

BLACK MEN'S BRAIN HEALTH

INAUGURAL

Black Men's Brain Health Conference

Increasing Representation of Black Men
in Scientific Research

February 9-10, 2022

Hosted by the University of Southern California

**BLACK
MEN'S
BRAIN
HEALTH**

Special Thanks

To our sponsors and partners we extend our deepest gratitude and respect in helping to make this historic event a reality.



Greetings

Dear Colleagues,

We warmly welcome you to the 2022 inaugural Black Men's Brain Health Conference. This first-of-its-kind event brings together established and emerging scientists, community leaders, NFL alumni, and key stakeholders in a common purpose to improve Black men's brain health.

The aims of this conference are to increase the representation of Black men in cognitive aging and Alzheimer's Disease/Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (AD/ADRD) research, to reduce brain health inequities, and to cultivate a culturally-responsive workforce.

This innovative two-day program will cover an array of critically important topics and promises an enlightening inaugural keynote presentation by Dr. April Thames, as well as insightful plenary talks and engaging discussions with leading scientists and community leaders from across the country. With such a diverse lineup of presenters and participants, the opportunities for networking and learning will be remarkable and memorable.

Thank you to the University of Southern California's President Folt and her staff; Drs. Aranda and Aguilar of the USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging at the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work; the Galen Center, and the entire USC community for their gracious hospitality. And thank you to the NIH/National Institute of Aging and the Alzheimer's Association for their tremendous support in making this conference possible. Our appreciation also goes out to the National NFL Alumni Association, the University of California, Berkeley School of Social Welfare, and all of our conference partners and supporters detailed in this program. Last but not least, a huge shout out of thanks to our Leadership Committee, Oversight Board, Planning Committee, and tireless and inspiring team of faculty, staff, volunteers, and Alaniz Marketing for truly making it happen!

We look forward to a successful and fruitful conference, with gratitude to you for being part of this first and historic meeting.

Regards,

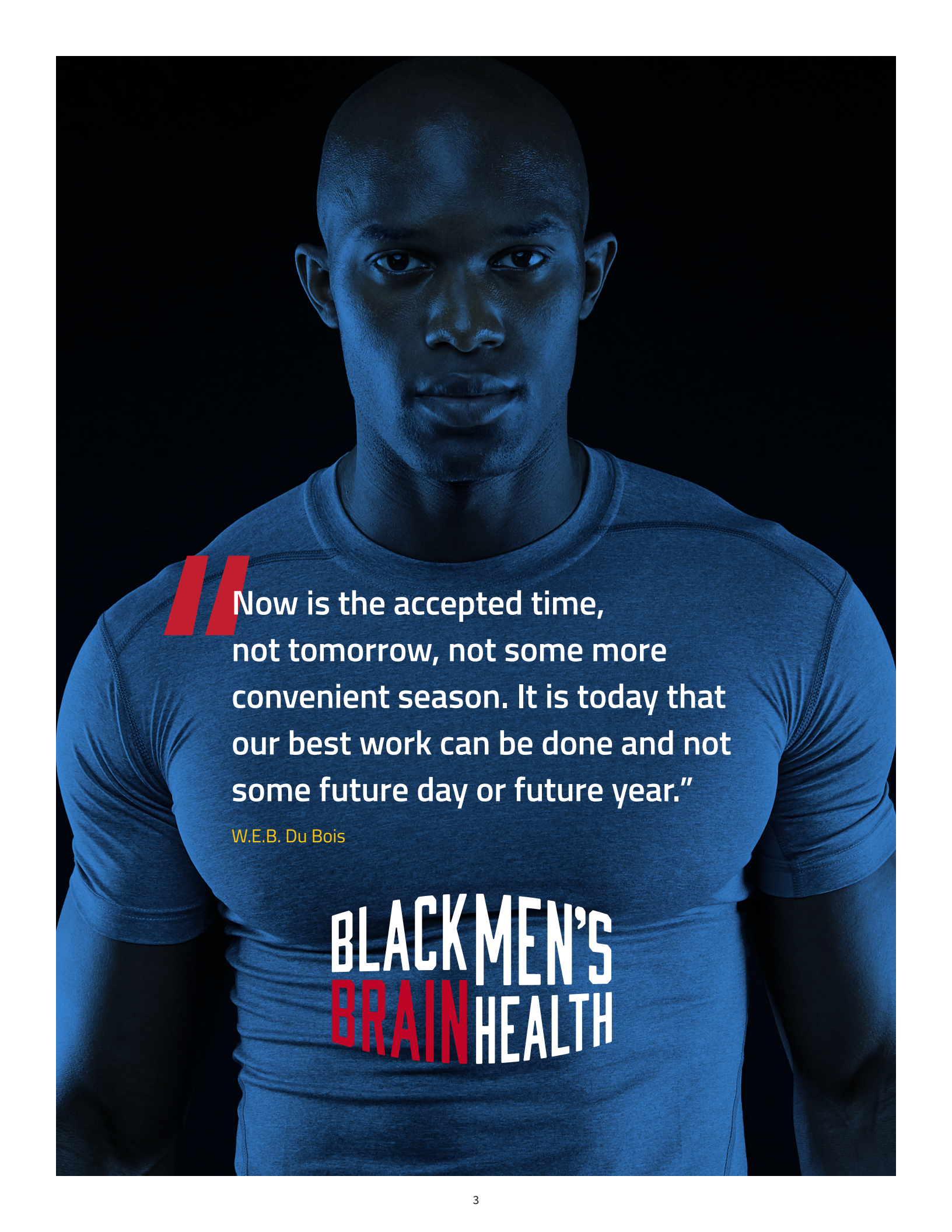
Robert W. Turner II, PhD

Monica Rivera-Mindt, PhD

Maria C. Carillo, PhD

Co-Principal Investigators

The Black Men's Brain Health Initiative



Now is the accepted time,
not tomorrow, not some more
convenient season. It is today that
our best work can be done and not
some future day or future year."

W.E.B. Du Bois

BLACK MEN'S
BRAIN HEALTH

Welcome

Dear Black Men's Brain Health Participant,

A BIG thank you for being an integral part of the inaugural Black Men's Brain Health (BMBH) conference. This event could not happen with you - your intelligence, insights, and kindness.

As the conference coordinator, I extend a sincere welcome to an amazing event that convenes a diverse group of caring professionals at one of the most prestigious universities in the country, the University of Southern California. Dr. Turner, Ron Rice (NFL alum,) and myself have worked over the past two years to bring this idea to fruition. With the support of the Dr. Carl Hill, the Alzheimer's Association, and National Institutes of Health - Aging, a seed has now blossomed. We are blessed that so many others have joined in to create a bridge for collaboration, deliverables, and discussion by athletes, community leaders, health-related professionals, researchers, and sport administrators.

