

Instructors for The Summer Research Training Institute for
American Indian and Alaska Native Health Professionals
June 11-29, 2018 ~ Portland, Oregon



Tom Becker

Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR

I have spent my entire career as an epidemiologist focused on American Indian and other minority health issues. I am trained in internal medicine, epidemiology, and anthropology. Although I have a variety of research interests, the common theme in my grant and publication history centers on minority health disparities. I have held a series of research training grants for American Indian, Alaska Native, and other Native trainees. As principal investigator on the CDC PRC grant, I have been involved in ocular epidemiologic studies supported by the PRC, as well as prevention of hearing loss and of sexually transmitted infections in tribal communities (also supported by the CDC PRC). I have published in diverse Indian health issues, including both infectious and chronic diseases. Many of my community-based projects and etiologic studies are shared with colleagues at the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and its 43 member tribes. I have mentored numerous trainees over my career, primarily MPH students and trainees in the Human Investigations Program under the leadership of Dr. Cindy Morris.



Linda Burhansstipanov, *(Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma)*

Native American Cancer Research Corporation, Denver, CO

Linda Burhansstipanov, MSPH, DrPH, has worked in public health since 1971. She taught at universities for 18 years (California State University Long Beach and UCLA). She developed and implemented the Native American Cancer Research Program at the National Cancer Institute from 1989-1993. She worked at the AMC Cancer Research Center in Denver for 5 years before founding Native American Cancer Research Corporation (non-profit). She also is the President of Native American Cancer Initiatives, Incorporated (for-profit). She currently is the principal investigator and subcontractor for >3 NIH grants and PI for a 2016 Phase I SBIR, "A Tool to Improve Evaluation of Patient Navigation Services in Underserved Populations" through NIMHD. She serves on multiple federal advisory boards and has over 125 peer-reviewed publications, of which most address Native American cancer, genetics, CBPR, evaluation, patient navigation, survivorship quality of life, public health and data issues.

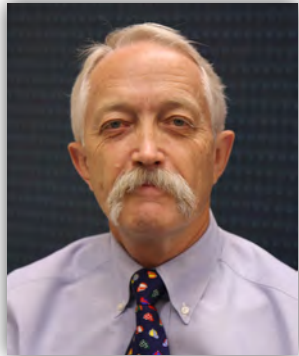


Monika Damron

Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Portland, OR

Monika is the Biostatistician for the Improving Data and Enhancing Access in the Northwest (IDEA-NW) project at NPAIHB. She has worked for NPAIHB since August of 2013 on various projects, in addition to IDEA-NW, which have included infant/adult immunizations projects and the tribal Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Monika received her bachelor's degree in mathematics at Portland State University with a focus on statistics and a minor in psychology. Born in Arizona, she is an enrolled member of the Hualapai tribe with matrilineal Navajo heritage, but has lived in the Portland area for the last 10 years.

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Mark Dignan

Department of Internal Medicine and Director of the Prevention Research Center at the University of Kentucky

Mark Dignan, PhD, MPH, is a professor in the Department of Internal Medicine and Director of the Prevention Research Center at the University of Kentucky. He received his PhD in Public Health Education from the University of Tennessee and an MPH in Biostatistics from the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His research has been focused on community-based cancer prevention and control for most of his career and has included projects that developed and evaluated mass media programs, lay health advisor and navigator interventions for patients and the public, and health care provider programs designed to increase screening and adherence to follow-up recommendations among medically underserved rural and minority populations. Dr. Dignan has carried out evaluations of programs of national and state-level voluntary organizations, state health departments, and tribes.



Jenine Dankovchik

Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Portland, OR

Hello, I am Jenine Dankovchik, and I am an employee of the Northwest Tribal Epidemiology Center (NWTEC). I was raised on the Saanich Peninsula of Vancouver Island, Canada and attended the University of Queensland in Australia where I received a degree in mathematics and statistics. I began pursuing a career in indigenous public health while living in Hawai'i, working with Native Hawaiian health programs. I have been with NWTEC for 10 years, using my statistics background on our Northwest Tribal Cancer Navigator Program, IDEA-NW data linkage program, and most recently as the program evaluator for our WEAVE-NW program, funded through the CDC's Good Health & Wellness in Indian Country initiative.



Stephanie Ann Farquhar

Public Health - Seattle King County Health Department and University of Washington School of Public Health, Department of Health Services, Seattle, WA

Dr. Stephanie Ann Farquhar is an Affiliate Professor at University of Washington School of Public Health and a Senior Social Research Scientist at the Seattle-King County Health Department. Dr. Farquhar draws from the principles of community-based participatory research to address issues of social and environmental equity. In partnership with community organizations and agencies, Dr. Farquhar co-leads community-based evaluations of grants funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJ). Dr. Farquhar served as President on the Board of Directors of Community-Campus Partnerships for Health, and served as a commissioner on the city/county Sustainable Development Commission. Currently she is teaching SPH 481: Ethics, Social Justice and Policy in Public Health and in the Executive MPH program at the University of Washington.

