

Protecting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Higher Education and the Workforce: A Workshop

Committee

Lynne M. Holden

Co-Chair

Lynne M. Holden, M.D. is the co-founder and President of Mentoring in Medicine, Inc. (MIM). MIM is a national health and science youth development nonprofit organization. The mission of MIM is to expose, inspire, educate and equip students to become biomedical professionals through academic enrichment, leadership development, civic engagement and mentoring. MIM has reached nearly 52,000 students, parents and educators from elementary school through medical school and recruited 1,500 health and science volunteers. Dr. Holden provides the overall leadership, creates the organizational strategy, recruits volunteers, facilitates program development and establishes collaborative partnerships.

Dr. Holden earned her B.S. in Zoology from Howard University, graduated from Temple University School of Medicine and completed her residency in Emergency Medicine at the Jacobi/Montefiore Emergency Medicine Residency Program. She is a practicing Emergency Department Physician at Montefiore Health System in the Bronx, NY. She is a Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where she has served as a Co-chair of the Admissions Committee and in various leadership positions in the Emergency Medicine Residency Program, the largest in the country. Dr. Holden serves on several national boards including the Friends of the National Library of Medicine and the CUNY School of Medicine. She is active in the National Medical Association on the local, regional and national levels. She is a Deacon at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, NY and a member of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.

Mentoring in Medicine has earned sixty press features including JET, Essence, CNN, the New York Times and FOX News. Dr. Holden has published extensively and received numerous awards for her work, including the Maybelline NY-Essence Empowerment through Education Award (2007), Society of Academic Emergency Visionary Educator Award (2008), Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Community Health Leader (2009), Washington Post Root 100 Leader (2010), Lifetime TV Remarkable Woman (2010), American Medical Association Inspirational Physician (2016) and the United Hospital Fund Distinguished Community Service Award (2019).

Lamont R. Terrell

Co-Chair

Dr. Terrell graduated salutatorian from Texas Southern University as a Fredrick Douglas honor scholar earning a B.S degree in chemistry in 1995. While at TSU, his life as a research scientist began doing undergraduate research focusing on the synthesis of inorganic compounds with environmental applications. He earned his Ph.D. in 2001 in organic chemistry from Michigan State University under the direction and guidance of Professor Robert Maleczka. 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 with Professor Barry Trost at Stanford University. The focus of his postdoctoral studies was the development of a catalytic dinuclear zinc asymmetric Mannich reaction. He began his career in drug discovery as a medicinal chemist at GlaxoSmithKline in 2003 in their cardiovascular medicinal chemistry group. He spent 11 years doing small molecule lead optimization primarily focusing on cardiovascular disease targets. Outside of leading science, Lamont is passionately involved with community and outreach efforts. He has been involved with the recruitment of scientists at all levels into the chemistry community. He leads the GSK chemistry recruitment team for minority conferences and serves as the lead for the African American Alliance employee resource group in the Delaware Valley. He is a leader in GSK's inclusion and diversity efforts and a member of the R&D Inclusion council. In 2017, he decided to step away from doing science to lead the US R&D Early Talent Programs and head GSK's diversity recruitment initiative for the US Pharma R&D business.

Olujimi Ajijola

Member

Olujimi A. Ajijola, MD., PhD is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Medicine-Cardiology, and Molecular, Cellular, & Integrative Physiology at the University of California – Los Angeles (UCLA). He serves as Director of the Neurocardiology Research Program and Co-Director of the UCLA-Caltech Medical Scientist Training Program. Dr. Ajijola received his B.A. with Distinction from the University of Virginia, his medical degree from Duke University, and his Ph.D. in Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology from UCLA. His clinical training in internal medicine and cardiovascular diseases/cardiac electrophysiology were performed at the Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School and at UCLA, respectively. His clinical and research interests revolve around innovative methods to control life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias by modulating the autonomic nervous system. His lab utilizes cutting edge electrical, genetic, and computational tools to examine how cardiac injury remodels the autonomic nervous system, and how this dysregulation drives arrhythmogenesis. He is also an alumnus of the National Academies' New Voices Program, Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Medical Fellows Program, a recipient of the NIH Director's New Innovator Award (DP2), and a Young Physician Scientist Award from the American Society for Clinical Investigation. He is involved in several national initiatives to diversify the medical and scientific workforce.