Please help us increase awareness of this conference and our work together.
Feel free to tag us in your social media marketing.

@BrainHealth4Men #BMBH2022 #BlackMensBrainHealth

The Men's Brain Health Initiative includes this unique conference and so much more! Carefully read through this program to learn more about our BMBH scholars. Please stay tuned for our launch of the Men's Brain Health Registry at George Washington University and of course, we will continue to host our online No Shortcuts seminars, which focuses on mental health.

If there is anything we can do to assist you in your research and engagement beyond the conference, please let us know. Our goal is to create a strong network for this very important cause of Alzheimer's disease and related dementia research. One of my most important goals is for YOU to connect with other professionals. In the midst of the global pandemic, I am hopeful that you will enjoy the strategies and research presented during the day. And of course, the fellowship at the evening social mixers will prayerfully begin new trusted friendships.

I am ever grateful!



Deborah L. Stroman, Ph.D. CLU

Founder, [Center of Sport Business and Analytics](#) @drstroman

Professor, University of North Carolina

Education Director, UNC Odum Institute and Office of Vice Chancellor for Research





COVID-19

Vaccination Requirements

Effective Monday, November 8th, Proof of Vaccination or COVID-19 Test is REQUIRED for ALL USC's University Park Campus Guests and Visitors.

IMPORTANT: Proof of vaccination or recent test is REQUIRED for all guests and visitors to the USC campus. Guests and visitors aged 12 and older should be prepared to show proof of vaccination to enter the Galen Center. Either a physical CDC-issued vaccine card, or a digital copy (available from the State of California [here](#)) will be accepted. This proof must be accompanied by a photo ID. As an alternative, guests or visitors who have a medical or religious objection to obtaining a COVID-19 vaccination may produce a negative COVID-19 test taken in the past 72 hours, together with a photo ID.

**BLACKMEN'S
BRAINHEALTH**



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It's time for equality in
research and studies.



Oversight Board & LA Planning Committee

In recognition of your tremendous effort and collaboration, we thank you.

OVERSIGHT BOARD

Dr. Toni Antonucci

Dr. Lisa Barnes

Dr. Percy Griffin

Dr. Carl V. Hill

Dr. Jennifer Manly

Dr. Damali Martin

Jo Ann Pugh

Beasley Reece

Dr. Keith E Whitfield

LA PLANNING COMMITTEE

Dr. Iris Aguilar

Dr. Maria Aranda


Dean Linda Burton

Dr. Dana Rice

Dr. April Thames

Ana Tomsic

Edie Yau



Understanding mental health,
and separating what we can
control and what we can not is
essential to developing ways to
improve our mental fitness and
overall wellness.

Meeting Agenda - Day One

WEDNESDAY 02/09/2022

8:00 – 9:00am

Breakfast and Registration

9:00 – 9:15am

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Dr. Monica Rivera Mindt, Fordham University/Mount Sinai
Dr. Robert W. Turner, George Washington University

9:15 – 9:45am

NFL Alumni Association Research Initiative for Black Male Health

Mr. Josh Andrews, NFL - Atlanta Falcons
Dr. Robert W. Turner, George Washington University

9:45 – 10:45am

Understanding the Health Disparities Research Framework and Implications for Cognitive Resilience

Dr. Carl Hill, Alzheimer's Association

10:45 – 11:00 BREAK

11:00am – 12:00pm

Brain Health, AD/ADRDs & Health Disparities in Black Men

Dr. Roland Thorpe, Johns Hopkins University

12:00 – 1:15 NETWORKING LUNCH

1:15 – 1:30pm

NIA Priorities

Dr. Damali Martin, National Institute on Aging

1:30 – 2:30pm

PANEL:**Health Disparities Research Framework, Sociocultural Context, and Understanding ADRD Health Disparities**

Dr. Carl Hill, Alzheimer's Association

Dr. Monica Rivera Mindt, Fordham University/Mount Sinai

Dr. April Thames, UCLA

Dr. Roland Thorpe, Johns Hopkins University

2:30 – 3:10 BREAK

3:10 – 4:35pm

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT SERIES PART I:**The Fifth Down: Athletes' Reflections on the Pain and Pleasure of Pro Football**

A panel discussion on navigating cognitive aging, mental health, and transitions from sport participation.

Speakers: Bucky Brooks, Ken Harvey, Stefon Johnson, Guy Troupe

Scholar Orientation/Panel on Mentoring

Speakers: Dr. Desiree Byrd, Queens College; Dr. Percy Griffin, Alzheimer's Association; Dr. Tam Perry, Wayne State University; Dr. Robert W. Turner, George Washington University

10 MIN. BREAK

4:45 – 6:00pm

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT SERIES PART II:**Journey of Resilience: Real Talk with Women Champions**

A round table Black History Month discussion on key strategies to overcome mental, physical, and relational challenges.

Speakers: Dr. Lauren Brown, Lauren Douglas, Jo Ann Pugh, Dr. Deborah Stroman

Making Connections

Speakers: Dr. Desiree Byrd, Queens College; Dr. Percy Griffin, Alzheimer's Association; Dr. Tam Perry, Wayne State University; Dr. Robert W. Turner, George Washington University

6:00 – 6:15pm

Summary and Concluding Remarks

Dr. Carl Hill, Alzheimer's Association, Dr. Robert W. Turner, GW University

6:15 – 7:15pm

NFL Alumni Association Social Mixer

Meeting Agenda - Day Two

THURSDAY 02/10/2022

8:00 – 9:00am

Breakfast and Registration

9:00 – 9:15am

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Dr. Carol Folt, President, University of Southern California
Dr. Maria Aranda, University of Southern California
Dr. Linda Burton, Call Berkeley Social Welfare

9:15 – 9:45am

Local Perspectives on Black Male Brain Health from California

Ms. Tia Delaney, Alzheimer's Association
Ms. Edie Yau, Alzheimer's Association

9:45 – 10:30am

Plenary Keynote Speaker: Sociocultural Factors

Dr. April Thames, UCLA

10:30am – 11:15am

Black Men's Registry

Dr. Deborah Stroman, University of North Carolina
Dr. Robert W. Turner, George Washington University

11:15 – 11:30 BREAK

11:30 – 12:30pm

Community-Based Research Workshop: Recruitment, Retention & Ethical Issues in ADRD Research with Black Men

Dr. Monica Rivera Mindt, Fordham University/Mount Sinai
Dr. Roland Thorpe, Johns Hopkins University
Dr. Kelvin Williams, Community Leader

THURSDAY 02/10/2022

12:30 – 1:45 NETWORKING LUNCH

12:30 – 1:00pm

Scholar/Mentor Breakout Session

1:00 – 1:45 NETWORKING LUNCH FOR SCHOLARS & MENTORS

1:45 – 2:45pm

Trauma, Brain Health & Building Social Capital

Dr. Linda Burton, Cal Berkeley Social Welfare

2:45 – 3:45pm

Conducting Life Course Research

Dr. Toni Antonucci, University of Michigan

3:45 – 4:00 BREAK

4:00 – 5:00pm

**Why your participation matters!
The Benefits of Being Part of Research**

Dr. Maria Aranda, USC

Dr. Linda Burton, Berkeley Social Welfare Dr.

