
2022 WPRN Annual Conference Presenters & Investigators Biographies

Keynote Speaker and Special Guest

Anne Browning, PhD



Anne Browning is Assistant Dean for Well-being at the University of Washington (UW) and an Affiliated Assistant Professor at the UW College of Education. She is also the founding director of the UW Resilience Lab. She is promoting resilience, brain health, and well-being for healthcare teams by partnering with content area experts across disciplines to develop well-being and resilience programming.

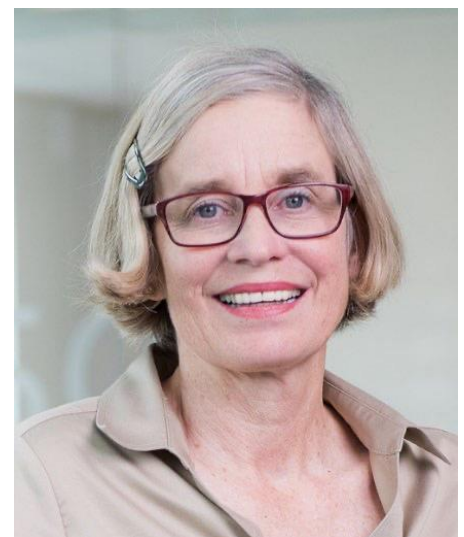
Dr. Browning studied Social Anthropology as an undergraduate at Harvard University. She went on to earn a Master's in Education at the University of California at Berkeley and a PhD in Education, Leadership and Policy Studies at the University of Washington, while working to

support equity and access for a diverse student body.

Bonnie Ramsey, MD

Bonnie Ramsey is an Endowed Professor and Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle, Washington. She is a pediatric pulmonologist and clinical scientist with over 30 years of experience in translational research and therapeutic development in the field of cystic fibrosis (CF). She was a lead investigator for development of key therapies in CF including inhaled tobramycin, dornase alpha, and ivacaftor.

Dr. Ramsey has been acknowledged for her contributions to CF including the Paul D'Sant Agnese Award (1998) and the Lifetime Achievement Award (2013) from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Thoracic Society (2014), elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2015, and received the Warren Alpert Foundation Prize (2018). As the Vice Chair for Research, Dr Ramsey plays a key role in faculty mentorship programs.



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Speakers and Investigators

Brittany Blanchard, PhD



Brittany Blanchard is an Acting Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington (UW) School of Medicine. She is also the Director of the Division of Population Health Analytics Team. She earned her doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology and certification in Psychological Methods and Analysis at Texas Tech University. After completing her clinical internship, Dr. Blanchard received training on a NIMH-funded T32 fellowship in Primary Care Psychiatry/Behavioral Health Integration at UW.

Dr. Blanchard’s research and clinical interests lie in harm reduction. Her research focuses on increasing access to harm reduction strategies in primary care settings, as well as psychometric evaluation of measures relevant to measurement-based care.

Randall “Randy” Bly, MD

Randy Bly is a pediatric otolaryngologist and cares for patients and families with a variety of problems in the head and neck. He has specific interests in patients with speech and swallowing problems, vascular malformations, breathing difficulties, neck masses, and congenital anomalies. He incorporates resources available at Seattle Children’s Hospital to provide the highest level of care to patients and families.

Dr. Bly’s research interest is in how surgery is planned, guided, and analyzed in order to improve patient outcomes, reduce the length of hospital stays, and recover more quickly.



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Teddy Johnson, PE, MBA



Teddy Johnson is a clinical associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy, the director of technology development at the UW's Institute of Translational Health Sciences and a licensed professional engineer in the state of California. He joined the health care community over 25 years ago after graduating from Stanford University's mechanical engineering program. Since then, he has served start-up and Fortune 500 companies in research, design, clinical, marketing and sales leadership roles; he has also developed imaging, interventional, surgical, and digital health products.

Along the way Johnson earned his MBA from the University of Michigan's Ross Business School. He has celebrated two IPOs and four acquisitions and has earned numerous patents while commercializing dozens of new products worldwide. In addition to BRAMS, Johnson teaches for the UW's Creative Destruction Lab program and advises startup CEOs in Vancouver, Seattle, and Silicon Valley.

Christie Miles, MD



Christie Miles is a Reproductive Health and Advocacy Fellow at the University of Washington School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine. While studying for her Doctor of Medicine degree at Columbia University, Dr. Miles worked and co-directed the student-run Columbia-Harlem Homeless Medical Partnership clinic, which serves uninsured, under-insured, and homeless patients in Harlem, New York. She then completed a Family Medicine Residency at the University of Washington where she developed medical interests in comprehensive family planning including abortion care, miscarriage management, complex contraception; refugee and immigrant health; and hospital medicine.

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Yaw Nyame, MD



Yaw Nyame is a surgeon, researcher, educator, and patient advocate who specializes in urologic oncology and general urology. His clinical interests include open and minimally invasive kidney, prostate, bladder, and testicular cancer surgeries. Dr. Nyame has a research interest in healthcare disparities in urologic cancers, with a focus in both the molecular epigenomic and health services aspects of health inequities in prostate cancer and other urologic malignancies.

