Monday, April 19, 2015 – 8:30AM

Plenary: Biodiversity in Infectious Disease Alliance
“Targeting the Hepatitis-C and HIV in Diverse Communities”

Amanda D. Castel, MD, MPH
Dr. Amanda Castel is an Associate Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health and Co-Director of the Masters in Science Public Health Microbiology and Emerging Infectious Diseases program. She is a medical epidemiologist with board certifications in pediatrics and preventive medicine and completed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Epidemic Intelligence Service program.

Dr. Castel’s research interests include identifying interventions to maximize adherence to pre-exposure prophylaxis, assessing outcomes along the HIV care continuum including routine testing expansion, and developing interventions to increase engagement in care, adherence, and viral suppression.

Marsha A. Martin, DSW
Marsha Martin, DSW is the Director of Policy and Partnerships for the Urban Coalition for HIV/AIDS Prevention Services in Washington, DC. She is the former Senior Deputy Director, Department of Health, HIV/AIDS Administration, and the former Executive Director of AIDS Action, a Washington, D.C.-based advocacy group that promotes national policy to strengthen HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment, and social services. From 1997 to 2001, Martin was the special assistant on HIV/AIDS policy to Secretary Donna Shalala at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). At HHS, Dr. Martin developed and implemented the Leadership Dialogue on HIV/AIDS, created and co-chaired the Secretary’s Working Group for Women and HIV/AIDS, and served as a liaison to the Department’s broad constituencies. Before joining HHS, Martin was the coordinator for homeless veterans’ initiatives at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, as well as the executive director of the Federal Interagency Council on the Homeless at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. She previously served as director of the Mayor's Office on Homelessness & SRO Housing in New York City, under Mayor David Dinkins. Martin also served as an Associate Professor at the Hunter College School of Social Work from 1985 to 1995. She has been a consultant to the National Resource Center on Homelessness and Mental Illness, a center established by National Institute for Mental Health. Martin earned her B.A. in psychology and Masters of Social Work from Columbia University in New York, New York. She resides in Ward 6.

Nina DeLorenzo
Nina DeLorenzo, vice president of Government Affairs Strategy and Public Policy for AbbVie, is a communications and public affairs professional with more than 20 years of private sector, political, and government experience.

In her current role, she leads a team that develops AbbVie’s public stances on critical public policy issues and creates strategies that shape a more favorable public policy environment for AbbVie's business interests globally.

Her prior pharmaceutical experience includes roles in public affairs at Pfizer Inc, international public affairs at Schering-Plough Corp. (now Merck), and at the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of
America (PhRMA), where she appeared on television, radio, and in print as a spokeswoman for the trade association in Washington, DC.

Ms. DeLorenzo served in the administration of President George W. Bush, working in the White House Coalition Information Center at the outset of the war on terror, and in the Bureau of International Information Programs at the U.S. Department of State. Prior to this service, Ms. DeLorenzo held political and communications roles in Republican politics, including positions on the U.S. Senate campaigns of former U.S. Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham. She also worked for Abraham in the U.S. Senate.
Monday, April 19, 2015 – 10:00 A.M.

Plenary: Biodiversity in Metabolic Disease Alliance
“National Agenda to Reduce Diabetes-Related Hospitalization in Bioverse Communities”

Gary A. Puckrein, PhD
Dr. Gary A. Puckrein is President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Minority Quality Forum. The Forum is dedicated to improving the quality of health care through the use of evidence-based, data-driven initiatives. The Forum maintains a centralized data warehouse of vital statistics, demographics, environmental information, provider claims, prescription drug use, clinical laboratory values, health-care access points, and other data.

Brent M. Egan, MD
Dr. Brent M. Egan is professor of medicine and pharmacology at the Medical University of South Carolina. He received his medical degree and training in medicine and hypertension at the University of Michigan. His clinical and basic research examine mechanisms of cardiovascular risk in obesity and suggest that fatty acids participate in the pathophysiology of the metabolic syndrome through oxidative stress-sensitive pathways. His group is currently examining the effects of the DASH Eating Plan on oxidative stress in metabolic syndrome patients.

Coltrane Stansbury, MPP
Coltrane Stansbury manages a portfolio of projects and initiatives that support Johnson & Johnson’s global diversity and inclusion (D&I) strategy. His responsibilities include leading Johnson & Johnson’s national program designed to address childhood obesity- the Gateway to a Healthy Community™ Initiative, supporting D&I sector leads in developing and implementing action plans aimed at advancing strategic diversity initiatives; and assisting D&I sector leads in conducting analysis and evaluation of key data driving diversity results.