Robert Turner, George Washington University

Rev. Dr. Kelvin Williams, Community Liason

5:00 – 5:15pm

Summary and Concluding Remarks

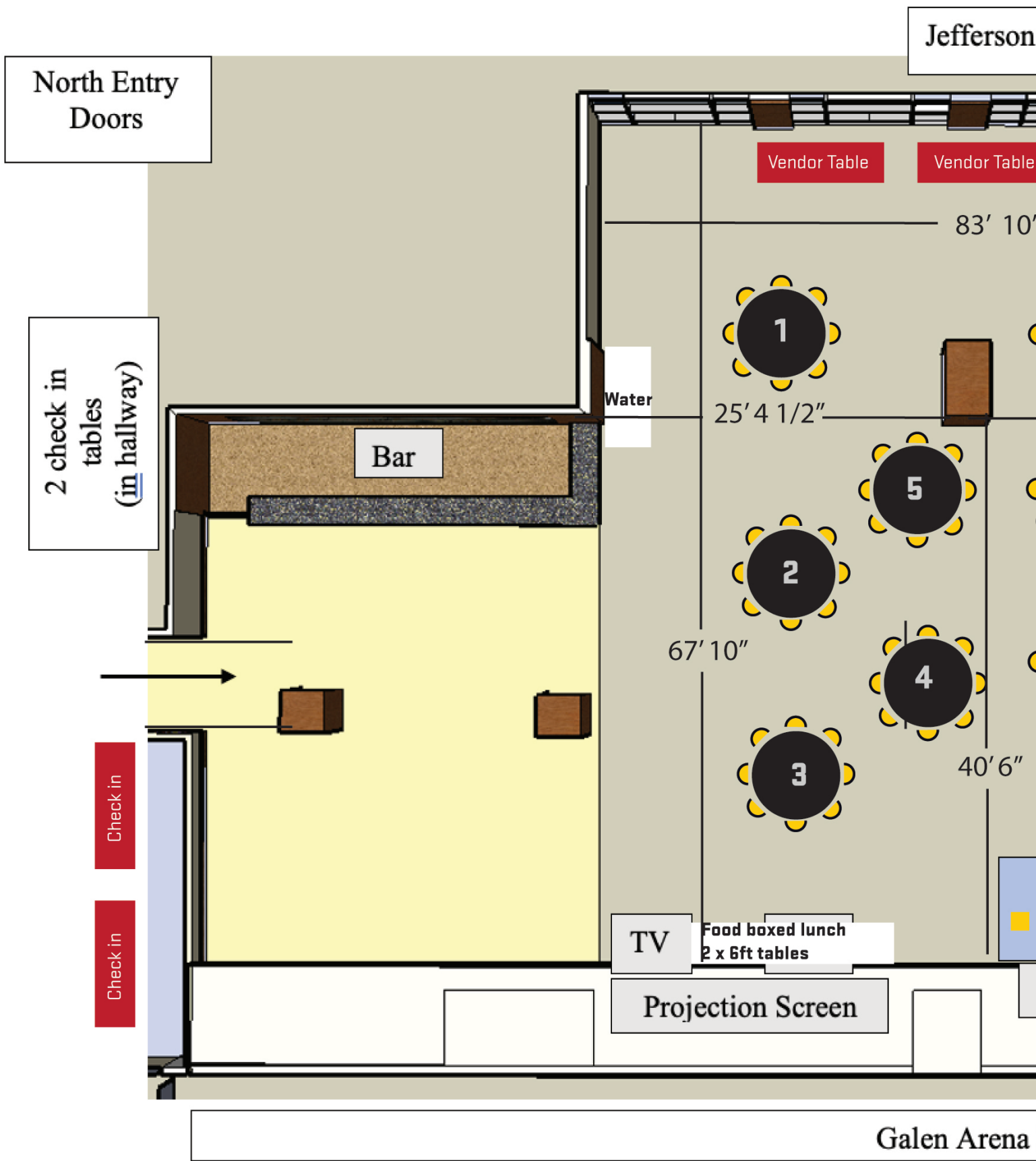
Dr. Percy Griffin, Alzheimer's Association

Dr. Monica Rivera Mindt, Fordham University/Mount Sinai

5:15 – 6:30pm

**Alzheimer's Association
Network Reception**

Galen Center Floor Plan





Principal Investigators



Robert W. Turner II, Ph.D.

Co-PI

The George Washington University

Director, NFLAA Mental Health & Well-being Initiative

Dr. Robert W. Turner II is no stranger to a lifestyle that impacts brain health and aging. He attended James Madison University on an athletic scholarship, and then went on to play professional football in the United States Football League, the Canadian Football League, and the National Football League.

Following his football career, he became a brain health and aging investigator. Dr. Turner is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Clinical Research and Leadership at The George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Science. He earned his Ph.D. in sociology at City University of New York's Graduate Center. He is also a Research Scientist at Duke University's Center for Biobehavioral Health Disparities Research.

Dr. Turner is a prolific writer and widely published in the brain health and aging field. Dr. Turner also made time to reflect on the life journeys of football players. His book *Not for Long: The Life and Career of the NFL Athlete* draws on his personal experience as an athlete as well as interactions with over 140 current and former NFL athletes to reveal what it means to be a high school and college athlete pursuing the dream of playing in the NFL and explores why so many players struggle with life after football.

Inaugural Editor for the Culture & Gender in Neuropsychology Department of The Clinical Neuropsychologist journal, and a member of the International Neuropsychological Society's Continuing Education Committee. She is also a deeply committed mentor who has chaired 20+ dissertations and nine training awards from NIH or NSF.



