

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Isabella Aboderin, PhD, BSc**

Senior Research Scientist and Head, Program on Aging and Development in sub-Saharan Africa, African Population Health Research Center (APHRC), Nairobi, Kenya



Isabella Aboderin is Associate Professor in Gerontology within Social Sciences: Ageing/Gerontology at the University of Southampton. She holds a position as Senior Research Scientist at the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) in Nairobi, Kenya, where she leads a Programme on Ageing and development in sub-Saharan Africa. From 2007 to 2013 she worked at the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing as senior research

fellow, and between 2004 and 2007 as a research fellow. Prior to joining the Oxford Institute she worked as a Technical Officer in the World Health Organization Unit on Ageing and the Lifecourse in Geneva, and as a research associate at the International Institute on Health and Ageing at the University of Bristol. She completed a PhD in Social Policy Studies at the University of Bristol, an MSc in Health Promotion Sciences at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and a BSc in Cellular and Molecular Pathology at the University of Bristol.

### **Ann Aerts, MD**

Head of the Novartis Foundation



Dr. Ann Aerts has been Head of the Novartis Foundation since January 2013. The Novartis Foundation has the challenging goals of expanding access to quality healthcare and eliminating diseases such as leprosy and malaria.

Before her current role, Ann was Franchise Medical Director Critical Care for Novartis Pharma in Basel and Therapeutic Area Head Cardiovascular and Metabolism in Novartis Pharma Belgium. Prior to joining Novartis, she

served as Director of the Lung and Tuberculosis Association in Belgium, as Head of the Health Services Department of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva and was Health Coordinator for the ICRC in several countries.

Ann holds a Degree in Medicine and a Master's in Public Health from the University of Leuven, Belgium, as well as a Degree in Tropical Medicine from the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium. Ann is a member of the Advisory Boards of the Global Health Group of University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), the OECD Network of Foundations Working in Development (NetFWD), the One Million Community Health Workers Campaign, the World Economic Forum Health Systems Leapfrogging project in Emerging Economies Steering Board, and a Member of the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Rajesh Anandan, BSc, MEng**

Senior Vice President, UNICEF Ventures



Since joining the U.S. Fund for UNICEF in April 2009, Rajesh has overseen the rapid growth of cross-sector partnerships, turned around the organization's national cause campaigns, co-led the strategic planning process, and led digital platforms and fundraising initiatives. In 2011, Rajesh set up UNICEF Ventures to incubate and scale social ventures, and has since launched UNICEF Market, an ecommerce platform for artisans worldwide, and UNICEF

Kid Power, the world's first Wearable-for-Good.

Previously, Rajesh ran the Private Sector division at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, where he was responsible for large-scale co-investments, access and pricing initiatives, and global cause campaigns including (PRODUCT)RED. Rajesh has a BSc and MEng in Computer Science and Electrical Engineering from MIT with concentrations in Artificial Intelligence, Systems Dynamics and Economics.

### **Eugenie L. Birch, PhD**

Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Education & Research,  
University of Pennsylvania

Chair of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme's  
World Urban Campaign



Professor Birch is the Lawrence C. Nussdorf Chair of Urban Research and Education. She teaches courses in planning history, global urbanization and serves as chair, Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning, co-director, Penn Institute for Urban Research, co-editor, *City in the 21st Century Series*, University of Penn Press and co-editor, SSRN Urban Research e-journal.

Professor Birch is the Chair of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme's World Urban Campaign, a global coalition of public, private and civil society partners acting to promote sustainable urbanization. She is active in the field's professional organizations and in academia in the United States and abroad. She is a member of the U.S. National Committee for Habitat, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Thematic Group on Resilient Cities, and an Associate Editor, *Journal of the American Planning Association*.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Jo Ivey Boufford, MD**

President, The New York Academy of Medicine



Jo Ivey Boufford, MD, is President of The New York Academy of Medicine. Dr. Boufford is Professor Emeritus of Public Service, Health Policy and Management at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at New York University School of Medicine. She served as Dean of the Wagner School at NYU from June 1997 to November 2002. Prior to that, she served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health in the

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from November 1993 to January 1997, and as Acting Assistant Secretary from January 1997 to May 1997. While at HHS, she served as the U.S. representative on the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO) from 1994–1997. She has been a Fellow of The New York Academy of Medicine since 1988. Dr. Boufford received her BA from the University of Michigan and her MD with distinction from the University of Michigan Medical School. She is Board Certified in pediatrics.

