmark surveys conducted of 181,752 students from 33 colleges and universities regarding the prevalence of sexual assault and misconduct on campuses and on student attitudes about these issues. The results have helped AAU member institutions and other colleges and universities to address the problems of sexual assault and other sexual misconduct.

Elected to the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine), she is also a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Kavli Foundation. She is a former chair of the Board of the Trustees of the Society for Science.

She earned her undergraduate degree in chemistry from Grinnell College and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Monica L. Lypson

Member

Dr. Monica L. Lypson is currently the Vice Dean for Education at Columbia University's Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Rolf H. Scholdager Professor of Medicine, at Columbia University Irving Medical Center. Prior to that she served as Vice Chair of Medicine and Division Director of General Internal Medicine at the George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Sciences. Her work focuses on innovations and improvements in health professions education and assessment, health equity, workforce diversity, faculty development, medical care delivery, and provider communication skills. Dr. Lypson's prior role in government included serving as the Director for Medical and Dental Education for the Veterans Health Administration, where she oversaw undergraduate and graduate medical education across the nation within the Department of Veteran Affairs. Dr. Lypson has served as president and secretary of the Society of General Internal Medicine. She has held many other national roles focused on health professions education, including with the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education, the Association of American Medical Colleges and the National Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Lypson graduated from Brown University and received her medical degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. She completed her graduate medical training at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Internal Medicine - Primary Care. Subsequently, she went on to complete a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program at the University of Chicago and a Master's in Health Professions Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Edward Ray

Member

Dr. Ed Ray served as President at Oregon State University for 17 years, stepping down in 2020 as President Emeritus and remaining a tenured professor in Economics in the School of Public Policy. Ed's primary research focus is U.S. and foreign tariff and non-tariff barriers to trade, U.S. inbound and outbound foreign direct investment and U.S. economic history. He has published four books and many articles in leading peer reviewed economics journals. He chaired 19 Ph.D. committees and served on 21 others. Ed has received numerous honors and awards, including the Ohio State University distinguished service award (2006) and honorary degrees from the University of Portland (2014), and Oregon State University (2022). He served in leadership roles and on boards of various national associations (NCAA, PAC-12, AAC&U, APLU, ACE, NC-SARA).

Ed grew up in New York City and graduated cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Queens College (CUNY) in 1966 with a BA in Mathematics and minors in Economics and Theater. He completed his MA (1969) and Ph.D. (1971) degrees in Economics at Stanford University. Ed retired as Professor and Provost Emeritus after 33 years at Ohio State University in 2003.

Tricia Serio

Member

Dr. Tricia R. Serio serves as the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Washington. Dr. Serio also holds a faculty appointment in the UW School of Medicine's Department of Biochemistry.

Dr. Serio came to the UW from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where she was provost and senior vice chancellor for academic affairs. A professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, Dr. Serio previously served at UMass Amherst as associate chancellor for strategic academic planning and dean of the College of Natural Sciences. She has also held research and professorial positions at the University of Arizona, Brown University and Yale University. As an administrator, Dr. Serio has championed access and opportunity for students, staff, and faculty in programmatic initiatives, service roles, and public discourse.

Dr. Serio's research centers on prion proteins, which are associated with infectious neurodegenerative disease in mammals (e.g., mad cow disease and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease). These diseases arise when prion proteins change their shape, and a similar process underlies non-infectious neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. An unusual event for proteins, Dr. Serio's work seeks to understand how these changes in shape are triggered with the goal of blocking or reversing them.

Dr. Serio has earned numerous recognitions for her research, including being named a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Predoctoral Fellow, a Damon Runyon-Walter Winchell Cancer Research Postdoctoral Fellow, and a Pew Scholar in the Biomedical Sciences. She also received the Howard Temin Award from the National Cancer Institute and the Mid-Career Award for Research Excellence from the American Society of Cell Biology, and she is an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A first-generation college graduate, Dr. Serio earned her bachelor's degree in molecular biology at Lehigh University and completed her master's degree and Ph.D. in molecular biophysics and biochemistry at Yale.

Quinn Williams

Member

Mr. Quinn Williams has served as General Counsel for the University of Wisconsin System since December 2017. Quinn graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2002 with a B.A. degree and earned his law degree from Marquette University Law School in 2006. Quinn served as a Staff Attorney at the Department of Natural Resources from 2007 to 2012, then as an Attorney Section Supervisor from 2012 to 2015, and finally as a Chief Counsel from 2015 to 2017. Quinn has with a wide area of focus, including the statutory and constitutional framework and federal and administrative regulations applicable to the operation of public agencies, litigation management, employment, real estate, trademark, copyright, intellectual property, ethics, contract and procurement, public records, open meetings, risk management, disability, discrimination (including Title IX, Title VII and Title VI), bankruptcy and collections.

Quinn oversees and directs the University of Wisconsin System Office of General Counsel, which provides legal advice and representation to the Board of Regents of the UW System, UW System Administration, UW System institutions, and UW System administrators and staff. Quinn also serves as liaison to state government offices and agencies on legal matters, including the Wisconsin Department of Justice.