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Jennie R. Joe (*Dine'*)

University of Arizona's College of Medicine in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, Tucson, AZ

Jennie R. Joe, PhD, MPH, MA, is Professor Emerita at the University of Arizona's College of Medicine in the Department of Family and Community Medicine. She began her academic career at the University of California, Los Angeles and later moved to University of Arizona to join the faculty as well as to direct the University of Arizona's College of Medicine's Native American Research and Training Center. In addition, she also held an affiliated faculty position with the University's American Indian Studies. She retired in 2012, but continues to be involved in programs/studies related to Indian health and has been completing her work with several national and international committees.



Sujata Joshi

Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Portland, OR

Ms. Joshi, MSPH has served as the Project Director and Epidemiologist for NPAIHB's IDEA-NW/Tribal Registry Project since April 2013. In this role, she works to provide Northwest Tribes with accurate health data by overseeing record linkages to correct AI/AN misclassification in public health datasets, conducting statistical analyses, and disseminating results to tribes and the broader scientific community. Ms. Joshi obtained her MSPH in epidemiology and biostatistics from Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health. She previously served as an epidemiologist for the State of Oregon and for the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona Tribal Epidemiology Center



Amy Laird, PhD

Oregon Clinical & Translational Research Institute OHSU-PSU School of Public Health, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR

Amy Laird works as a staff biostatistician in the Biostatistics & Design Program (BDP) in the Oregon Clinical & Translational Research Institute (OCTRI) and OHSU-PSU School of Public Health, where she collaborates with investigators all over the university in designing and analyzing their studies. She has co-taught Clinical Research Design in the Human Investigations Program with Dr. John Stull for four years. The primary goal of this course is to assist in the students' development as clinical researchers, and to that end, Amy regularly mentors these students in developing their training grants and assists them with their projects on a drop-in basis. Amy's teaching style is interactive and includes various demonstrations to suit students with different learning styles. She likes to share her passion for biostatistics and mathematical concepts and to inspire curiosity.

After some years spent earning her PhD in Biostatistics at the University of Washington in Seattle, Amy is very happy to be back in Portland where she grew up. She enjoys walking through forests, spending time with her family, and befriending other people's dogs.

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Dennis McCarty

OHSU-PSU School of Public Health, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR

Dennis McCarty, PhD, a Professor in the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health at Oregon Health & Science University, works at the intersection of policy, research and practice assessing the organization, financing, and quality of prevention and treatment services for alcohol and drug disorders. He serves as the Director of the Education Core for the Methamphetamine Abuse Research Center (P50 DA018165), the co-Principal Investigator for the Western States Node of the National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network (UG1 DA015815), and as an Investigator for an evaluation of the impacts of Oregon's Coordinated Care Organizations on prevention and treatment for alcohol and drug use disorders (R33 DA035640). Dr. McCarty served (2006 – 2016) as the Academic Director for the University of Amsterdam's Summer Institute on Alcohol, Drugs and Addiction – a two-week course that examines Dutch policy perspectives on drug use disorders and reviews the neuroscience, genetics, treatment and prevention of alcohol and drug use disorders. Between 1989 and 1995, Dr. McCarty directed the Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Abuse Services for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Currently, he serves on the Oregon Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission. He received a doctorate in social psychology from the University of Kentucky.



Nicole Smith, MPH

Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Portland, OR

Nicole Smith has been a NPAIHB employee since 2002 and has worked on many projects with the Northwest tribes, including the TOTS Project, Tribal BRFSS projects, Maternal and Child Health projects, Tribal Vision Study, Elder Diet and Nutrition Study, the 2003 Northwest Tribal Safety Seat Project, the Native CARS Study, and TOTS 2 Tweens. As a Biostatistician, Ms. Smith designs quantitative data research protocols, data collection forms, manages databases, conducts data analyses and presents data for tribes to use to develop interventions, drive policy, and inform public health practice. Nicole and her husband live in Portland, Oregon, with their two boys and Kung Fu Panda-themed pets. They enjoy travel, hiking, boating, watching the kids play sports and hanging out at the park.




Teshia G. Arambula Solomon (*Choctaw/Mexican-American*)

Associate Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine in the College of Medicine at the University of Arizona

Dr. Solomon, PhD was appointed Co-Director of the Native American Research and Training Center (NARTC) in June 2007. She has over eighteen years' experience in health-related research and training involving Native American students in public health. She is Principal Investigator and Director of the Faculty and Student Research Development program of the American Indian Research Centers for Health (AIRCH5) as well as Director of the Research Core. She serves as Co-Investigator and Co-Director of the Native American Cancer Program research training initiative and as a co-Investigator on the Community Outreach component with the Arizona Cancer Center. As Co-Investigator for the Arizona Study Center of the National Children's Study (DHHS Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development), she is responsible for the Tribal community engagement component. She is a founding member and Past Co-Chair of the Native Research Network, Inc. She previously served as the Director of the Southern Plains Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center at the Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board. She has been a Fellow at Northwest Portland Indian Health Board, NARCH, and a National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities

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	<p>Scholar. She has published research in cervical cancer prevention and control and is a co-author of two papers in the 2008 supplement to Cancer on AIAN cancer. She is currently editing a book on the ethical conduct of research in Native American communities. Dr. Solomon has mentored students as a faculty member for more than 10 years and has promoted research development by pursuing and providing funds for students to attend the annual American Public Health Association meeting and the annual Native Health Research conference. She has mentored over 20 graduate public health students.</p>
	<p>John Stull <i>Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine at the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health, Portland, OR</i></p> <p>Dr. John Stull practiced general pediatrics for 15 years before obtaining his MPH and Preventive Medicine training (1997-1999), after which he joined the faculty in the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine at OHSU (now the OHSU-PSU School of Public Health). He has taught a number of general public health courses: Community Health (MD elective), Medicine-Public Health seminar, Maternal and Child Health Survey, Current Issues in Public Health, and Ethics & Epidemiology. His main academic work has focused on: (1) Teaching Epidemiology: an introductory course for a variety of academic audiences and co-teaching a course on using epidemiology for making causal inferences; (2) serving as Program Director of the General Preventive Medicine Residency at OHSU; and (3) serving as Director of the five-year MD/MPH Program at OHSU. His favorite part of his academic work is working with and mentoring young medical, public health, and research professionals. He prefers a very interactive approach to teaching that includes enough of the conceptual aspects of epidemiology to allow a full understanding of the technical details of its definitions, measures, and methods.</p> <p>He has been successfully and happily married to his wife (an OB/GYN) for 40 years, has three utterly lovely grown 'children' and one amazing 4-year old grand-daughter. He enjoys road biking, hiking, landscape & other photography, along with traveling and spending time at their condo in Estes Park, Colorado (outside Rocky Mountain National Park).</p>
	<p>Kathy Tomlin, PhD, LPC, LMHC, CADC III</p> <p>Dr. Tomlin has dedicated her life's work to the prevention and treatment of addiction and mental health issues, serving as a counselor, administrator, educator and consultant. Since 1981, she has specialized in treating adolescents, young adults and their families suffering with addiction and multiple DSM diagnoses in both outpatient and residential settings. Currently Dr. Tomlin works as a Program Manager for Professional Development and Clinical Education within a large integrated health care system in Portland, Oregon. She also continues an active private practice in Portland as an internship supervisor, writer, trainer and consultant. A member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe (where her mother was raised), Dr. Tomlin is committed to sharing her work within Native American Communities. Her grandmother, great grandmother and great, great grandmother were from the Itazipco-hca (Sans Arc) band of the Lakota Sioux Nation. On her father's side, she is Irish American from county Mayo in Ireland. Her family has many roots in the NW, with relatives from the southern Willamette Valley to Seattle. In her downtime, she enjoys spending time at the Oregon Coast with her little dachshund, Wapi Lootah (Lucky Red).</p>

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Victoria Warren-Mears

Portland Area Indian Health Service assigned to the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Portland, OR

Victoria Warren-Mears, PhD, RDN, FAND, is the Director of the Northwest Tribal Epidemiology Center at the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, a position she has held for 11 years. Dr. Warren-Mears holds a post graduate certificate in human investigations from Oregon Health & Science University and a PhD from the University of Washington focusing on Human Nutrition. Prior to working for the Northwest Tribes, she held positions in education, clinical nutrition and public health in a variety of settings. She is currently the principal investigator on the Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country project, the Tribal Epidemiology Center program and the Tribal Epidemiology Center Capacity Expansion project. A life-long resident of the Pacific Northwest, Victoria enjoys college basketball, watching her son play baseball, and watching the Seattle Mariners. She is also an avid crafter, creating fiber and paper crafts primarily.



Charles Wiggins

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

Charles Wiggins, PhD, joined the faculty in the Department of Internal Medicine - Division of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Preventive Medicine - in August, 2003. He is an Alumnus of the University of New Mexico (BS, Health Education, 1978), and received graduate degrees in Epidemiology from the University of Alabama-Birmingham (MSPH, 1983) and the University of Washington (PhD, 1999). Dr. Wiggins is Director and Principal Investigator for the New Mexico Tumor Registry. He has over 39 years of experience in cancer surveillance and epidemiology and has a strong interest in cancer among underserved populations. Dr. Wiggins has coordinated instruction in epidemiology and biostatistics for medical students at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine since 2006. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries and currently serves as President of that organization. Dr. Wiggins is intimately familiar with the structure, use, and interpretation of data from central cancer registries, and has accrued experience in combining cancer registry records with other data sources for the purposes of scientific research. He has collaborated with numerous investigators to successfully conduct population-based research utilizing data from central cancer registries.

Special thank you to all our instructors this season!
SRI Team (Tom, Grazia, Caitlin, and Ashley)