### **Waleska Teixeira Caiaffa, MD, MPH, DSc**

Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health,  
Belo Horizonte Observatory for Urban Health (OSUBH)



Professor Waleska T. Caiaffa, MD, MPH, PhD is full professor of Epidemiology and Public Health at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), School of Medicine, Belo Horizonte, Brazil. She leads the Observatory for Urban Health in Belo Horizonte (OSUBH). She was president of the International Society for Urban Health (ISUH/NYAM) from 2011–14, and chaired the 10th ICUH, in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, 2011.

She is currently Member of the Board of the United Nations University – International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH), consultant for the Brazilian MoH and, for more than 20 years, recipient of the research fellowship from the Brazilian National Council of Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq). Dr. Caiaffa has published widely in the peer-reviewed literature across all major aspects of urban health. She is member of the editorial board of The IJDP and the JUH.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Benjamin K. Chu, MD, MPH, MACP**

Executive Vice President, Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and Health Plan, Inc.; Group President, Kaiser Permanente Southern California and Georgia Regions; President, Kaiser Permanente Southern California



Benjamin K. Chu was appointed regional president of Kaiser Permanente Southern California in 2005. In 2011 he became responsible for overseeing the Hawaii region as a group president for Southern California and the Hawaii regions. He directs health plan and hospital operations for 14 hospitals and 168 medical offices to serve more than 3.6 million members in both locations. Dr. Chu served for three years as president of NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC),

the largest public hospital system in the country. A primary care internist by training, Dr. Chu possesses extensive health care experience as a clinician, administrator, and policy advocate. Dr. Chu also has experience as an academic health center leader. He was senior associate dean at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons from 2000 – 2002. He served at the NYU School of Medicine and Medical Center as associate dean and vice president for Clinical Affairs from 1994 – 2000. Dr. Chu earned his medical degree at New York University, his master's degree in public health from Columbia University, and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Yale University.

### **Joan Clos, MD**

Executive Director, UN-Habitat



Dr. Joan Clos is the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), at the level of Under Secretary General by the United Nations General Assembly. He has held this office since October 2010. Born in Barcelona, he is a medical doctor with a distinguished career in public service and diplomacy. He was twice elected Mayor of Barcelona, serving from 1997 until 2006.

He was Minister of Industry, Tourism, and Trade of Spain, and also served as the Spanish Ambassador to Turkey and Azerbaijan. He is a medicine graduate from the Universidad Aut3noma de Barcelona (UAB), and specialized in Public Health and Epidemiology at the University of Edinburgh. Dr. Joan Clos then joined the Barcelona Municipal Government as the Director of Public Health, and also served as city councilor. At the international level, Dr. Clos served as President of Metropolis, President of the World Association of Cities and Local Authorities (WACLAC), Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA) and as a member of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Jason Corburn, PhD**

Associate Professor, Department of City and Regional Planning at the School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley



Jason Corburn is associate professor in the School of Public Health and Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of California, Berkeley. He is Director of the Institute of Urban and Regional Development and the Center for Global Healthy Cities at UC Berkeley. His research examines the links between environmental health and social justice in cities, notions of expertise in science-based policy making, and the role

of local knowledge in addressing urban environmental and public health challenges in cities of the global north and south. Corburn is a global leader in research and action linking urban planning to health equity. His research explores how urban poverty influences population health, the relationships between urban places, stress and health inequalities, urban climate change, and the health impacts of inclusive community development for informal settlements in cities of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

### **Ana V. Diez Roux, MD, PhD, MPH**

Professor of Epidemiology and Dean of the Dornsife School of Public Health at Drexel University