Cedric Bright

Member

Dr. Cedric M. Bright is the Associate Dean for Admissions, Professor of Internal Medicine, and the interim Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion at the Brody School of Medicine in Greenville NC. He served as President of the National Medical Association from 2011 to 2012, advocating in the White House for health equity, increased diversity in clinical trials, and increasing the pipeline of students of color into health careers. He is a member of AOA, the Order of the Golden Fleece and serves on the boards of the National Medical Fellowship Inc. as well as the W. Montague Cobb Health Policy Institute. He serves on the roundtable of Black Men and Women in STEM for the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine and has presented numerous grand rounds on the impact of Covid 19 on the black community.

Andre L. Churchwell

Member

André L. Churchwell was named Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity & Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer for Vanderbilt University in May 2020. He previously held the offices in an interim capacity until June 2019. In order to devote more time to his Vanderbilt University diversity role, in July 2021, Dr. Churchwell stepped down from his position as Chief Diversity Officer for Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Senior Associate Dean for Diversity Affairs at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine which he held since 2014. In addition to his diversity role, Dr. Churchwell is a Professor of Medicine (Cardiology), a Professor of Radiology and Radiological Sciences, and a Professor of Biomedical Engineering. He has served on many medical school committees including the Admission and Promotion Committees. In 2005, he was named the Walter R. Murray Jr. Distinguished Alumnus by the Association of Vanderbilt Black Alumni for lifetime achievements in personal, professional and community arenas. And in 2015, Vanderbilt University endowed him with the Levi Watkins, Jr., M.D. Chair for achievements in the area of diversity and inclusion.

Churchwell graduated from the Vanderbilt School of Engineering magna cum laude in 1975. He won the Biomedical Engineering Student Program Award that same year. He received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 1979 and later completed his internship, residency and cardiology fellowship at Emory University School of Medicine and affiliated hospitals in Atlanta. In addition, he was the first African American chief medical resident at Grady Memorial Hospital (1984–1985).

Churchwell received the J. Willis Hurst Award for Best Clinical Teacher in 1991 from Emory and in 2004 he was named the Emory University School of Medicine Resident Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award winner. For the past ten years he has been named one of the nation's top cardiologists in “The Best Doctors in America.”

In 1986, while at Emory, he was also named Most Outstanding House Officer, made an honorary Morehouse Medical School class member and he received a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Minority Medical Faculty Development Award.

In 2010, he was awarded The Distinguished Alumnus Award of Vanderbilt University School of Engineering. Along with his physician brothers Kevin and Keith, he received the 2011 Trumpet Award for Medicine.

In 2012 and 2013, The Vanderbilt University Organization of Black Graduate and Professional Students (OBGAPS) honored Dr. Churchwell with one of the organization’s first Distinguished Faculty Awards. He was also recognized with an American Registry Most Compassionate Doctor Award. From 2010-2013 on, he has been awarded the Professional Research Consultants’ Five-Star Excellence Award—Top 10% Nationally for “Excellent” Responses for Medical Specialty Services and Overall Quality.

Furthermore, he was elected in 2012 to serve as the southern representative for the Group on Diversity and Inclusion for the AAMC (American Association of Medical Colleges). In 2013, he helped create The Hurst-Logue-Wenger Cardiovascular Fellows Society (HLWCFS) of Emory University School of Medicine and was elected the first President of HLWCFS. In 2014, he was named one of the “Top 15 Most Influential African-American Health Educators” by Black Health Magazine. In addition, Vanderbilt University Medical Center has been named by

BlackDoctor.org as a Top Hospital for Diversity from 2018-2020.