Lisa Valtierra
Lisa Valtierra’s years of experience in the pharma/patient advocacy arena has aided her in her current focus on cross cultural marketing, concentrating on the US Latino population. She works across therapeutic areas to assist brand teams in incorporating Hispanic markets in their overall strategies, developing in-language and culturally relevant and resonant campaigns. Her work entails ensuring appropriate resources for projects that integrate with general market strategies, as well as raising awareness of the need to create campaigns that reach diverse audiences with accessible and actionable information. Her focus has spanned several therapeutic areas including diabetes, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C, atrial fibrillation, Parkinson's disease, and women's sexual health.

Scott Webb
Scott Webb is a Specialty Account Executive with Bristol Meyers Squibb. He conducts clinical overviews for BMS products in the oncology, HIV, RA, Hep C, Hep B, cardiovascular and transplant space. He also negotiates contracts, rebates and pull through opportunities in the commercial, Part D, Part B and buy in bill sectors for BMS products with key national and regional customers.
Jackson T. Wright, MD, PhD
Dr. Jackson T Wright, Jr. is Professor of Medicine and Program Director of the General Clinical Research Center at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). He is also Director of the Clinical Hypertension Program at University Hospitals Case Medical Center. Dr. Wright received both his M.D and Ph.D. (Pharmacology) from the University of Pittsburgh and Internal Medicine residency at the University of Michigan. An experienced clinical investigator, Dr. Wright has published extensively (over 240 articles, book chapters, and abstracts) and served on many national and international advisory panels. Among these he served on the National High Blood Education Program Coordinating Committee and co-chaired the treatment section of Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure. He recently co-chaired the NHLBI working group to determine the next large scale hypertension outcomes trial.

His research experience includes having had a major or leadership role in nearly all of the major clinical outcome trial conducted in Black populations over the past two decades. He served as Vice Chair of the Steering Committee for the NIH-sponsored African American Study of Kidney Disease in Hypertensives Trial and first authored its primary results paper. This trial in 1,100 patients evaluated the best treatment to prevent one of the most common causes of kidney failure in the Black community. In addition, he served as Chair of the Executive Committee and Vice Chair of the Steering Committee for the largest study of hypertension treatment ever completed, the Antihypertensive and Lipid-Lowering to Prevent Heart Attack Trial (ALLHAT), where he was the lead author on the primary results paper and the paper presenting the results by race. Currently, he is Co-PI (initially PI) of one of seven clinical centers to participate in the NIDDK sponsored Chronic Renal Insufficiency Cohort (CRIC) Study (40% Black). He has also served on the data safety and monitoring boards for the DASH and DASH Sodium trials which documented the benefit of diet intervention in preventing hypertension, especially in Black populations, and for the recently completed African American Heart Failure Trial the first study of heart failure treatment in Blacks.

Keith C. Ferdinand, MD, FACC, FAHA
Dr. Keith C. Ferdinand began his medical career with a BA in biology from the University of New Orleans. He then went on to earn an MD from Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, DC, an internship at the US Public Health Hospital in New Orleans, a residency and fellowship at LSU Medical Center and a fellowship at Howard University Hospital. After years of doing clinical work, research and teaching at Xavier University, LSU, Baylor College of Medicine, and Emory University, Dr. Ferdinand returned to New Orleans as a Professor of Clinical Medicine at the Tulane University Heart and Vascular Institute. Dr. Ferdinand has been heavily involved in many national organizations concerned with public health, including the Association of Black Cardiologists, of which he was the former Chair and Chief Science Officer, the American Society of Hypertension, of which he is a board member, and the Healthy Heart Community Prevention Program, a cardiovascular risk program targeting African American and other high-risk populations. He is Chair of the National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention, which provides the leadership and encouragement for collaboration among over 65
organizations. Dr. Ferdinand focuses largely on cardiovascular issues within communities of racial and ethnic minorities.

Ola Akinboboye, MD, MPH, FACC FACP
Dr. Akinboboye is an Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, NY. He is also the Medical Director of Queens Heart Institute, in Rosedale, Queens, NY. Dr. Akinboboye was on the faculty of Columbia University from 1995 to 2000 as Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine. He obtained a Master of Public Health Degree from the School of Public Health at Columbia University in 1998. He also received a Masters degree in Business Administration from Columbia Business School in 2001. He is board certified in internal medicine, cardiology, hypertension, cardiac CT sleep medicine and nuclear cardiology. He serves as the President of the Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC). In addition to this leadership position, Dr. Akinboboye is Vice Chair of ABC’s Continuing Education Committee. He also serves on the International Board of Governors of the American College of Cardiology, the Professional Education, Hypertension Leadership, and Diversity Leadership Committees of the American Heart Association.
Monday, April 20, 2015 – 12:00 P.M.

