

2020 NW PCI Annual Meeting Speaker Biographies

Alexandra Adams, MD, PhD

Dr. Adams is the Director of the Center for American Indian and Rural Health Equity, a phase II Center of Biomedical Research Excellence at Montana State University, and was the founding director of the Collaborative Center for Health Equity, funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. The foundation for all of her leadership and research has been community-based participatory research (CBPR), working in partnership with communities to understand and solve health challenges using both scientific rigor and crucial community knowledge. She has directed multiple clinical trials, including the Healthy Children Strong Families² trial in five Native American communities nationally, and has over sixty peer-reviewed publications.

She has held K23, U01, R01, P60 and P20 funding, including over \$10 million in foundation funding. Her mentoring experience includes launching the University of Wisconsin Health Equity Leadership Institute (HELI), now in its 10th year. This highly successful leadership institute has trained more than 125 underrepresented junior faculty and others working in communities in leadership and career advancement, NIH grant writing, CBPR, and health equity research. Many of the HELI scholars are now tenured with independent NIH or other federal funding. She has mentored four T32 postdoctoral scholars and more than 35 undergraduate, Master of Public Health, medical, and other graduate students. All of her T32 mentees have gone on to faculty positions and are doing community-partnered work. In addition, she has mentored more than 20 University of Wisconsin and Montana State University junior faculty in CBPR, career advancement, and NIH grant writing.



Maxine Hayes, MD, MPH



Dr. Hayes served the Washington State Department of Health from 1988 to 2013—25 years of public service; 16 of those years, as State Health Officer. As the state's top public health doctor, her role included advising the Governor and Secretary of Health on issues ranging from health promotion and chronic disease prevention to emergency response, including pandemic influenza preparedness. She also worked closely with the medical community, local health departments, and community groups.

She is the recipient of many awards and honors for her work in maternal and child health, including the American Medical Association's Dr. Nathan Davis Award, the Heroes in Health Care

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Lifetime Achievement Award through the Washington Health Foundation, American Public Health Association Helen Rodriguez-Trias Social Justice Award, and the Vince Hutchins Award for Leadership in Maternal and Child Health through the Association of Maternal Child Health Programs in Washington, DC.

Dr. Hayes is a Clinical Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics at the University of Washington School of Medicine and Clinic Professor Emeritus of Health Services the University of Washington School of Public Health, and she holds three honorary doctoral degrees (Spelman College, State University of New York, and Bastyr University).

Dr. Hayes is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, a founding member of the Washington State Academy of Science, and member of the National Academy of Medicine.

Jeannine Brant, PhD, APRN, AOCN, FAAN

Dr. Brant is an oncology clinical nurse specialist, pain consultant and a nurse scientist for the Billings Clinic in Montana. Dr. Brant's repertoire blends her clinical expertise in pain and symptom management with her program of research that includes improving patient symptoms, and nursing sensitive indicators that lead to quality nursing and interdisciplinary care. Dr. Brant's current studies focus on patient-reported outcomes, clinical algorithms for pain and symptom management, and testing a dynamic symptoms model. In addition, Dr. Brant has more than 100 contributions to the literature on cancer, palliative care, pain and symptom management, and other research topics. She is the editor for the *Oncology Nursing Society Standards of Oncology Nursing Practice*, the *Oncology Nursing Society Core Curriculum in Oncology* text book, and the *Oncology Nurse Advisor*. She is an associate editor for the *Journal of Advanced Practitioners in Oncology*. She was a guest editor for the 2018 October/November issue of the *Journal of Palliative Care & Medicine*, which featured two supplements on Palliative Care Nursing.



Dr. Brant is also an internationally recognized speaker and has lectured at more than 200 national and international seminars and symposia. She also serves as adjunct faculty for the University of Montana Geriatric Education Center and Montana College of Nursing in Bozeman. Dr. Brant earned a Bachelors of Science in Nursing from Montana State University, a Masters of Science in Physiological Nursing from the University of California, San Francisco, a PhD in Cancer Nursing from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, and was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing in 2014.

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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 Copenhagen Muscle Research Center, respectively. He has studied the regulation of metabolism during hypoglycemia, diabetes, obesity and bed rest.

Previously affiliated with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences for over a decade, Dr. Coker joined the faculty in the Institute of Arctic Biology at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks to establish a program in Translational Biomedicine. As part of his passion to translate his research in clinical nutrition, he co-founded Essential Blends, LLC that now leads Alaska in Small Business grants from the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Coker's research interests also include environmental physiology and occupational resilience. 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.

Cindi Laukes, MA, MFA

Ms. Laukes is the Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Neural Injury Center at the University of Montana, where she directs a multidisciplinary brain injury research and clinical team. She has worked in the field of clinical and translational neuroscience for 26 years. She is a translational Research Navigator for the Institute of Translational Health Sciences at the University of Washington-Seattle, and serves on the steering committee of the Northwest Participant and Clinical Interactions Network, a regional clinical research network. Appointed Research Affiliate Faculty of Integrative Physiology and Athletic Training at the University of Montana, she has directed or managed over 300 research projects in multiple clinical specialties, and was selected as one of nine Northwest Patient Centered Outcomes Research Scholars at the University of Washington (2015-2017).



Ms. Laukes has also conducted community-engaged research in underserved populations, with over fifteen years working on various projects in Tribal communities and six years in special veterans' communities. She is passionate about addressing health disparities and promoting inclusion in research. Prior to her work with the Center, she worked in hospital-based research at Providence St. Patrick

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Hospital-Missoula, The University of Arizona Health Sciences Center-Tucson, and the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics-Iowa City. She has her own research consulting business.

Brian E. Saelens, PhD



Dr. Saelens is a Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington and Principal Investigator at Seattle Children's Research Institute. Dr. Saelens is trained as a child clinical health psychologist, and came to Seattle in 2006, having started his faculty career at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital.

Dr. Saelens' research interests include pediatric obesity treatment and prevention. He collaborates with community partners and local public health practitioners to help implement and evaluate policy, systems, and environment change around healthy eating and active living. More broadly, he is interested in applying an equity lens to research and policy, systems, and environment change implementation. He is the co-lead with Dr. Tumaini Coker on Integrating Special Populations work within the Institute of Translational Health Sciences. His work has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States Department of Agriculture, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Dr. Saelens has over 225 scientific publications.

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

Dr. Tuttle is the Executive Director for Research at Providence Health Care (PHC), Co-Principal Investigator of the Institute of Translational Health Sciences and Professor of Medicine in the Nephrology Division and the Kidney Research Institute 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 the areas of clinical and translational science and precision medicine for diabetes and chronic kidney disease. She has published over 200 original research contributions and served two terms as Associate Editor for each of the *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* and the *American Journal of Kidney Disease*.



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Dr. Tuttle has received many honors and awards including the Medal of Excellence from the American Association of Kidney Patients, Garbed Eknoyan Award from the National Kidney Foundation, the YWCA Woman of Achievement Award in Science, and two Outstanding Clinical Faculty Awards at the University of Washington. Dr. Tuttle served on the Board of Directors for the Kidney Health Initiative and has chaired numerous national and international programs including: National Kidney Foundation - Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative for Diabetes and Chronic Kidney Disease, National Diabetes Education Program, American Diabetes Association - Diabetes and Chronic Kidney Disease Consensus Conference, National Kidney Foundation Young Investigator Awards, International Society of Nephrology - World Congress of Nephrology, and the Kidney Health Initiative annual program.