Dr. Churchwell served on the Board of Trustees for Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee from 2015 to 2020. In 2016, he was named to the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) for his work in biomedical engineering education. And in 2017, he received the Vanderbilt University Pioneer in Diversity Award.

Dr. Churchwell has served on the editorial board of a number of peer-reviewed journals and has served as a reviewer for the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, and the Biomedical Engineering Society's (BMES) internationally recognized Cardiovascular Engineering and Technology Journal.

Churchwell lives in Brentwood, Tenn., and is married to Doreatha Henderson Churchwell, a retired nurse educator at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. They have two children: Crystal A. Churchwell and André L. Churchwell Jr.

Camara P. Jones

Member

Camara Phyllis Jones, MD, MPH, PhD is the 2019-2020 Evelyn Green Davis Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, and the 144th President of the American Public Health Association (2016). She is a family physician and epidemiologist whose work focuses on naming, measuring, and addressing the impacts of racism on the health and well-being of the nation. She seeks to broaden the national health debate to include not only universal access to high quality health care, but also attention to the social determinants of health (including poverty) and the social determinants of equity (including racism).

Dr. Jones is a public health leader valued for her creativity and intellectual agility. As a methodologist, she has developed new methods for comparing full distributions of data, rather than simply comparing means or proportions, in order to investigate population-level risk factors and propose population-level interventions. As a social epidemiologist, her work on "race"-associated differences in health outcomes goes beyond simply documenting those differences to vigorously investigating the structural causes of the differences. As a teacher, her allegories on "race" and racism illuminate topics that are otherwise difficult for many Americans to understand or discuss. She aims through her work to catalyze a National Campaign Against Racism that will mobilize and engage all Americans.

Dr. Jones was an Assistant Professor at the Harvard School of Public Health (1994 to 2000) before being recruited to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2000 to 2014), where she served as a Medical Officer and Research Director on Social Determinants of Health and Equity. Most recently, she was a Senior Fellow at the Satcher Health Leadership Institute and the Cardiovascular Research Institute at the Morehouse School of Medicine (2013 to 2019). She has been elected to service on many professional boards, including her current service on the Board of Directors of the DeKalb County (Georgia) Board of Health and the National Board of Public Health Examiners.

She is also actively sought as a contributor to national efforts to eliminate health disparities and achieve health equity, including as a faculty member of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education's Pursuing Excellence in the Clinical Learning Environment collaborative addressing Health Care Disparities, as a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Roundtable on Black Men and Black Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine, and as a Project Advisor and on-screen expert for the groundbreaking film series *Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?*

Highly valued as a mentor and teacher, she is also an Adjunct Professor at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Morehouse School of Medicine. Her honors include the Wellesley Alumnae Achievement Award (Wellesley College's highest alumnae honor, 2018), the John Snow Award (given in recognition of "enduring contributions to public health through epidemiologic methods and practice" by the American Public Health Association's Epidemiology Section, 2011), and awards named after luminaries David Satcher (2003), Hildrus A. Poindexter (2009), Paul Cornely (2016), Shirley Nathan Pulliam (2016), Louis Stokes (2018), Frances Borden-Hubbard (2018), and Cato T. Laurencin (2018).

Dr. Jones earned her BA in Molecular Biology from Wellesley College, her MD from the Stanford University School of

Medicine, and both her Master of Public Health and her PhD in Epidemiology from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. She also completed residency training in General Preventive Medicine at Johns Hopkins and in Family Practice at the Residency Program in Social Medicine at Montefiore Medical Center.

Robert L. Reddick

Member

Robert L. Reddick, M.D. is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Dr. Reddick obtained the M.D. degree (1974) and Master of Science degree (1969) at the University of North Carolina, School of Medicine. He trained in anatomic and clinical pathology at UNC and the Laboratory of Pathology at the National Cancer Center, Bethesda, Maryland. He is board certified in Anatomic Pathology (1977). Dr. Reddick has been actively involved in the study of mouse models of atherosclerosis and oncologic pathology in addition to being actively involved in human pathology.

Andre Porter

Staff Officer