Biodiversity Health Policy Luncheon and Award Ceremony

**Thomas F. Zenty III**
Thomas F. Zenty III has served as Chief Executive Officer of University Hospitals (UH) in Cleveland, Ohio, since March 2003. The UH health care system, named one of the nation’s top 10 U.S. health systems by Thomson Reuters for the past two years, includes eight owned and two joint-venture medical centers, 18 major ambulatory health centers, and more than 160 primary care and specialty physician offices throughout Northeast Ohio. Under Mr. Zenty’s leadership, the health system has achieved an impressive financial turnaround, improved its bond ratings, attained unprecedented philanthropy, expanded community benefit contributions and increased patient volume. During the past five years, UH has successfully executed its ambitious Vision 2010 strategic plan—a $1.2 billion investment to improve access to high-quality health care services across Northeast Ohio. Mr. Zenty will continue to lead the next phase of UH’s strategic plan, called Delivering the UH Difference, over the next three years. This initiative will focus on delivering an extraordinary patient experience; providing access to innovative, high-quality care close to home; building an engaging culture for employees and physicians; and maintaining fiscal strength. This strategy aligns with the recently announced $1 billion community-wide initiative, Discover the Difference: The Campaign for University Hospitals. Prior to assuming leadership of UH, Mr. Zenty was Executive Vice President for Clinical Care Services and Chief Operating Officer at Cedars-Sinai Health System in Los Angeles. He previously held leadership roles with health systems in Arizona, New Jersey and Connecticut. Mr. Zenty earned his Bachelor of Science in Health Planning and Administration from Pennsylvania State University; a Master of Public Administration from New York University; and a Master of Health Administration from Xavier University. He completed Harvard University Business School Executive Education programs in Competition and Strategy, and Audit Committees in the New Era of Governance.

**Ronald M. Wyatt, MD**
Dr. Wyatt is the medical director in the Division of Healthcare Improvement at The Joint Commission. In this role, Dr. Wyatt promotes quality improvement and patient safety to internal and external audiences, works to influence public policy and legislation for patient safety improvements, and serves as the lead patient safety information and education resource within The Joint Commission. Dr. Wyatt promotes the development of National Patient Safety Goals, Sentinel Event Alerts, and Quick Safety publication, and oversees data management and analyses in the Office of Quality and Patient Safety. He is very interested in disparity, equity and professionalism in healthcare. Prior to joining The Joint Commission, Dr. Wyatt served as Director of the Patient Safety Analysis Center for the Department of Defense Military Health System. He also serves as The Joint Commission representative on The National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention. Dr. Wyatt is a Board-Certified Internist with over 20 years practice experience and is currently licensed in the state of Alabama. He earned his medical degree at the University of Alabama Birmingham and completed residency at the St. Louis University hospital, where he served as Chief Resident in the department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Wyatt earned the Executive Master of Science in Health Administration (MSHA) from The University of Alabama at Birmingham.
Traci Thompson Ferguson, MD, MBA
Dr. Ferguson is the vice president of clinical services management and is responsible for implementation and adherence of enterprise medical policy, medical expense initiatives within the department, and oversight and mentorship of the utilization management medical directors, who make utilization management determinations and support full compliance with regulatory and contracted government customers.
Traci joined WellCare in 2010 as the Corporate Medical Director. Since then, she has held several clinical leadership roles of increasing responsibility with the company, serving as the Senior Market Medical Director of Georgia, Lead Corporate Medical Director and Senior Corporate Medical Director of Utilization Management prior to accepting her current position in February 2014.

Alan Ryan, RPh, MBA
Alan Ryan is Director, US Advocacy and Alliance Development at Sandoz. In that role he leads strategic planning for Sandoz in advocacy and alliance development within government affairs. He engages key stakeholders for Sandoz, particularly for biosimilars and biologics. Prior to joining Sandoz Mr. Ryan was Associate Director, National Accounts and Pharmacy Affairs, for Novartis Pharmaceuticals.

Krista Drobac, MPP
Krista Drobac is Acting Executive Director of the Better Medicare Alliance. She is also a Senior Policy Advisor in DLA Piper's Health Care Policy and Regulatory group, based in Washington, DC, and Executive Director of the Alliance for Connected Care. She was previously director of the Health Division in the National Governors Association's Center for Best Practices and was a Senior Advisor at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Ms. Drobac has also served as was Deputy Director of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, and spent five years on Capitol Hill, where she was a health advisor to the Majority Whip Senator Dick Durbin, and a John Heinz Fellow handling health care issues for Senator Debbie Stabenow. Krista holds a BA from University of Michigan and an MPP from Harvard Kennedy School of Government.
Monday, April 20, 2015 – 1:30 P.M.