Monica Rivera Mindt, Ph.D.,

A.B.P.P., Co-PI

Professor of Psychology,
Fordham University/ISMMS

Dr. Monica Rivera Mindt is the President of the Hispanic Neuropsychological Society (HNS), a Professor of Psychology at Fordham University with a joint appointment in Neurology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and a board-certified neuropsychologist. Her NIH and Alzheimer's Association-funded trans disciplinary research focuses on the intersection between cultural neuroscience, neuropsychology, and health disparities utilizing a novel community-based approach.

Her work is dedicated to three lines of inquiry:

1. The identification of resilience and modifiable factors to promote brain health and improve neurocognitive functioning in vulnerable and under served populations (e.g., culturally/linguistically diverse older adults, persons with opioid use disorder or HIV);
2. How sociocultural factors impact the expression of neurologic disease, cognition, and health behaviors; and
3. The underlying mechanisms driving the effects of brain health disparities and cognitive decline in persons of culturally/linguistically diverse backgrounds.

She has authored more than 80 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters. Dr. Rivera-Mindt is an appointed member of the National Institute of Aging – Neuroscience of Aging Study Section, inaugural Editor for the Culture & Gender in Neuropsychology Department of The Clinical Neuropsychologist journal, and a member of the International Neuropsychological Society's Continuing Education Committee. She is also a deeply committed mentor who has chaired 20+ dissertations and nine training awards from NIH or NSF.

Dr. Rivera-Mindt is the recipient of several awards for her research, teaching, and contributions to the field, including the 2019 Hispanic Health Leadership Award from the National Hispanic Medical Association; Lifetime Achievement Award from SMART University (a community-based organization for HIV+ women); the Early Career Award from American Psychological Association's (APA) Society for Clinical Neuropsychology (Division 40); the Early Career Service Award from the National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN); the Distinguished Alumna Award for Psychology from Pepperdine University; the Early Career Award & Pilot Research Award from the Northeast Consortium for Minority Faculty Development; the National Center on Minority Health & Health Disparities Scholar Award from NIH; and the Professor of the Year Award from Fordham University. She is also a Fellow of APA and NAN.

In her spare time, she enjoys surfing and traveling all over Latin America with her husband and two children.



Maria C. Carrillo, Ph.D.
Co-PI
Alzheimer's Association

As chief science officer, Maria C. Carrillo, Ph.D., sets the strategic vision for the Alzheimer's Association global research program. Under her leadership, the Association is the world's largest non-profit funder of Alzheimer's research and an internationally recognized pioneer in convening the dementia science community to accelerate the field. As a noted public speaker, Dr. Carrillo plays an instrumental role in the Association's efforts to lobby both the public and private sectors for increased funding for the disease.

Dr. Carrillo oversees the implementation of the Association's growing portfolio of research initiatives, including the Alzheimer's Association International Conference® (AAIC®), the world's largest and most influential dementia science meeting. She also oversees the Research Roundtable, which enables international scientific, industry, and government leaders to work together to overcome shared obstacles in Alzheimer's science and drug development. In addition, Carrillo manages the World Wide Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (WW-ADNI), a multi-country research effort aimed at accelerating the early detection of Alzheimer's.

Under Dr. Carrillo's direction, the Association's leadership in Alzheimer's research continues to thrive through its International Research Grant Program, which currently invests over \$208 million in 590 active best-of-field projects in 31 countries. In addition, the Association has expanded its role in advancing dementia science by becoming directly involved in research. Dr. Carrillo is a co-primary investigator for the Association-funded and led U.S. POINTER study, a lifestyle intervention trial to prevent cognitive decline and dementia.

Dr. Carrillo has published extensively on early diagnosis and biomarker standardization efforts, as well as on the global challenges to progress for research in Alzheimer's and dementia. She is a co-author of the "Appropriate Use Criteria for Amyloid Imaging," published by the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging and the Alzheimer's Association.

As an internationally respected Alzheimer's expert, Dr. Carrillo has spoken to numerous international media outlets, including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Time magazine, and "NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt." Dr. Carrillo sits on the governing board of the Global Brain Health Institute and is on the advisory committee for the World Health Organization Dementia Setting Priorities & Portfolio Analysis. She also is a member of the American Heart Association's research committee.

In honor of her extensive contributions to the advance of Alzheimer's disease clinical trials, Dr. Carrillo received the 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award in Alzheimer's Disease Therapeutic Research from the Clinical Trials on Alzheimer's Disease. In addition, she is the recipient of the 2018 Alumnae Award from Northwestern University, which recognizes an outstanding alumna who has brought honor to the university through significant contribution and national recognition in her field.

Dr. Carrillo earned her Ph.D. from Northwestern University's Institute for Neuroscience and completed a postdoctoral fellowship focused on Alzheimer's brain imaging and risk factors at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

Keynote Speaker



April D. Thames, Ph.D.

Associate Professor In-Residence,
Psychiatry and Biobehavioral
Sciences Semel Institute for
Neuroscience and Human
Behavior
University of California,
Los Angeles (UCLA)

Dr. April Thames is an Associate Professor In-Residence, Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences at UCLA's Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. She is also an Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Southern California.

She received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Alliant International University/CSPP and completed her postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at UCLA.

As Principal Investigator of several grant-supported projects, Dr. Thames has developed a translational neuroscience research program that focuses on the impact of chronic disease, substance abuse, socioeconomic disadvantage, and lifetime stress/adversity, and resiliency on neurological, cognitive, and mental health outcomes. Her work has also examined factors that obscure the validity of neuropsychological test performance among ethnic/racial minority groups.

She previously directed UCLA's Neuropsychology of Medical Illness practicum, an externship program for doctoral students in clinical psychology, and oversaw the clinical and research training in neuromedical illness. She was also a primary internship advisor and clinical supervisor at UCLA's Medical Psychology Assessment Center (MPAC) and a primary mentor for postdoctoral fellows as part of UCLA's Neuropsychology of HIV/AIDS fellowship.

She is actively involved in national professional organizations as Member at Large for the American Psychological Association's Society for Clinical Neuropsychology, and former role as past Chair of SCN's Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee (EMA).

Featured Speakers



Mr. Josh Andrews

Offensive Guard
Atlanta Falcons, NFL

Josh Andrews is an American football offensive guard for the Atlanta Falcons of the National Football League. He played college football at Oregon State. He has also been a member of the Philadelphia Eagles, Minnesota Vikings, Indianapolis Colts, and New York Jets. Has appeared in 40 career games with four starts over five NFL seasons with the Eagles, Colts and Jets.

Played in 15 games with four starts at guard for the Jets in 2020.

Contributed on special teams in all 16 games and appeared on offense in six games for the Colts in 2019.

