

Speakers

(alphabetically by last name)



Rosalinda Alvarado, MD, FACS – Assistant Professor, Section of Surgical Oncology, Rush University Medical Center

Dr. Rosalinda Alvarado is a breast surgeon who treats both benign and malignant breast disease. She is dedicated to providing patients with high quality, multidisciplinary care tailored to the individual needs of each patient. She completed medical school at Stanford University School of Medicine, general surgery residency at Rush University Medical Center and a fellowship in Breast Surgical Oncology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She is experienced in breast conserving surgery, mastectomy including nipple-sparing mastectomy, oncoplastic surgery, sentinel node biopsy and breast cancer prevention and risk reduction.



Lisa Aponte-Soto, PhD, MHA – Latina Researchers Network; University of Illinois at Chicago; Chief Research Officer for Mile Square Health Center

Dr. Lisa Aponte-Soto serves as the chief research officer for Mile Square Health Center (MSHC), a network of 13 Federally Qualified Health Centers providing comprehensive, high quality health services through the continuum of care. In this capacity, she coordinates a portfolio of community-based research projects, oversees the MSHC patient screening and navigation programs, and conducts evidenced-based program, process, and outcomes evaluation to monitor progress, mitigate issues on an ongoing timely basis, and ensure continuous improvement. Formerly, Dr. Aponte-Soto served as National Deputy Director of New Connections, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), which aims to diversify perspectives of research and evaluation practices. Additionally, she has over 20 years of experience working in academia, social services, and health care settings, conducting administrative operations, program management, grants management, policy development, research, and evaluation. She is trained in culturally responsive research and evaluation practices and has extensive experience working with and for diverse communities in conducting culturally responsive research, evaluation, and programming. Her research and evaluation expertise include addressing health inequities, college access, mentoring, and career development. Dr. Aponte-Soto holds a PhD in community health sciences from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Yessenia Castro-Caballero, MD – Loyola University Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine

Dr. Yessenia Castro-Caballero was born and raised in Chicago. Her parents immigrated from Mexico and Colombia. Her passion for medicine began as a child when she translated at her grandmother's medical appointments. She received her Bachelor's degree in Biology from Loyola University Chicago, her Medical Doctorate at University of Illinois at Chicago and completed her pediatric residency at Northwestern University Children Memorial Hospital. She went on to practice pediatrics in the southwest side of Chicago for six years. After seeing disparities rise in the immigrant population, she became actively involved in the Refugee and Immigrant Child Health Initiative thru the American Academy of Pediatrics. She went on to become a pediatric hospitalist for the University of Chicago and now for Loyola University Medical Center where she has focused her work on Refugee and Immigrant Child Health.



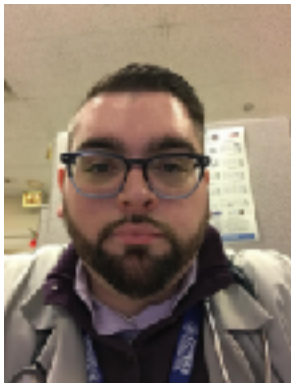
Marina Del Ríos, MD, MS – Director of Social Emergency Medicine, Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine; Advocacy Ambassador, 3CPR Council of the American Heart Association

Dr. Marina Del Ríos is Director of Social Emergency Medicine, Emergency Ultrasound Research Director, and Associate Professor in Emergency Medicine in the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine. Dr. Del Ríos has received competitive funding from the NIH and community foundations on multiple ongoing quality initiatives and research projects aimed at promoting health justice. Her expertise in health disparities and resuscitation systems of care has resulted in invitations to speak in national and international conferences including the American Heart Association's Resuscitation Science Symposium, the Emergency Cardiovascular Care Update, Resuscitation in Motion, and the Society of Academic Emergency Medicine. A proud Doctora Boricua, she devotes much of her free time volunteering for cultural and advocacy groups with the Puerto Rican community in Chicago.