Plenary: Biodiversity in Clinical Trials Alliance
“I’M in National Clinical Trial Registration Month”

Gary A. Puckrein, PhD
Dr. Gary A. Puckrein is President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Minority Quality Forum. The Forum is dedicated to improving the quality of health care through the use of evidence-based, data-driven initiatives. The Forum maintains a centralized data warehouse of vital statistics, demographics, environmental information, provider claims, prescription drug use, clinical laboratory values, health-care access points, and other data.

Salvatore Alesci, MD, PhD
Dr. Salvatore Alesci is Vice President and Head of R&D Global Science and Biomedical Policy for Takeda Pharmaceuticals. Dr. Alesci provides strategic leadership and expertise to establish policy priorities, positions and procedures at Takeda that proactively address scientific and medical issues affecting the company, its key therapeutic areas, and products. Prior to accepting his position at Takeda, Dr. Alesci was Vice President, Scientific and Regulatory Affairs at PhRMA. His responsibilities at PhRMA included serving as chief expert for input on scientific and biomedical issues, and building up and overseeing its science advocacy strategy and engagements. He led the development of a robust strategic plan and implementation of a series of initiatives aimed at addressing key science policy issues impacting biopharmaceutical R&D. These included managing conflict of interest, advancing Regulatory Science training and education, promoting participation and diversity in clinical trials, and raising public awareness on the value of drug discovery and development. Served as expert scientific advisor to the PhRMA Foundation.

Luther T. Clark, MD, FACC, FACP
Dr. Luther T. Clark is the Global Director, Scientific Medical and Patient Perspective (SMPP) for Cardiovascular Diseases in the Office of the Chief Medical Officer (OCMO) at Merck & Co. In this role, he supports the needs of the CMO by (1) gathering internal and external scientific and medical information to assist with decision-making at the highest levels and (2) collaborating across Merck to help increase the voice of patients, directly and indirectly into decision-making across the enterprise.

Naomi Lowy, MD
Dr. Naomi Lowy is a Medical Officer on the Professional Affairs and Stakeholder Engagement (PASE) staff within the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) in FDA. Dr. Lowy leads CDER’s team on the Drug Trials Snapshots initiative. She has been with the FDA for 7 years, most of that time in the Division of Metabolism and Endocrinology Drug Products. Dr. Lowy graduated from New York Medical College and then completed an Internal Medicine residency at Montefiore Medical Center and a fellowship in Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism at New York University. Her work at the FDA has focused on medical and regulatory issues of thyroid, pituitary, and growth hormone products, including drugs for the treatment of rare endocrine diseases.
Albert T. Roy
Albert Roy is the Alliance for Lupus Research (ALR) Executive Director for their Lupus Clinical Investigators Network (LuCIN). Prior to joining ALR, Mr. Roy was Chief Executive Officer of Lupus Therapeutics. Mr. Roy brings more than fifteen years of non-profit, fundraising and medical research experience to the lupus community.
Monday, April 20, 2015 – 2:45 P.M.

Plenary: Biodiversity in Neuroscience Alliance
“Multiple Sclerosis in Diverse Populations”

Javier Barrientos, MBA
Javier Barrientos is Senior Director of Global Diversity and Inclusion at Biogen Idec, a leading biotechnology company with 7,000+ employees worldwide. Prior to joining the company, he served Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts as Diversity and Inclusion Programs Manager. Originally from Costa Rica, Javier developed his human resources career through US-based positions with Bank of America, the TJX Companies, Business for Social Responsibility and his own consultancy. He received an MBA from Boston University and a graduate certificate in Diversity Management from Cornell University, and he is a coaching graduate of the Augere Foundation and Coaches Training Institute in Barcelona, Spain

Lilyana Amezcua, MD
Dr. Lilyana Amezcua is an assistant professor of Neurology at the University of Southern California (USC). She attended University of California, Irvine and Jefferson Medical College, in Philadelphia, PA. She went on to train as a resident and was chief resident of neurology. She then was awarded a Multiple Sclerosis Fellowship by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. She has received various research awards including a young investigator award by Race to Erase MS and a KL2 by the Clinical Translational Science Institute. Dr. Amezcua’s current work focuses on unraveling the ethnic contributions, including genetic ancestry and non-biological factors affecting MS and MS disability.