Dr. Nyame attended medical school at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University and business school at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, graduating in 2012. Prior to medical school, he completed a master's in health services and administration at the school of public health at the George Washington University. Dr. Nyame completed his general surgery internship and urology residency training at the Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute at the

Cleveland Clinic. He came to the northwest to complete a Society of Urologic Oncology accredited fellowship at the University of Washington and joined the faculty upon the completion of his training.

Laura Prater, PhD, MPH, MHA

Laura Prater is an Acting Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington School of Medicine. Dr. Prater is also the Program Director of Research Translation at Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Center. She attended the Ohio State University for graduate school where she earned her doctoral degree in Public Health, her master's degrees in Health Behavior and Health Promotion as well as Healthcare Administration.



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Grace Shih, MD, MAS

Grace Shih is an Associate Professor in the Department of Family Medicine. She has a clinical practice at UW Medicine Primary Care at Northgate, where she provides full-spectrum family medicine care and runs the Reproductive Health clinic. Her particular areas of clinical interest include family planning and contraception (IUD/implant, medication and aspiration abortion, uterine aspiration for miscarriage management, vasectomy), reproductive health (in/fertility counseling, transgender care, colposcopy), women's health, and adolescent medicine.

Dr. Shih completed her medical degree at the University of Florida and her family medicine residency at Brown University. She completed her Family Planning Fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco.



Kari Stephens, PhD



Kari Stephens is a licensed clinical psychologist and biomedical informaticist, Research Section Head, Director of Clinical Research Informatics, and Associate Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Washington, and an adjunct Associate Professor of Biomedical Informatics and Medical Education.

Dr. Stephens provides psychological evaluations and psychotherapy with evidenced-based treatments focused on cognitive behavioral therapy to improve her patients' overall quality of life at UW Primary Care at Northgate. She strives to create active partnerships with her patients to achieve the best possible outcomes, as part of the primary care integrated care team.

Dr. Stephens earned her PhD in Clinical Psychology at the UW. Her clinical interests include trauma, chronic pain, posttraumatic stress, depression, anxiety, addiction and working with disadvantaged populations. Her research addresses disparities in mental health and health care access and using data collected in routine care to promote evidence-based care and discovery.

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Courtney Zulauf-McCurdy, PhD



Courtney Zulauf-McCurdy is an Institute of Education Sciences (IES) Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Washington’s (UW) School Mental Health Assessment and Research Training (SMART) Center and a National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Child Intervention, Prevention, and Services (CHIPS) Fellow.

Dr. Zulauf-McCurdy has a doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Illinois at Chicago and completed a clinical internship in Integrated Behavioral Health at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia where she focused on providing services to youth and their families in primary care. Her program of research and clinical practice is driven by a commitment to reduce mental health disparities for young children from historically marginalized backgrounds.

WPRN Coordinating Center

Laura-Mae Baldwin, MD, MPH

Laura-Mae Baldwin is a Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Washington (UW) whose research focuses on implementation of evidence-based interventions into diverse primary care clinical settings. She currently serves as Senior Advisor for the Community Engagement Program and the WPRN within the Institute of Translational Health Science (ITHS).



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Allison Cole, MD, MPH



Allison Cole is Associate Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle, Washington. She is Director of the WWAMI region Practice and Research Network, and co-Director of the ITHS' Community Engagement Program. Her research focuses on implementation of evidence-based interventions in primary care practices and addressing rural health disparities.

Dr. Cole completed her M.D. degree at the University of Iowa in 2002, family medicine residency training at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in 2005 and earned an M.P.H in Health Services at the University of Washington School of Public Health in 2012.

Dillon van Rensburg, MPH(c), CHES

Dillon van Rensburg is a Certified Health Education Specialist who works to support organizations and Washington State residents through community-based participatory research projects. He is pursuing a Master of Public Health degree in Health Systems and Population Health at the University of Washington School of Public Health. Currently, Dillon is a Research Scientist working to integrate community-based studies throughout the WWAMI region Practice and Research Network.



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Monica Zigmand Suchsland, MPH



Monica Zigman Suchsland is a Research Scientist in the Department of Family Medicine and is also a PhD candidate in the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Washington. Her dissertation project aims to improve understanding of the clinical course of concussion through self-reported symptoms and time to recovery after sustaining a sports-related concussion.

Her primary role as a research scientist is split between coordinating the WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho) region practice and Research Network, a practice-based research network that supports collaboration between primary care practices and academic researchers, and managing the Cognition in Primary Care (CPC) Program (Cognition-PrimaryCare.org). She has worked in health research projects for over 15 projects.

Her previous work includes developing a clinical quality measure for lung cancer diagnosis, exploring methodology for studying home tests for influenza, patient-centered outcomes of diagnostic imaging, measuring prevalence and outcomes of sudden cardiac arrest and death in young athletes, a clinical trial of platelet rich plasma for patellar tendinopathy, ergonomics at the University of Washington School of Public Health, biomarkers and air pollution at Harvard University School of Public Health, understanding prevalence and causes of renal insufficiency in Nicaragua, and research in cognition and aging with the Framingham Heart Study.