Clarisol Duque – Chicago Director, U.S. Senator Dick Durbin

Clarisol Duque is the Chicago Chief of Staff for U.S. Senator Richard J. Durbin. As Chief of Staff, Clarisol serves constituents in northeastern Illinois, which includes Chicago and the six collar-county region that totals more than 8 million people. She manages all aspects of Sen. Durbin's Chicago office operation, including: reaching out to local units of government; communicating with community-based organizations; helping local businesses and cultural institutions; aiding advocacy groups; and partnering with elected officials at all levels of government to serve the needs of their community. In 2001 Senator Durbin authored and first introduced the DREAM Act and has since reintroduced the bill in every session of Congress, working tirelessly for its passage. Clarisol has dedicated much of her career to supporting Senator Durbin's efforts to pass the DREAM Act. She has worked on the DREAM Act since before it was introduced in Congress. In addition to serving as a community advocate in her professional life, Clarisol is on the Board of Directors for the Big Shoulders Fund, the largest scholarship provider in Chicago. Clarisol is a member of the City Colleges of Chicago Board of Trustees, where she serves as Secretary of the Board and the Chair of the Finance and Administrative Services Committee. She was recently featured as one of Chicago's 19 Top Latina Leaders in Philanthropy and Government by Make It Better Magazine. Clarisol has received the Public Service Award from the Office of the Secretary of State Jesse White. She has also been featured in *Negocios Now: Latinos 40 Under 40*; the Mexican Civic Society of Illinois honored her with the "Dama Azteca Award"; and she was the recipient of the Erie Neighborhood House Next Generation Award. A Chicago native, Clarisol was born and raised in the Humboldt Park neighborhood. She is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is the daughter of Mexican immigrants who were previously undocumented. She has run eight marathons including the 2018 Boston Marathon. She currently resides in Chicago with her husband Omar and two young children.



Patrick Ennis, MD – John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County

Dr. Patrick K. Ennis is a family medicine physician by training. He currently works for Cook County Health at Cermak Health Services of Cook County providing care to the detained individuals at Cook County Jail and Juvenile Temporary Detention Center. Originally from NYC, he calls Chicago home having completed undergraduate at Loyola University Chicago and residency at West Suburban Medical Center (Oak Park, IL) with a short turn to NY for medical school at NYMC. He is passionate about ethnic and minority health disparities. He finds joy in providing LGBTQ competent healthcare to those most marginalized and leads the transgender care program at Cermak as well as being a key advocate for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for HIV (PrEP).



Pilar Guerrero, MD – Board of Directors, MOLA; Board of Directors, NHMA; John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County

Dr. Pilar Guerrero is an Emergency Medicine physician who has been practicing at John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital (Cook County Hospital) for the last 17 years. She began her career in healthcare after obtaining a Bachelors in Science and practiced as a registered nurse for 6 years. Dr. Guerrero then embarked and completed her medical degree at the University of Michigan Medical School. During her residency at SUNY Downstate/Kings County Hospital, she was elected chief resident and after residency proceeded to do a research fellowship at John Hopkins Hospital. Outside of her clinical work in one of the busiest Emergency Departments in the country, Dr. Guerrero has been active in resident education, resident recruitment, disaster medicine, quality improvement, community work and currently began her work in health disparities and equity. Dr. Guerrero also teaches Medical Spanish to residents and faculty. She enjoys and has been a mentor for many students and residents throughout her career. She is on the board of directors for the Medical Organization for Latino Advancement (MOLA) and the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA), as well as the lead physician for the NHMA Midwest Chapter and NHMA-LMSA liaison for UIC. Dr. Guerrero is on the admissions interviewing committee for Rush Medical College at Rush University.



Javier Guevara, Jr., MD – Prime Care Health Community Health Centers

Dr. Javier Guevara Jr. is a board-certified Family Physician at PrimeCare Health and an affiliated faculty member at the Family Medicine residency program at Amita Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center. His clinical interests include women's health, maternal-child care, LGBTQ health, academia and leadership development. He earned his Doctor of Medicine at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine after graduating from UNC Wilmington with a Senior Medallion award, a major in Biological sciences and a minor in Chemistry. During his residency training he won the 2015 Illinois Academy of Family Physicians Top Scoring Resident Research Presentation for his project on improving diabetic care. In 2018 his poster on postpartum visits earned the 2nd place award during MOLA's Annual Latino Health Symposium. He also developed PrimeCare's project to become more LGBTQ friendly. He is an active member of the Medical Organization for Latino Advancement, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Board of Family Medicine, Society of Teachers of Family Medicine and the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians. He is also a board member at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine alumni association and he was welcomed recently into its Nathan Smith Davis Society for his service contributions to the school.



