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## 2022 NW PCI Annual Meeting Speaker & Facilitator Biographies

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### Alexandra Adams MD, PhD

Dr. Adams is a Professor and Director of the Center for American Indian and Rural Health Equity (CAIRE), an NIH phase II COBRE, at Montana State University. She received her M.D. from the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana-Champaign and her Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She completed her residency in family medicine at the University of Wisconsin Hospital/St. Mary's Hospital in Madison, WI. She is professor emeritus at the University of Wisconsin, Dept. of Family Medicine. Her career includes directing multiple clinical trials, including the Healthy Children Strong Families 2 trial in 5 Native communities nationally, and a current trial of home-based COVID-19 testing in American Indian and

Latino communities in conjunction with UW-ITHS. Her active research agenda focuses on wellness promotion in partnership with American Indian communities, and she has worked in many such partnerships nationally over the past 22 years. She has received over \$40 million of NIH and foundation funding, and has over 60 peer-reviewed publications. The foundation for all her leadership and research has been community-based participatory research, working in partnership with communities to understand and solve health challenges using both scientific rigor and crucial community knowledge. She also uses storytelling, filmmaking, and other outreach strategies to engage communities and impact health. She is the lead author on the report, [Climate Change and Human Health in Montana](#), and was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2021.

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### Jeevan Anandasakaran Senior Web Developer

Jeevan Anandasakaran brings over 20 years of cutting edge engineering skills and management experience to bear. Jeevan leverages his start-up and non-profit experience to a growing organization to meet its mission and discover new opportunities.

In 2013 Wave Networks was awarded a contract with ITHS (The Institute of Translational Health Sciences) to replace their data tracking software that turned into the RISE application. Once completed Jeevan chose to join the UW as an employee supporting, maintaining and improving the application he created. Since then Jeevan also developed the TRU Scheduling application allowing a streamlined process for Clinical Resources at the ITHS which also automates data entry into RISE.



Jeevan's goal for his work at Research IT is to use technology to allow his coworkers to do better work in less time while giving us the tools we need to evaluate our impact.



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**Amanda Amundson MSc, MPH**

Amanda joined Seattle Children’s Hospital in 2019 as the ITHS funded Research Navigator. Amanda started her clinical research career at the University of Maryland, School of Medicine where she worked for 11 years before moving to Washington D.C. as a contract employee for the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

She has an extensive background in clinical research management, conduct, and operations. After moving to the PNW Amanda pursued another career passion of hers in global health vaccine development while pursuing her second Masters degree in Public

Health.

Currently Amanda serves on the NW PCI committee and helped organize this year’s annual meeting.

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**Jamie M. Besel, PhD, MN, RN**

Dr. Besel is a nurse educator, Principal Investigator (PI), and Research Scientist for the Collaborative Science & Innovation Department at Billings Clinic in Montana. She received her PhD in nursing from The University of Arizona College of Nursing and is a Robert Wood Johnson Future of Nursing Scholar. With over 20 years of nursing experience, she has served on the National Rural Health Association, Montana Rural Health Association, and Montana Healthcare Policy & Advocacy focus groups. Jamie’s clinical work and program of research includes self-management of chronic diseases and resilience in rural areas, developing interventions based on the Self-Determination Theory (SDT) model for health behavior change, and informing policy to address rural and underserved populations’ access to equitable healthcare. In her role as Research Scientist, Jamie is PI and study coordinator for numerous studies that span rural health needs including sociocultural and geographical barriers to chronic disease management and building research capacity and collaboration between rural and urban clinics. She also co-chairs the Nursing Research and Evidence Based Practice Council, Privacy & Exemption Committee, and is the Institutional Review Board Liaison.



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### Alana Clark, CCRC

Alana Clark is the Research Manager for the Clinical Trials Office Research Coordination Center at the University of Washington. She has worked in academic clinical research for over 16 years and joined the Institute of Translational Health Sciences (ITHS) in 2010. Alana manages a large team of Research Coordinators and Regulatory Specialists at the Research Coordination Center (RCC), which is a dedicated clinical research coordination operation serving dozens of UW departments and divisions as well as partner institutions. The RCC provides support for approximately 100 research studies, clinical trials, projects and programs at any given time, across many therapeutic areas. A continued point of focus in this role is participating in the development and execution of institution-wide and inter-institutional research training programs for staff and quality improvement systems to assure high quality clinical research.