Appeared in the final three games of the 2018 season for the Colts after spending several weeks on the Eagles' practice squad and training camp with the Vikings.

Spent the entire 2017 season, including the team's Super Bowl LII Championship, as a member of the Eagles' practice squad.

Contributed on offense and special teams in three games for the Eagles in 2016.

Appeared in 13 games on special teams for the Eagles in 2015.

Spent the 2014 season as a member of the Eagles' practice squad.



Toni Antonucci, Ph.D.
Professor and Senior
Research Scientist
University of Michigan

“My research focuses on social relations and health across the lifespan, including multigenerational studies of the family and comparative studies of social relations across the life span in the United States, Europe, and Japan. We are currently collecting a second wave of data on the Social Relations and Health across the Life Span study.”

Toni C. Antonucci is the Elizabeth M. Douvan Collegiate Professor of Psychology and Program Director and Research Professor in the Life Course Development Program at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan.

Dr. Antonucci's research focuses on social relations and health across the lifespan, including the family, life span and life course development, multigenerational relations, adult development, and aging, and comparative studies of social relations and health in the United States, Europe, the Middle East, and Japan. She is particularly interested in how social relations optimize or jeopardize an individual's ability to face life's challenges. She received a Research Career Development Award and is currently funded or has been funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute on Aging, and several private foundations, most recently, the Fetzer Institute and the MacArthur Foundation.

Dr. Antonucci will be the president-elect of the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development in 2017 and of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics in 2018. She was President of the Gerontological Society of America and the Society for the Study of Human Development and served as editor of the *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Science* and Associate Editor of *Developmental Psychology*. She is currently the series editor of the *Annual Review of Geriatrics and Gerontology* for Springer Publishing Company and is a member of the MacArthur Network on the Aging Society. She is a member of the Executive Board of the International Society for the Study of Behavioral Development, Secretary General-Elect of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics, and received the Gerontological Society of America's 2011 Distinguished Career Contribution to Gerontology Award. She has numerous scientific publications, in 2010 she edited (with James S. Jackson) *Life Course Perspectives on Late Life Health Inequalities*, and in 2011 edited (with Karen Fingerman, Cynthia Berg, and Jacqui Smith) the *Handbook of LifeSpan Development*.



Maria Aranda, Ph.D.
Executive Director
USC Edward R. Roybal
Institute on Aging

María P. Aranda is an associate professor at the USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work and the executive director of the USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging. She holds a joint appointment with the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology and is a psychotherapist with over 30 years of experience providing mental health services to middle-aged and older adults and their families.

Dr. Aranda developed the first Spanish-language support group for families affected by Alzheimer's disease. She is well-known among community leaders for establishing model support programs such as the El Portal Latino Alzheimer's Project, Programa Esperanza, and Siempre Viva for individuals and families in East Los Angeles affected by depression and Alzheimer's disease.

Her research specializations address the unique needs of middle age and older adults with co-occurring medical and psychiatric illnesses, and the caregiving families who provide them with love and care. She focuses on psychosocial intervention development, and evaluation of bilingual, evidence-based interventions on behalf of adults with chronic medical conditions and disabilities.

She has received funding for her research from NIA, NCI, PCORI, the Southern California-CTSI, The John A. Hartford Foundation/GSA, the National Institute of Rehabilitation and Research, the Alzheimer's Association/HRSA, the L.A. County Department of Mental Health, and the California Community Foundation.

Featured Speakers

CONTINUED



Linda Burton, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Social Welfare
University of California, Berkeley

Linda M. Burton is dean of Berkeley Social Welfare and holds the Eugene and Rose Kleiner Chair for the Study of Processes, Practices, and Policies in Aging. Prior to her arrival at Berkeley in 2019, Burton was the James B. Duke Professor of Sociology and director of the Center for Child and Family Policy at Duke University.

In her role as dean of Social Sciences at Duke University's Trinity College of Arts and Sciences, she was responsible for handling all matters relative to 239 faculty members in 14 departments and programs, including African/African American Studies, Economics, History, Political Science, and Women's Studies.

She simultaneously co-directed the undergraduate program on International Comparative Studies, was co-chair of the university's Task Force on Bias and Hate Issues, and served on the university's union bargaining team in negotiations with the Service Employees' International Union (SEIU) on behalf of Duke's adjunct professors. Prior to joining Duke, she was a faculty member at Penn State for over 20 years and served as director of its Center for Human Development and Family Research in Diverse Contexts from 1998 to 2006. She holds a PhD in sociology from the University of Southern California.

Dean Burton is a preeminent scholar on child welfare and poverty whose program of research is conceptually grounded in the life course, developmental, and ecological perspectives and focuses on three themes concerning the lives of America's poorest urban, small town, and rural families: (1) intergenerational family structures, processes, and role transitions; (2) the meaning of context and place in the daily lives of families; and, (3) childhood adultification and the accelerated life course. Her methodological approach to exploring these issues is comparative, longitudinal, and multi-method.

The comparative dimension of Burton's research comprises an in-depth within-group analysis of low-income African American, White, and, Hispanic/Latino families, as well as systematic examinations of similarities and differences across groups. She employs longitudinal designs in her studies to identify distinct and often nuanced contextual and ethnic/racial features of development that shape the family structures, processes (e.g., intergenerational caregiving), and life course transitions (e.g., grandparenthood, marriage) families experience over time.

She is principally an ethnographer, but integrates survey and geographic and spatial analysis in her work. Burton was one of six principal investigators involved in a multi-site, multi-method collaborative study of the impact of welfare reform on families and children (Welfare, Children, and Families: A Three-City Study), directed the ethnographic component of the Three-City Study, and was also principal investigator of an ethnographic study of rural poverty and child development (The Family Life Project).



Tia Delaney, MSN-Ed, RN, CCM
Founder/President
Eyes of Love Nursing & Wellness

Tia Delaney is a Registered Nurse and current founder/President of Eyes of Love Nursing & Wellness. With over 28 years in the health-care industry, she has overseen the various facets required to deliver quality and competent clinical care to thousands of home health, palliative, hospice, and hospital-based clients. With a focus on the baby-boom and geriatric populations, she understands the current healthcare plights facing America and remains a passionate and dedicated advocate for the enhancement of healthcare services to the under-served, frail, vulnerable, and elderly members within the community.

In addition to her delivery of clinical services, Tia oversees community-based Health & Wellness seminars that focus on providing insight and resources that empower others in areas such as chronic disease management, preventative care, and overall health care awareness. She's also certified with the LA-Southland Alzheimer's Association as a community educator.