Francisco Iacobelli, PhD, MSc – Mentorship Committee, MOLA; Northeastern University

Dr. Francisco Iacobelli is a civil engineer and computer scientist as well as Associate Professor at Northeastern University. He is passionate about mentorship and research, using his computer sciences expertise to conduct investigation on cancer-related health disparities. He is a board member of the Medical Organization for Latino Advancement.



Mark Kuczewski, PhD – Professor of Medical Ethics, Loyola University Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine

Dr. Mark G. Kuczewski is the Director of the Neiswanger Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy. He holds the Father Michael I. English, S.J., Professorship in Medical Ethics. He was the founding chair for of the Department of Medical Education at the Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine (2013-19). He is a Past-President of the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH). Mark is the author or editor of three books. A philosopher by training, Mark has been an articulate spokesperson for the just treatment of undocumented immigrants in the clinical setting. He led the Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine effort to include undocumented youth in medical education. This resulted in Stritch becoming the first medical school in the nation to welcome applications from DACA recipients. For this work, Mark has he has received numerous awards including the Moral Courage Award from Faith in Public Life and the Strangers No Longer Award from the Archdiocese of Chicago. Mark was also named co-winner of the Loyola University Chicago 2017 Faculty Member of the Year award.

Margarita Mankus, MD – Mentorship Committee, MOLA; Riverside Medical Group Pediatrics



Dr. Margarita Mankus is a board-certified pediatrician in Bourbonnais, Illinois and is affiliated with Riverside Medical Center-Kankakee. She received her medical degree from Ponce School of Medicine and completed residency at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She also speaks multiple languages, including Spanish. She is strongly connected to the Latino community, as she is Puerto Rican and completed her medical school training in Puerto Rico. Dr. Mankus recently became involved with MOLA due to a strong interest in mentorship and scholarship that she developed after serving a year as a chief resident of her pediatric residency program. She has given multiple mentorship lectures to MOLA mentees and has become an important member of the MOLA mentorship committee.

Denise Martínez, MD – Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa; Medical Director, Iowa Mobile Health Clinics; Primary Investigator, Summer Health Professions Education Program



Dr. Martínez serves as the Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the Carver College of Medicine at the University of Iowa, since 2011 becoming the youngest medical school Assistant now Associate Dean in the country. She founded the Iowa Latino Medical Student Association in 2012, and is currently also the faculty advisor for the Iowa chapter of the Student National Medical Association and the Minority Association of Premedical Students. For her work with these organizations she received the Hawkeye Award for Faculty Advisor of the Year for the entire University of Iowa as these organizations serve to foster and mentor future minority health professionals. Additionally, she is the Medical Director for the Iowa Mobile Health Clinic, a free health clinic system run by University of Iowa health professional students mostly serving underserved population seeing over 600 patients yearly. She was recently awarded a HRSA grant for 1.3 million dollars to provide free counseling services through these clinics to populations who normally would not have access to these services. As the Primary Investigator of the Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP) she oversees a free summer program for 80 underrepresented undergraduate pre-health students each summer, receiving funding from the Robert Wood

Johnson Foundation for over 1.5 million dollars. Dr. Martínez was named by the National Minority Quality Forum as one of the top “40 under 40 Leaders in Minority Health” for 2018.