In her previous work as a Regulatory Manager, Regulatory Team Lead and Research Coordinator, Alana has worked on a large NIH center grant, acted as a study monitor for FDA Phase I IDE studies and provided extensive support for clinical research programs and multi-site studies. She has worked at the University of Washington, Harborview Medical Center, and SCCA, in the following areas of study: neurosurgery, nephrology, hepatology, cardiology, sports medicine, oncology, vascular surgery, and urology. Her research experience encompasses writing applications for IRB, IND, IDE and other regulatory approvals; providing study implementation support; recruiting and consenting subjects; chart abstraction and completing data collection forms; and creating and carrying out the monitoring plan and activities using the ICH GCP and 21 CFR guidelines. Alana began her research career at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Hospital in Pediatric Asthma and Allergy, and spent four years as a Senior Research Coordinator at the Veteran's Medical Research Foundation in San Diego specializing in Diabetes Research.

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### Robert H. Coker, PhD, FACSM, FTOS



Dr. Coker received his PhD in Exercise Science from the University of Mississippi and completed research fellowships in Molecular Physiology and Clinical Physiology at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and the Bispebjerg Hospital in Copenhagen, Denmark, respectively. He has studied the regulation of metabolism during conditions of physiological stress throughout his career. He began his academic career at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences later joining the University of Alaska Fairbanks to establish a program in translational biomedicine. He is now Deputy Director/Research Professor of the Montana Center for Work Physiology and Exercise Metabolism at the University of Montana. As part of his passion to translate his research in clinical nutrition, he co-founded Essential Blends, LLC, acquired several Small Business grants from the National Institutes of Health and successful commercialization

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(<https://aminoco.com>). He is a Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine and The Obesity Society and was inducted into the Alaska Innovators Hall of Fame in 2020.

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### Kristie L. Ebi, Ph.D., MPH

Dr. Ebi has been conducting research and practice on the health risks of climate variability and change for 25 years. Her research focuses on understanding sources of vulnerability; estimating current and future health risks of climate change; designing adaptation policies and measures to reduce the risks of climate change in multi-stressor environments; and quantifying the health co-benefits of mitigation policies. She was a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6<sup>th</sup> assessment report, and for the 4th US National Climate Assessment. She has edited four books on aspects of climate change and has more than 200 peer-reviewed publications.



### Laurie A. Hassell

Ms. Hassell is the Director of Community Engagement at the Institute of Translational Health Sciences (ITHS) at the University of Washington School of Medicine. In this role, Ms. Hassell serves as the operations director for the ITHS Community Engagement and Participant & Clinical Interactions Programs, focused on developing community-academic research partnerships, strengthening the research enterprise across the 5-state Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho (WWAMI) region and administering primary and specialty care and community research networks. Her areas of expertise include development of multidisciplinary research partnerships, research relevance and feasibility in regional and community-based organizations, program development and operations, and practical application of community engagement principles in clinical and translational research. She is the co-founder and coordinator of the Northwest Participant & Clinical Interactions (NW PCI) Network, a collaborative group of 18 clinical and translational research centers affiliated with medical centers, health systems and universities, dedicated to connecting diverse populations to local, high-quality research. Before joining the ITHS in 2010, she managed training programs for human subjects protections and research security, co-founded a biotechnology training company and managed a DNA array core facility. Ms. Hassell has a bachelor's degree in biology from Oregon State University (1992).



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### Allison Lambert, MD, MHS

Dr. Lambert is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington, where she teaches pulmonary physiology, epidemiology and biostatistics. She is a practicing pulmonary and critical care physician, NIH-funded investigator, and clinical researcher within the Providence Medical Research Center. Dr. Lambert's research focuses on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cystic fibrosis and other pulmonary disorders, including COVID-19. She is the Director of the Adult Cystic Fibrosis Program at Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center and co-leads the Therapeutic Development Network program. In these roles, she determines strategic direction, oversees daily operations and program evaluations, and conducts clinical trials.

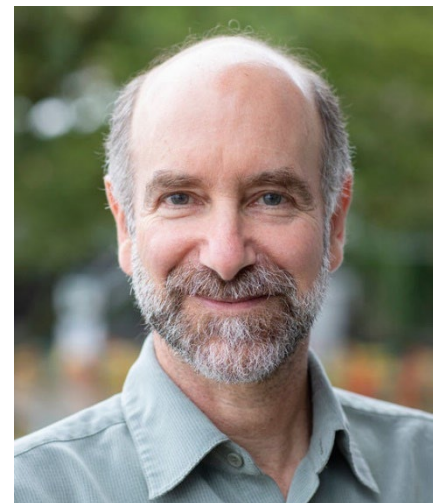


A graduate of Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, NY, and of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, MD, Dr. Lambert serves on the Regional Executive Committee for the University of Washington Institute for Translational Health Sciences and is the incoming Co-Director of the Northwest Participant and Clinical Interactions Network in March 2022. She is dedicated to increasing access to clinical and translational research for rural and remote dwelling populations.

