



**Education and Workforce Development Pathway:
Call for Applications – Innovations to Advance Wisconsin’s Health Workforce
Review Panel Members**

The following review panel members are responsible for reviewing MCW-led or community-led submissions to AHW’s Call for Applications: Innovations to Advance Wisconsin’s Health Workforce for FY19.

Laura Cassidy, MS, PhD

Professor and Research Director, Institute for Health and Equity
Director, PhD Program in Public & Community Health
Medical College of Wisconsin

Dr. Laura Cassidy is a Professor and Director of the Epidemiology Division and Program Director of the PhD Program in Public and Community Health, Founding Director of the MS Program in Global Health Equity in the Institute for Health and Equity at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She has an MS in Biostatistics and a PhD in Epidemiology. She has been the PI on two federally funded grants focusing on pediatric trauma, and also grants from RWJ, EMSC, NIJ, DOJ and private foundations. She has over 100 peer-reviewed publications. She has expertise in study design, clinical research and, community engaged research, survey methods, health disparities and global health.

Laura Conklin, MPH

City of Wauwatosa Health Officer
Director, Wauwatosa Health Department

Laura Conklin currently serves as the Director and Public Health Officer for the City of Wauwatosa Health Department. Prior to her appointment in Wauwatosa, she worked as a program coordinator for the Medical College of Wisconsin, helping public health graduate degree students across the country secure field placement sites and complete their final capstone projects. Prior to MCW, Laura worked as the health educator and grant writer for Rock County Health Department, receiving nearly \$1 million in grant funding during her tenure. Prior to this, Laura was employee programs coordinator at Edstrom Industries.

In addition to serving as the Southeastern Representative to the Wisconsin Public Health Association Board of Directors, Laura is a representative on the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards Public Affairs Committee. She received her undergraduate training at Carroll University and her Masters degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Carla Elena Echeveste, BA

Community Program Coordinator
All of Us Research Initiative
Medical College of Wisconsin

Carla Elena Echeveste is a former accountant turned published researcher and community program coordinator for the *All of Us* Research Program. Echeveste holds a Bachelors in Accounting and Mathematics from Alverno College, a Post-Baccalaureate Premedical Studies Certificate from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and numerous professional awards for her engagement, including being named Hispanic Woman of the Year in 2017. Her research interests include cancer chemoprevention, Latino health disparities, mental health, and cognitive neuroscience. Most recently, she represented the *All of Us* Research Program at the White House as she was invited to attend the 2019 Hispanic Heritage Month reception. In her role at the Medical College of Wisconsin for the *All of Us* Research Program, which is a historic and ambitious effort to gather data from one million or more people living in the United States to accelerate

research and improve health, she is instrumental in advancing programmatic efforts and strategic communications with key partners and organizations, while providing the National Institutes of Health (NIH) feedback to continuously improve marketing to reflect the cultural mosaic of the Greater Milwaukee area. As part of her commitment to professional growth and development, Echeveste serves on the Milwaukee Area Health Education Center Board of Directors. In her free time, she enjoys mentoring minority women towards professional STEM careers, consulting, and baking sweets and pastries.

Jeanne Hewitt, PhD, RN

Associate Professor Emerita
University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

My research, teaching, and practice experience with undergraduate and graduate students in nursing, public health, and other health professions is in environmental public health, environmental and occupational epidemiology, and community engagement.

C. Greer Jordan, PhD, MBA

Vice President of Inclusion and Diversity, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer
Assistant Professor, Institute for Health and Equity
Medical College of Wisconsin

C. Greer Jordan, Ph.D., MBA, BSEE, serves as Vice President for Inclusion and Diversity and Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW). Dr. Jordan is responsible for fostering inclusive excellence and innovation as an enabler of MCW's strategic priorities and success in improving health for all.

As faculty in the Institute of Health Equity at MCW, Dr. Jordan supports the work of several grants, including Research of Early Child Development by Improving Resiliency and Equity (REDIRECT) and Student-Centered Pipeline to Advance Research in Cancer Careers (SPARCC). She also serves as faculty in the MCW Kern Institute KINETIC3 medical educators training program. Her scholarship interests include organizational strategy, organizational inclusion, and leadership.

Dr. Jordan serves as co-chair of the Chief Diversity Officers Round Table of Greater Milwaukee, and chair of Ethics and Standards for the MKE Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. She served on the boards of the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts, United Way of Central Massachusetts Women's Initiative, RSVP of Worcester, and the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Cleveland.

Before joining MCW, Dr. Jordan served as associate vice chancellor, diversity and inclusion, for the University of Massachusetts Medical School and UMass Memorial Health Care, and was an assistant professor in the Graduate School of Nursing and the Department of Quantitative Health Sciences. Dr. Jordan began her career as an Automotive engineer and progressed into management at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan.

Linda Meurer, MD, MPH

Professor and vice Chair for Academic Affairs, Family and Community Medicine
Medical College of Wisconsin

Dr. Linda Meurer, Professor and Vice Chair for Academic Affairs, Family & Community Medicine, is a family physician with a commitment to community engaged education and scholarship, health promotion, and health workforce development. She views training and mentorship in primary care and community engaged research as mean to enhance the relevance of clinical research, improve health care access and quality, enhance socially responsive medical education and advance health equity. She directs the T-32 Academic Fellowship in Primary Care Research (HRSA), a T35 summer research program in aging/ injury (NIA), and the Urban and Community Health Pathway, and serves as Chair Emeritis of the MCW Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee.