Aletha Maybank, MD, MPH – Chief Health Equity Officer, American Medical Association

Dr. Aletha Maybank recently joined the American Medical Association (AMA) in April 2019 as their inaugural Chief Health Equity Officer and Vice President. Her role is to embed health equity in all the work of the AMA and to launch a Center for Health Equity. Prior to this in 2014, Dr. Maybank became an Associate Commissioner, and later a Deputy Commissioner, and launched the Center for the Health Equity, a new division in the NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene geared towards strengthening and amplifying the Health Department's work in advancing health equity. Under her leadership, the Race to Justice Initiative was launched and in a short amount of time made great strides in transforming the culture and public health practice of the Health Department and embed health equity in all of the health department's work. This work has been recognized and adapted by other City agencies and has even captured the attention of the World Health Organization. Dr. Maybank has also overseen the development of one of the first placed-based Community Health Worker efforts in NYC Public Housing. The Center for Health Equity was recently considered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to be a model for the country. Currently, Dr. Maybank serves as President of the Empire State Medical Association, the NYS affiliate of the National Medical Association. In 2012, she co-founded "We Are Doc McStuffins," a movement created by African

American female physicians who were inspired by the Disney Junior character Doc McStuffins. She has appeared or been profiled on Disney Jr.'s highly successful Doc McStuffins Animated Series, MSNBC, Good Morning America, BET, HuffPost, and various other outlets. She has also advised on film projects: the award-winning documentary Soul Food Junkies by Byron Hurt and Black Women in Medicine by Crystal Emery. Dr. Maybank holds a BA from Johns Hopkins University, a MD from Temple University School of Medicine, and a MPH from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. She is pediatrician board certified in Preventive Medicine/Public Health.



David Munar – President and CEO of Howard Brown Health

David Ernesto Munar has devoted his entire professional career to building comprehensive systems of care and prevention that meet the needs of vulnerable populations. Since joining Howard Brown Health in 2014 as its President and CEO, Munar has focused on ensuring the delivery of excellent health and wellness services, strengthening finances and operations, and positioning the Midwest's largest LGBTQ organization for long-term sustainability and growth. Prior to Howard Brown, Munar honed his career at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC) where he held several positions, including President and CEO, during his 23-year tenure with the agency. In 2007, he helped launch the Coalition for a National AIDS Strategy, which led to the National HIV/AIDS Strategy unveiled by President Obama in July 2010. He services on the boards of the Cook County Health and Hospital System, the Illinois Primary Health Care Association, AllianceChicago, AIDS United, and the Black AIDS Institute. In 2019, he co-chairs Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker's Healthy Children & Families Transition Committee and Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot's Health and Human Services Transition Committee. Munar's work draws on career experience and perspectives as a bilingual Colombian-American and gay man living with HIV. He is an avid runner and graduate of Northwestern University.



Pilar Ortega, MD – President, MOLA; University of Illinois College of Medicine, Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center

Dr. Pilar Ortega is a Medical Spanish educator and author and a board-certified Emergency Physician. She received her BA from Johns Hopkins University and her MD from the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, where she also completed residency training. Dr. Ortega is a Clinical Assistant Professor with dual appointments at the University of Illinois College of Medicine's Departments of Emergency Medicine and Medical Education, where she directs and teaches the Medical Spanish program for the Hispanic Center of Excellence. Her clinical practice in Emergency Medicine is at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Ortega is Co-founder and President for the Medical Organization for Latino Advancement (MOLA), where she directs mentorship programs, community-based bilingual health education and screenings, and medical education events for physicians and students. She has been recognized for her innovative and influential work as a recipient of the 2017 Crain's Chicago Business 40 under 40 and internationally as a recipient of Spain's Royal National Academy of Medicine's 2018 Award for Health Information, Communication and Dissemination. Dr. Ortega is also the author of *Spanish and the Medical Interview* (2nd Ed., 2015) a textbook for students and providers to learn to communicate with Spanish-speaking patients. Most recently, she founded and directs the Medical

Spanish Taskforce, a volunteer consortium consisting of over 50 professionals with expertise in Medical Spanish from multiple disciplines and representing diverse institutions in the United States and internationally. She is the Principal Investigator for multiple national studies evaluating and publishing data about best practices in medical Spanish education, language proficiency, and assessment for physicians and medical students. Dr. Ortega's clinical and academic areas of interest are Medical Spanish education for physicians and linguistically-competent healthcare access for Hispanic/Latino patients. She is a nationally and internationally recognized speaker on the topics of language barriers in health and Medical Spanish education. She lives in Chicago with her husband and their four children.