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### JONATHAN PATZ, MD, MPH

Jonathan Patz, MD, MPH, the Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor & John P. Holton Chair of Health and the Environment, directs the Global Health Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His faculty appointments are in the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies and the Department of Population Health Sciences. Dr. Patz co-chaired the health report for the first Congressionally mandated *US National Assessment on Climate Change* and for 15 years, served as a lead author for the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) – the organization that shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. Some of his other awards include: the Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellows Award; shared Zayed International Prize for the Environment; Fulbright Scholarship; [American Public Health Association's Homer Calver Award](#) for environmental health leadership; Case Western School of Medicine Alumni Special Recognition award; Chanchlani Global Health Research Award; elected member of the [National Academy of Medicine](#).



Professor Patz has taught and conducted research on the health effects of climate change and global environmental change, "Planetary Health," for more than 20 years and has published over 200 science publications and several textbooks on the subject.

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### Julie Postma, PhD RN

Dr. Julie Postma studied occupational and environmental health nursing at the University of Washington School of Nursing where she earned her PhD in Nursing Science and completed a postdoctoral fellowship. She is currently a Professor and Associate Dean for Research at Washington State University College of Nursing. Her program of research focuses on strategies to reduce risks to wildfire smoke among vulnerable populations, including outdoor workers and people with asthma. Her study, “Protecting Young Adults with Asthma During Sustained Wildfire Smoke Events” is funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research. She teaches “Scientific Inquiry in Nursing” and works to protect human subjects in research by serving on her university’s institutional review board.



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### Bonnie Ramsey, MD



Dr. 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. She 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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### Jodi M. Smith, MD, MPH

Jodi is an attending physician at Seattle Children's and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Washington School of Medicine. Dr. Smith is a graduate of McGill University Medical School and Pediatric Residency. She graduated from our fellowship program with a MPH degree in 2002 and is Medical Co-Director of the Kidney Transplantation Program.

This year she will also be going to outreach clinics in Alaska. Her research focuses on viral complications in solid organ transplantation – both those with clinical manifestations and more occult infections associated with allograft dysfunction. Results of a major prospective study report her findings that subclinical CMV and EBV infections are associated with decreased long-term renal allograft function in pediatric renal transplant recipients. Her ongoing research focuses on mechanisms of virus-induced allograft dysfunction. Dr. Smith's research has a translational link, as it takes advantage of novel clinical diagnostics to survey for viruses (her primary K23 mentor was Dr. Corey, Head of the Virology Division in the UW Department of Laboratory Medicine) and donor-specific antibodies using solid-phase assays (with Dr. Karen Nelson of the Puget Sound Blood Center). Her research has also been funded by grants from the National Kidney Foundation, the American Society of Transplantation and Roche. Dr. Smith is also an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Washington School of Public Health and has been actively involved in mentoring all of the pediatric nephrology trainees in the clinical research pathway.



### Katherine R. Tuttle, MD, FASN, FACP, FNKF

Dr. Katherine R. Tuttle is Executive Director for Research at Providence Health Care, Co-Principal Investigator of the Institute of Translational Health Sciences and Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington. Dr. Tuttle earned her medical degree and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Northwestern University School of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. She was a fellow in Metabolism and Endocrinology at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Her Nephrology fellowship training was performed at University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Tuttle's major research interests are in clinical and translational science for diabetes and chronic kidney disease. She has published over 250 original research contributions and served two terms as Associate Editor for the *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* and the *American Journal of Kidney Disease*. Dr. Tuttle has received many honors and awards including the Medal of Excellence from the American Association of Kidney Patients, Garabed Eknoyan Award from the National Kidney Foundation, the YWCA Woman of Achievement Award in Science, and two Outstanding Clinical





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Faculty Awards at the University of Washington. Dr. Tuttle served on the Board of Directors for the Kidney Health Initiative and has chaired numerous kidney and diabetes related working groups and committees for organizations including the NIDDK/NIH, the National Kidney Foundation, the American Society of Nephrology, the International Society of Nephrology, and the American Diabetes Association.