Ravi P. Misra, PHD

Professor of Biochemistry

Dean, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Medical College of Wisconsin

Dr. Misra is Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and Professor of Biochemistry at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He received a BA in Microbiology and Religion from Rutgers College and his MS and PhD in Biochemistry from the Sackler Institute of Biomedical Sciences at the NYU School of Medicine. He did postdoctoral training in eukaryotic gene regulation and signal transduction in the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at Harvard Medical School. He joined the faculty of the Biochemistry Department at MCW in 1993 and in 2010 was appointed Dean of the MCW Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at MCW.

His research interests have focused on regulation of signaling and gene expression, and the control of early coronary vascular development. He has been funded by the NIH and other national funding agencies including the American Heart Association, American Federation for Aging, and the American Cancer Society. He served on numerous NIH study sections, and was a charter member of the Cardiovascular Differentiation and Development section. He currently serves as a reviewer on the AHA Regenerative Cell Biology study section, and as Chair of the Physiology and Pathobiology of Cardiovascular and Respiratory Systems Fellowship NIH study section. He also currently serves as a Peer Reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and a member of the AAMC GREAT Group Steering Committee.

Steve Ohly

Manager (retired)
Aurora Health Care

After 27 years managing several clinics for underserved and providing direct care, I am retired and in a counseling program part time. I remain a volunteer at Walker's Point Clinic. One of my proudest accomplishments is helping 10 M.A. s become RNs.

Elise Papke, DrPH

Senior Public Health Specialist
University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

My work experience in Wisconsin and Indiana relates to graduate education in public health. At the UWM Zilber School of Public Health, I am the instructor for the Master of Public Health (MPH) Field Experience and Capstone courses. I have knowledge of workforce development for practitioners through my work in various capacities with the Wisconsin Public Health Association (WPHA). Currently I serve as co-chair of the WPHA and Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards Annual Conference Committee. I am also a member of the Milwaukee Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Board. These work and professional connections to workforce development give me a unique perspective on the public health workforce and life-long learning.

Chris Rasch

Director of Government and Community Relations
Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers

Chris Mambu Rasch is the Director of Government and Community Relations for Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers. Chris is responsible for maintaining and building strategic partnerships with community organizations on behalf of Sixteenth Street. He also leads Sixteenth Street's government relations advocacy and works with local, state, and federal elected officials, their staffs, and governmental agencies to effectively channel the goals and program needs of Sixteenth Street. Chris has decades of experience working on healthcare policy issues having prior worked for both physician and nurse organizations. He is a proud graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Malika Siker, MD

Associate Professor, Radiation Oncology
Associate Dean for Student Inclusion and Diversity

Medical College of Wisconsin

Malika Siker, MD is an Associate Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She received her medical degree from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health in Madison, Wisconsin in 2006 and completed her residency in radiation oncology at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) in 2011. Her clinical care specialties are lymphoma, leukemia, myeloma, adult and pediatric CNS tumors, stereotactic radiosurgery, and prostate cancer. Her interests also include improving health equity, and she serves as Academic Co-Chair of the MCW Cancer Center Community Advisory Board. She was recently named to the Milwaukee Business Journal 40 Under 40 Class of 2019.

Dr. Siker is Associate Dean for Student Inclusion and Diversity in the Department of Academic Affairs at the Medical College of Wisconsin where she oversees pipeline programs to increase diversity in the biomedical sciences and supports student inclusion. She also leads national initiatives in the field of radiation oncology to improve opportunities for individuals from underrepresented backgrounds in medicine as Chair of the Committee for Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion of the American Society of Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Siker is a member of the Kern Institute Student Pillar working to cultivate a culture of inclusion to improve well-being and foster diversity. Using design thinking methods, she is incorporating student voices to deeper understand the challenges unique to students of color and underrepresented minorities to help drive positive change at MCW. As lead for the Kern National Network Student Diversity and Inclusion Workgroup, Dr. Siker works to elevate the importance of an inclusive medical school by exploring the impact and intersection of Triple Aim to that of diversity and inclusion in medical education.

Ryan Spellecy, PhD

Ursula von der Ruhr Chair in Bioethics
Professor of Bioethics and Medical Humanities
Institute for Health & Equity
Medical College of Wisconsin

Dr. Spellecy is The Ursula von der Ruhr Professor of Bioethics in the Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities at the Medical College of Wisconsin, where he chairs one of the IRBs. His work focuses on research ethics, informed consent, ethical issues in psychiatry, and community involvement in research. He advised the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute regarding engaging stakeholders in the peer review process, the Association of American Medical Colleges on IRBs and community based research. Recently, he was the co-PI for an NIH funded national study evaluating a novel, easier to read consent form for blood and marrow transplant trials and currently leads a project to create a community-engaged research ethics training program as well as a study to evaluate the strengths and barriers regarding cancer clinical trial participation in Milwaukee's African American population. He also works on character in medicine, combining approaches including Ancient Greek philosophy and modern psychology with the Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern Institute for the Transformation of Medical Education at the Medical College of Wisconsin, as well as their 6 partner institutions around the US.

Jim Vergeront, MD

Physician, Wisconsin Division of Public Health (retired)
Director, Wisconsin HIV Program (retired)
Adjunct Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison (retired)

UW-Madison MD in 1978 1979-2019 (retired) Physician at the WI Division of Public Health; Director of the WI HIV Program since 1983; Interim Director of the Bureau of Communicable Dis. in 2004, 2007 and 2015. 1984-Present Adjunct Professor-UW-Madison