Tia currently holds a Masters in Nursing with an emphasis on Education. She formerly served on the educational committee for California Association for Health Services at Home, is currently the Director of Membership & Recruitment for Black Nurses Rock-LA Chapter and, was recently inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau – International Honor Society of Nursing.



Carol L. Folt, Ph.D.
President
University of Southern California

Dr. Carol L. Folt serves as the twelfth president of the University of Southern California. She is a highly experienced leader, internationally recognized life scientist, and award-winning teacher. In leading USC, Dr. Folt brings broad executive and leadership experience across the academy, including arts and sciences, professional schools, and academic medicine.

Throughout her career, Dr. Folt has earned a reputation for always placing students at the center, advancing academic excellence and innovation, setting ambitious goals, prioritizing shared governance, and focusing on the future.

Prior to her appointment at USC in July 2019, Dr. Folt led the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – one of the nation’s most distinguished and research-intensive universities – from 2013 to 2019. At UNC, she set a bold course for the university’s future by spearheading a historic capital campaign, raising billions of dollars; building the school’s first-ever strategic plan in collaboration with every school and department; fighting to make college education accessible and affordable; and inspiring thousands of Tar Heels to embrace the arts and sustainability. Under her leadership, UNC was repeatedly named the No. 1 value in public higher education, surpassed \$1 billion in annual research expenditures for the first time in school history (No. 5 in the nation overall), and set admissions records every year.

Prior to her tenure at UNC, Dr. Folt served in various leadership roles at Dartmouth College, including as interim president, provost, dean of faculty, and Dartmouth Professor of Biological Sciences.



Carl V. Hill, Ph.D., MPH
Chief Diversity, Equity
and Inclusion Officer
Alzheimer’s Association

Carl V. Hill, Ph.D., MPH, is the chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer for the Alzheimer’s Association, overseeing strategic initiatives to strengthen the Association’s outreach to all populations and providing communities with resources and support to address the Alzheimer’s crisis.

In this role, Dr. Hill is responsible for developing cross-functional partnerships with organizations to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion. As a result of his leadership, the Association has broadened its reach to previously diverse communities with partners such as the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation.

Within the Association, Dr. Hill collaborates with human resources to attract talent and develop resources that champion staff diversity and a culture of inclusion. He authored an editorial in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Neurology highlighting the need for more diverse perspectives to address disparities and pursue equity in dementia science.

Dr. Hill previously served as the Association’s vice president, Scientific Engagement. Before joining the Association, he served as director, Office of Special Populations at the National Institutes on Aging (NIA). Throughout Dr. Hill’s six years in this role, he led the development of the NIA Health Disparities Research Framework, which stimulates studies focused on health disparities related to aging. He also directed the NIA Butler-Williams Scholars Program, which provides yearly training for early career investigators interested in aging research.

Hill earned his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan School of Public Health, where he trained with the Center for Research on Ethnicity, Culture and Health (CRECH) and the Program for Research on Black Americans (PRBA). He is an alumnus of the National Medical Fellowships Inc./W.K. Kellogg Foundation Health Policy Fellowship Program. Dr. Hill holds a master’s degree in public health from Morehouse School of Medicine, and he received its Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2019. As a member of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Public Health Prevention Service, a training and leadership program, he helped to establish the Center for Bioethics in Research and Healthcare at Tuskegee University.

Featured Speakers

CONTINUED



Dr. Damali Martin
Program Director
National Institute on Aging,
Division of Neuroscience

Dr. Damali Martin is a Program Director in the Populations and Genetics Branch in the Division of Neurosciences. Prior to joining NIA, Dr. Martin served as a Senior Program Director, the Cancer Disparities Coordinator and the Global Health Coordinator in the Epidemiology and Genomics Research Program in NCI's Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS) for 12 years. Her responsibilities included managing a portfolio of large multi-center cancer epidemiology and cohort studies related to health disparities, global health, environmental and genetic epidemiology.

As the Cancer Disparities Coordinator, Dr. Martin worked with trans-NCI staff to provide oversight of activities and to envision strategic opportunities for advancing cancer disparities research. As the Global Health Coordinator, Dr. Martin spearheaded several global health initiatives in the Caribbean and Africa including an assessment of non-Latin Caribbean country policies and services for cervical cancer prevention and control, implementation of the regional IARC Caribbean Cancer Registry Hub, and the creation of a framework for supporting comprehensive cancer research programs in Africa. Dr. Martin also served as scientific officer for the Global Environmental and Occupational Health (GEOHealth) and the Human, Health and Hereditary in Africa (H3Africa) programs; as well as programmatic advisor for several international cancer epidemiology consortia in low- and middle-income countries in the Caribbean and Africa.

Dr. Martin obtained her Ph.D. (2004) in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics at the University of Maryland in College Park and her MPH (2005) in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



Deborah Stroman, Ph.D., C.L.U.
Project Coordinator
Professor and Director
Department of Health Behavior
UNC Gillings School of Global
Public Health & Odum Institute

As an advisor and instructor in the EQUITY concentration, Dr. Deborah Stroman specializes in leadership as applied to the domain of racial equity in the United States. Prior to joining Gillings, she was a Clinical Associate Professor at Kenan-Flagler Business School providing instruction and service to students related to organizational behavior and the examination of the vast sports business industry.

Dr. Stroman has more than three decades of extensive experience working with senior administrators, faculty, staff, students, and alumni on leadership and equity issues. As an entrepreneur, she provides race and racism strategic consulting and education to numerous organizations including the National Institutes of Health, R1 academic institutions, Fortune 100, and nonprofits. She is a national trainer with the Racial Equity Institute LLC. In addition, Dr. Stroman is the founder of the Center of Sport Business and Analytics, which is purposed to connect with and advocate for people and organizations creating equity, impact, and value in the sport industry.

She is a president emerita of the UNC Black Faculty and Staff Caucus and has been recognized for teaching, service, and entrepreneurship collaborations. Along with Dr. Geni Eng, Dr. Stroman co-designed and instructs in the department's popular "Leading for Racial Equity" graduate student course, which propelled similar instruction and education across the entire campus and beyond. Dr. Stroman is Coach, HAVEN, Mental Health (First Aid), and Safe Zone trained and certified.



Roland J. Thorpe, Jr., Ph.D.
Co-Director DRPH Concentration
In Health, Equity, and Social
Justice, Professor, Associate Vice
Provost of Faculty Diversity
Johns Hopkins University

Roland J. Thorpe, Jr., Ph.D., MS, is a gerontologist and social epidemiologist with nationally-recognized expertise in minority aging, men's health, and place-based disparities.