Hollie Schmidt, MS
Hollie Schmidt is the Vice President of Scientific Operations at Accelerated Cure Project for MS. Her role includes top-level direction of ACP’s Sample and Data Repository, which provides highly-characterized serum, plasma, DNA, RNA, and cells from people with demyelinating diseases and controls to scientists worldwide. She has guided the formation of the ACP Clinical Research Network (CRN) and is working with CRN investigators to design OPT-UP, a study aimed at optimizing treatment response and understanding progression in MS. She also guides the content and community-building elements of the MS Discovery Forum, an interactive community and comprehensive information resource for MS researchers. Before joining ACP, her endeavors included co-founding the management consulting firm Lifting Mind as well as co-founding two software companies, Midnight Networks and NorthStar Internetworking. She has an MS in management, as well as a BS and MS in materials science and engineering, all from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Mitzi Joi Williams, MD
Dr. Mitzi Joi Williams is a neurologist and MS Specialist at the Multiple Sclerosis Center of Atlanta, in Atlanta, GA. She earned her BS degree in Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology from Emory University and her Doctor of Medicine from Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA. She completed Neurology residency, and a Multiple Sclerosis Clinical Fellowship at Georgia Regents University (formerly Medical College of Georgia) in Augusta, GA. She is certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, and holds memberships in the American Academy of Neurology, and the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers.

She currently serves as a Board Member and member of the Clinical Advisory Committee for the Georgia Chapter of the National MS Society. She is also a clinical advisor for the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation. She remains actively involved in clinical research and her research interests include investigating the course of MS in minority ethnic populations. Dr. Williams remains dedicated to educating patients and families as well as her colleagues about Multiple Sclerosis.
Monday, April 20, 2015 – 4:00 P.M.

Plenary: Biodiversity in Cancer Alliance
“Challenging Multiple Myeloma, Breast and Cervical Cancers in Biodiverse Communities”

**Edith Mitchell, MD, FACP**
Dr. Edith Peterson Mitchell, is Clinical Professor of Medicine and Medical Oncology and Program Leader in Gastrointestinal Oncology at Thomas Jefferson University. In addition, she holds the positions of Associate Director of Diversity Programs for the Kimmel Cancer Center at Jefferson and Director of the Kimmel Cancer Center to Eliminate Cancer Disparities. Dr. Mitchell received a B.S. in biochemistry "with distinction" from Tennessee State University and her medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. Dr. Mitchell is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and a member of the American Medical Association, the National Medical Association, Aerospace Medical Association, Association of Military Surgeons, and the Medical Society of Eastern Pennsylvania. Dr. Mitchell's research in pancreatic cancer and other GI malignancies involves new drug evaluation and chemotherapy, development of new therapeutic regimens, chemoradiation strategies for combined modality therapy, patient selection criteria, and supportive care for patients with gastrointestinal cancer. Dr. Mitchell travels nationally and internationally teaching and lecturing on the treatment of gastrointestinal malignancies.

**Deanna Darlington**
Deanna Darlington is Senior Director, Government Affairs, Onyx Pharmaceuticals. She directs federal and state legislative and government affairs activities; provides recommendations and implements strategies that respond to governmental actions that affect business initiatives and strategy; and develops and maintains strong relationships with elected federal and state officials, legislators, regulators and agency officials. Her responsibilities also include educating and informing federal and state policy makers on priority issues important to Onyx, and develops relationships and builds influence networks with trade/legislative associations, healthcare societies, patient and allied development organizations and other entities that influence public policy in order to influence legislation and public policy initiatives. Ms. Darlington has a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Rochester.

**Chris Draft**
When the game is over and the stadium lights are turned off, Chris Draft, former NFL linebacker, suits up to play the positions of community activist and founder of the Chris Draft Family Foundation (CDFF). Chris’s mission in life is focused on striving to make a positive difference in the lives of youth and in the community as he leads by example both on and off the field.

In 2006, Chris established his Atlanta-based foundation with the vision of empowering families to live healthy lifestyles. The Chris Draft Family Foundation’s seven initiatives are Asthma Team™, Character Team™, Draft Picks™, Get Checked and Get Fit™, Literacy Leaders™, Community Improvement, and Military Appreciation. Through the foundation’s seven pillars, thousands of youth, adults, parents, and families are impacted annually.

The Chris Draft Family Foundation later established the Team Draft initiative. Created by Chris and his late wife Keasha during her year-long struggle with lung cancer, Team Draft hopes that
her valiant fight to live, love, laugh, and smile will give hope and comfort to people around the world. Team Draft is working to save lives by changing the face of lung cancer.