Kathryn Ospino – Medical Student, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine; Mentorship Committee, MOLA

Kathryn Ospino is a first-generation, Afro-Latina, third year medical student at UIC COM. She completed the majority of her schooling in Florida, where she graduated with both a Bachelor of Science in Biology and Bachelor of Arts in International Studies. When she has some downtime (which is very seldom now), she enjoys cooking, going to the gym, playing video games, drawing, catching up with friends and family, and praying. Kathryn's dream is to become a pediatrician with a combination of ICU/hospitalist and community work. She strives to be an active member of the community as an advocate for her patients and their communities in the political arena and to be a mentor for those who are on their way to accomplish their professional dreams.



Luvia Quiñones – Health Policy Director, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant & Refugee Rights

Luvia Quiñones serves as the Health Policy Director at the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR). In this role, Luvia oversees the Immigrant Health Care Access Initiative and in collaboration with ICIRR's members develops ICIRR's health policy agenda with a special focus in access to health care and on health care reform. Prior to transitioning to this position, Luvia oversaw ICIRR's health and human services programs: the Immigrant Family Resource Program, WIC, SNAP and In Person Counselor Program. Preceding ICIRR, Luvia worked at City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) under the Community Relations Department. There she played an integral role in creating and launching the new department. Prior to working at CCC, she oversaw the first state-funded citizenship program at ICIRR, the New Americans Initiative. Luvia has a Master in Public Policy (MPP) from the University of Chicago and a BA in International Studies from DePaul University. She is the daughter of Mexican Immigrants from Durango, Mexico and is an active community member in her parish, St. Sylvester. Currently, she serves as a board member of the Illinois Association of Free and Charitable Clinics (IAFCC) and Harris School Alumni Council.



Héctor Rasgado-Flores, MD, PhD – Director Diversity, Outreach and Success, Professor of Physiology/Biophysics, Master Teacher/Chair INSPIRE Program, Lead Global Health Partnership with Mexico, Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science

Dr. Héctor Rasgado-Flores earned his PhD from the Department of Physiology at the University of Maryland in 1984. He also received his postdoctoral training in that department as well as in the Department of Physiology at the Chicago Medical School. In 1988, Dr. Rasgado-Flores received his first NIH grant and joined the Department as a faculty member. He remains at the Department of Physiology & Biophysics at the university, now renamed as the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science. Dr. Rasgado-Flores' research focuses on the regulation of intracellular Mg^{2+} and Ca^{2+} ions and cell volume regulation in muscle cells. His main contributions to these fields have been characterizing a novel plasmalemmal transporter for Mg^{2+} , helping to understand the mechanisms by which muscle cells sense and control their volume in response to their needs and/or to changes in their environment, and contributing to our understanding of how and why muscle cells undergo cell volume changes during their contraction. Dr. Rasgado-Flores has been an active member of APS, including serving on the International Physiology Committee. His leadership abilities on the Committee led to his

being named Chair for two consecutive terms. He initiated a program to support specialized meetings for physiologists in Mexico and Latin and South America that are held in their own countries and have speakers from the US that are paid for in part by APS.



Iris Romero, MD, MS – Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Dean for Diversity and Inclusion for the Biological Sciences Division, University of Chicago

Dr. Iris Romero is an Associate Professor in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology and the Dean for Diversity and Inclusion for the Biological Sciences Division. Dr. Romero came to the University of Chicago as a Family Planning Fellow in 2005 after completing residency at University of Utah and medical school at University of New Mexico. She joined the faculty in 2007. She is an active clinician with a focus on hereditary breast and ovarian cancer and translational researcher, Iris specializes in the prevention of ovarian cancer. In her role as Dean for Diversity and Inclusion, Iris and her team support the institution's commitment to creating an inclusive environment that enables students, residents, faculty and staff from all backgrounds to thrive. Dr. Romero brings to the role of Dean for Diversity and Inclusion a clear understanding of the challenges and rewards of academic medicine informed by her experiences as a first generation college student, a Chicana and a Lesbian.