Dr. Roland J. Thorpe, Jr. joined the Office of the Provost in 2017 as a Provost's Fellow. His Fellowship project involved a collaboration with the Offices of Faculty Affairs and Research to design skills training modules for undergraduate research and develop a mentoring program to train graduate students, postdoctoral students, and faculty in the art and science of mentoring undergraduate students. In 2018, Dr. Thorpe was tapped to lead the Provost's Postdoctoral Diversity Fellowship Program. He has emerged as a key thought leader equipped to address concerns and challenges associated with the diversification of the academic workforce. As the inaugural Associate Vice Provost of Faculty Diversity, he will dedicate more time to advancing key initiatives around faculty diversity.

In his new role, Dr. Thorpe will work closely with Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Andrew Douglas and Vice Provost for Diversity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer Katrina Caldwell to advance the Faculty Diversity Initiative (FDI). This includes providing infrastructure support for the Target of Opportunity Program and the Cluster Faculty Initiative, working with all diversity and inclusion deans and deans of faculty on campus to enhance support for faculty development and mentoring, and leading an expanded Provost Postdoctoral Diversity Fellowship Program.

Dr. Thorpe is a Professor in the Department of Health, Behavior, and Society in the Bloomberg School of Public Health, and also serves as Deputy Director of the Hopkins Center for Health Disparities Solutions, Co-Director of the Johns Hopkins Alzheimer's Disease Resource Center for Minority Aging Research, and Co-Director of the Health Equity and Social Justice Concentration of the DrPH Program. He holds joint appointments in the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology, the Department of Neurology in the School of Medicine, and the Department of Sociology in the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences.

As a social epidemiologist and gerontologist, Dr. Thorpe's research focuses on how race, socioeconomic status, and segregation influence health and well-being for African Americans, particularly African American men. He is the recipient of numerous awards that recognize his commitment and valuable contributions to student and faculty mentoring, including the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health Advising, Mentoring, and Teaching Recognition Award, the inaugural 2018 NHLBI OHD PRIDE Roland J. Thorpe, Jr. Mentoring Award, the 2020 JHBSPH Dean's Award of Distinction in Faculty Mentoring, and the 2020 Minority Issues in Gerontology Outstanding Mentorship Award. Dr. Thorpe earned a bachelor's in theoretical mathematics from Florida A&M University, a master's in statistics, and a Ph.D. in clinical epidemiology with a graduate minor in gerontology from Purdue University.



Rev. Dr. Kelvin Lamonte Williams

As a Community Liason and Outreach Specialist I work with MACHE and the WFSM Alzheimer's Disease Research Center to develop and lead strategic community engagement and outreach programs. I have served as a pastor since 2009 and my work focuses on social, health, and economic advancement issues that effecting the church and community at large. My experience and expertise in divinity education, mentorship for young adults, and connecting non-profits with the communities they serve through faith community based engagement. As past-president of Minister's Conference of Winston-Salem and vicinity, I am passionate about nurturing relationships between WFSM and faith communities.



Ms. Edie Yau
Director
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Alzheimer's Association

Edie Yau is the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for the Alzheimer's Association. She provides leadership and strategic direction to diversity and inclusion to advance the organization's vision to create a world without Alzheimer's.

In her tenure, she has led innovative programs such as the Asian Dementia Care Network and the SF LGBT Dementia Care Project to raise concern and awareness in diverse communities. She served on the California Task Force on Family Caregiving and currently serves on the California AARP Executive Council. Ms. Yau has been in the field of aging for nearly 25 years and has an MA in Gerontology.

Emerging Scholars Program



Desiree A. Byrd, Ph.D.
Director
Associate Professor
Queens College, CUNY

Desiree A. Byrd, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Neurology and Pathology at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York City. Trained as a clinician-scholar at the UCSD/SDSU Joint Doctoral Program in clinical psychology, she completed her predoctoral internship at Brown University and a postdoctoral fellowship in Cognition and Aging at Columbia University.

Since completing her training, she has maintained an active research program as a neuropsychologist. Her primary research interests are in the neuropathogenesis of HIV-associated cognitive dysfunction and the sources and consequences of culture-related differences in neuropsychological test performance among American ethnic groups. Her research on the functional correlates of neuropsychological impairment in diverse populations has been funded by the Alzheimer's Association and the National Institute on Aging.



Percy Griffin, Ph.D., MSc
Director
Director, Scientific Engagement
Alzheimer's Association

Percy Griffin, Ph.D., is Director, of Scientific Engagement for the Alzheimer's Association, where he leads efforts to accelerate the organization's scientific agenda through the creation and delivery of ongoing research education. He engages with more than 75 Association chapters across the country, informing staff and the public of scientific initiatives and the organization's crucial role in advancing research to improve the lives of all those facing Alzheimer's and other dementias.

Prior to joining the Association, Dr. Griffin held a number of roles that honed his expertise in research and scientific communication. Most recently, he was a strategic analyst for Purohit Navigation, where he conducted and analyzed research for pharmaceutical clients. He also served as a consultant for the Biotechnology and Life Sciences Advising Group and as a scientific editor and illustrator for InPrint, a publication editing service at Washington University in St. Louis.

As a researcher, Dr. Griffin has led independent translational projects in Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease focused on protein degradation and neuroimmunology, in addition to research on the role of proteostasis in Parkinson's disease pathogenesis and organic chemistry synthesis. He is a co-author of several papers, including "Circadian clock protein Rev-erba regulates neuroinflammation," published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS).



C. Michael Malesky, M.Ed.
CHES, CLT
Director
Associate Professor
Wayne State University
Division of Kinesiology,
Health and Sport Studies

C. Michael Malesky is an Assistant Professor of Exercise Science in the Division of Kinesiology, Health and Sport Studies at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. Prior to joining academia, he spent nearly a decade in performance development working with athletes in Major League Baseball, MiLB, the

National Football League, National Hockey League, Kontinental Hockey League, Olympians and collegiate levels competitors. His current research is focused on functional aging for seniors in urban communities through nutrition and physical activity-based interventions. Other academic interests include nutritional approaches to reducing muscle wasting and the disability threshold in aging adults and metabolic biomarkers influencing glucose regulation.



Tam E. Perry, Ph.D.
Director
 Associate Professor
 School of Social Work
 Wayne State University

Tam Perry is an associate professor in the School of Social Work at Wayne State University. She recently received her Ph.D. in Social Work and Anthropology from the University of Michigan.