Adriana Semprum-Clavier, DDS – Hispanic Dental Association; University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry

Dr. Adriana Semprum-Clavier is a Clinical Associate Professor at the Department of Restorative Dentistry, College of Dentistry. Her area of expertise is early management and treatment of dental caries as well as teaching different technique courses in Operative and Restorative and Digital Dentistry. Her research at the College of Dentistry has focused on remineralization/demineralization of hard tissues on a high risk population for dental caries. She serves as the Pre-Patient Care Director for the Advanced Standing DMD Program. Dr. Semprum current responsibilities include curriculum development, designing, implementing and evaluating students' outcomes amongst others. She received her D.D.S degree from Universidad Central de Venezuela in Caracas, Venezuela on 1996 and her US DDS from the University of Detroit Mercy. Dr. Semprum completed post-graduate training in Advanced Restorative Dentistry Training from University of Michigan in 2001 and a Master in Clinical and Translational Sciences at UIC. Dr. Semprum-Clavier also serves as the Faculty Advisor for the Hispanic Dental Association Student Chapter.



Katherine Tossas-Milligan, PhD, MS – Director, Office of Global Cancer Health Equity, University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System

Dr. Tossas-Milligan is a trained cancer epidemiologist, with a research interest in cancer health disparities. She currently serves as the Director of Global Assets and International Alliances at the University of Illinois Cancer Center, under the distinguished leadership of Dr. Robert A. Winn. In this role, she oversees a portfolio of international cancer research partnerships, most notably two unique, assets-based partnerships with the Republic of Cuba. Additional global partnerships include projects in Uganda, Ethiopia, Hungary, and various South, and Central American countries, all focused on assets-based global partnership development.



Clyde Yancy, MD, MSc, MACC, FAHA, MACP, FHFSA – Vice Dean, Diversity and Inclusion, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Office of Diversity & Inclusion

Dr. Clyde W. Yancy is Chief of Cardiology at Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine, and Associate Director of the Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. He holds the Magerstadt Endowed Professor of Medicine Chair and Professor of Medical Social Sciences. He concurrently serves as Vice-Dean of Diversity & Inclusion, Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine. He is an Honors graduate (4.0) of Southern University (Baton Rouge, LA), Alpha Phi Omega honors graduate of Tulane University School of Medicine (MD) and Beta Sigma honors graduate of the University of Texas-Dallas School of Business and Management (MSc). His research interests are in heart failure, clinical guideline generation, outcomes sciences and health care disparities. He is extensively published with well over 450 peer reviewed publications and has been named one of the most highly cited scientific authors. He is Deputy Editor, JAMA Cardiology; Senior Section Editor (Heart Failure), Journal of the American College of Cardiology; and serves on the editorial boards for Circulation, Circulation Heart Failure, the American Heart Journal and JACC Heart Failure. He has served the NIH as a member of the Director's Advisory Committee and as a member of Study Section, NHLBI as an ad

hoc consultant and member of various Data Safety and Monitoring Boards, PCORI as a member of the Methodology Committee, FDA as member and former Chair of the Circulatory Devices Panel and AHRQ as an ad hoc study section chair. He is a Master of the American College of Cardiology, a Fellow of the American Heart Association, a Master of the American College of Physicians and a Fellow of the Heart Failure Society of America. He is the chair of the ACC/AHA Heart Failure Guideline Writing Committee and Chair of the ACC Heart Failure Clinical Pathway Writing Committee. He is a former President of the American Heart Association (2009-2010), as well as past recipient of the AHA National Physician of the Year and the Gold Heart award. He is Chair of the AHA Heart Failure Systems of Care Advisory Group. He is the recipient of innumerable best doctor and best teacher awards and has held a number of Visiting Professorships at leading national and international academic medical centers. In 2016, he was elected to the National Academy of Medicine. And in 2018 he was appointment to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Minority Health, Advisory Committee.