Her ethnographic research addresses housing transitions of older adults from a network perspective. As health, mobility and kin and peer networks alter, she explores how older adults contemplate their homes and its contents. She studies housing transitions because, while aging in place is often preferred and cost-effective, inevitably some older adults will undertake the emotional and physical labor, as well as the negotiation of medical, financial and long-term care infrastructures, involved in relocation. Her research has been supported by the National Institute on Aging, the John A. Hartford Foundation, the University of Michigan and Wayne State University.

She plans to begin a new research project in Detroit on relocation in older adulthood funded by the Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research as well as conduct a longitudinal study of older adults who participated in her dissertation project funded by a University Research Grant from Wayne State University.



Victor Ekuta
Scholar
 MIT linQ Catalyst
 Fellow/MD Candidate

Victor is an MD Candidate and MIT linQ Catalyst Fellow who is passionate about advancing brain health equity. In the future, he aspires to be a physician-scientist-advocate, employing novel approaches to treat human brain disease, combat health disparities, and boost diversity in STEM.



Darlingtina Esiaka, Ph.D.
Scholar
 INSPIRE Fellow/Director of Community Engagement,
 Aging & Brain Health Alliance,
 Rutgers University.

In her research, Dr. Esiaka investigates social determinants of health and chronic disease survivorship in older Black men. Currently, she is examining early detection of cognitive decline and conversion to Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (AD/RD) in urban-dwelling older African American men.

SCHOLARS



Breton M. Asken, Ph.D., ATC
Scholar
 Postdoctoral Neuropsychology
 Fellow UCSF Memory and
 Aging Center

Breton's research targets the impact of head trauma exposure on later-life brain health using cognitive testing, blood-based biomarkers, and brain imaging. He is interested in diagnostic and prognostic approaches that will help identify who is at greatest risk for poor long-term outcomes of repetitive head trauma, especially Alzheimer's disease and related dementias like chronic traumatic encephalopathy.



Casey LaDuke
Scholar
 Assistant Professor of Psychology,
 John Jay College of Criminal Justice
 & The Graduate Center,
 City University of New York
 Assistant Clinical Professor, Brain
 Injury Research Center, Icahn
 School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Casey LaDuke, PhD, is a clinical psychologist focused on improving the brain health, healthcare, and health outcomes for people involved in the criminal legal system. He is currently collaborating with community partners to screen for TBI history and related needs among people engaging in prison re-entry and alternative-to-incarceration programs in New York City.

Emerging Scholars Program

CONTINUED



Willie F. McBride III, Ph.D.

Scholar

Clinical Neuropsychologist
Assistant Professor
Director, Adult Neuropsychology
Emphasis Area
Spalding University School of
Professional Psychology

"I don't typically believe in having a calling, but I am overjoyed with the excitement about the Black Men Brain Health Program and the opportunity that it will provide me to combine my lived experience as a Black man with advocacy and neuropsychology to achieve a singular goal - improve the lives of Black men."

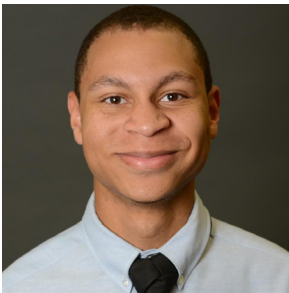


Rio Story Tate, B.S.

Scholar

Ph.D. Student
University of South Florida

"Black men and women have historically been underrepresented as researchers and participants in science, but the ability to change that starts with us as scientists."



Roy Calvin McReynolds III

Scholar

4th-year Ph.D. Candidate in the
Neuroscience Interdepartmental
Program (NSIDP)

Roy McReynolds III is a 4th-year Ph.D. Candidate in the Neuroscience Interdepartmental Program (NSIDP) in the lab of Dr. Jason Hinman. Roy's thesis research investigates changes occurring in astrocytes during early Alzheimer's disease.

"I became interested in the BMBH conference and fellowship because I wanted to broaden my engagement with my community about brain research"



Brandon A. Yates, MS, CSCS

Scholar

Ph.D. Candidate
Indiana University School of
Medicine

"As a scientist, one of my long-term goals is to increase research participation of underrepresented minority groups. The BMBH fellowship afforded me the opportunity to become more effective at attaining that goal"



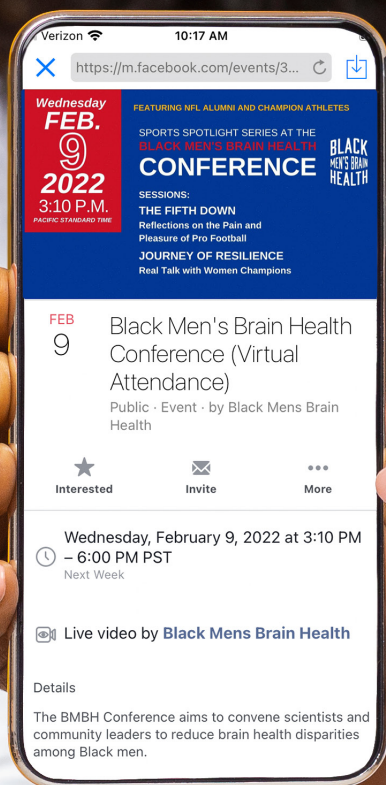
Ashley R. Shaw, Ph.D., MPH

Scholar

Research Assistant Professor
University of Kansas Alzheimer's
Disease Center

Dr. Shaw's main areas of interest include racial/ethnic health disparities in Alzheimer's disease and dementia prevention through culturally tailored lifestyle interventions.





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#BlackMensBrainHealth
#BMBH2022

Spotlight Speakers

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT SERIES PART I:

The Fifth Down: Athletes' Reflections on the Pain and Pleasure of Pro Football

A panel discussion on navigating cognitive aging, mental health, and transitions from sport participation.



Bucky Brooks



Ken Harvey



Stefon Johnson



Guy Troupe

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT SERIES PART II:

Journey of Resilience: Real Talk with Women Champions

A round table Black History Month discussion on key strategies to overcome mental, physical, and relational challenges.



Dr. Lauren Brown



Lauren Douglas



Jo Ann Pugh



Dr. Deborah Stroman

WEDNESDAY
FEB.
9
2022
3:10 P.M.
PACIFIC STANDARD TIME

PERSPECTIVE MATTERS. HEAR OURS.
BLACK MEN'S BRAIN HEALTH
CONFERENCE
FACEBOOK LIVE EVENT



BLACK MEN'S
BRAIN HEALTH

Thank You

Daniel Boddie, Yasir Mehmood, and Stacey Thal

Armen Akopyan

Jose Beltran

Michael Gaimari

Jason Mott

Adrian Robles

Blake Smith

Michael Ward

Kayla Tureson

Kalpana Vissa

Steve Cohn Photography

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BLACK MEN'S BRAIN HEALTH