Ana Diez Roux, MD, PhD, MPH, is Distinguished University Professor of Epidemiology and Dean of the Dornsife School of Public Health at Drexel University. Originally trained as a pediatrician in her native Buenos Aires, she completed public health training at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. She served on the faculties of Columbia University and the University of Michigan. Dr. Diez Roux is internationally known for her research on the social

determinants of health and the study of neighborhoods health effects. Her research areas include social epidemiology, environmental health effects, urban health, psychosocial factors, the use of multilevel methods, and complex systems approaches in population health. She has led large research and training programs in the United States and in collaboration with institutions in Latin America. Diez Roux has served on numerous review panels and advisory committees, including the Committee on Health and Wellbeing in the Changing Urban Environment of the International Council for Science. She was awarded the Wade Hampton Frost Award for her contributions to public health by the American Public Health Association. She is an elected member of the American Epidemiological Society and the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research. She was elected to National Academy of Medicine in 2009.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Martin Dijst, PhD**

Professor of Urban Development and Spatial Mobility, Department of Human Geography and Planning, Faculty of Geosciences, Utrecht University



Martin Dijst is a Professor of Urban Development and Spatial Mobility, Department of Human Geography and Planning, Faculty of Geosciences, Utrecht University. He graduated in 1986 at Amsterdam University (Human Geography with specialization Urban Geography).

Martin Dijst is an urban geographer. Originally, his research was focused on analysing the impact of spatial configurations of land uses and transport infrastructures on activity and travel behaviour and accessibility. Currently, he is leading a large Dutch research program CESAR: Climate and Environmental change and Sustainable Accessibility of the Randstad, which is focused on understanding future climate changes on the mobility of people and the use of cities. Together with prof Mei-Po Kwan (Utrecht University) he is leading the Dutch Healthy Urban Living research program.

### **Carlos Dora, MD, PhD**

Coordinator, Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health Department, World Health Organization



Carlos Dora, MD, PhD, is a health policy expert with WHO leading work on health impacts of sector policies (energy, transport, housing, extractive industry) involving health impact assessment (HIA) and systems to manage health risks and benefits. He manages the WHO Unit in charge of providing guidance on health risks (air pollution, indoors and outdoors, radiation, occupation), as well as monitoring, evaluation and tracking-related policies and health

impacts. Dr. Dora leads WHO's work on "Health in a Green Economy" analyzing health co-benefits from climate change mitigation policies, and is developing WHO's work on health indicators for post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals. He is engaged in the health co-benefits of sustainable energy initiatives, including SE4All, GACC, and CCAC. He previously worked at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical medicine, at the WHO Regional Office for Europe, and as a senior policy adviser to the WHO Director General. His MSc and PhD are from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. His publications cover health impacts of sector policies, Health Impact Assessment and health risk communication.



## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### Michael E. Emch, PhD

Professor and Chair of Geography at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Dr. Michael Emch is Professor and Chair of Geography, Fellow at the Carolina Population Center, and Professor of Epidemiology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His expertise is in infectious disease ecology, spatial epidemiology, neighborhood determinants of health, and geographic information science applications of public health. He leads the Spatial Health Research Group which conducts research that explores spatio-temporal patterns

of disease, primarily infectious diseases of the developing world. Disease patterns are studied using a holistic approach by investigating the role of natural, social, and built environments in disease occurrence in different places and populations. Diverse statistical and spatial analytical methods are informed by theory from the fields of health geography, epidemiology, ecology, and others. For more information see the Spatial Health Research Group website at [spatialhealth.web.unc.edu/](http://spatialhealth.web.unc.edu/).

### David J. Erickson, PhD

Director, Center for Community Development Investments,  
Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco



David J. Erickson is director of the Center for Community Development Investments at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and edits the Federal Reserve journal *Community Development Investment Review*. His research areas in the Community Development department of the Federal Reserve include community development finance, affordable housing, economic development, and institutional changes that benefit low-income

communities. Erickson has a PhD in history from the University of California, Berkeley, with a focus on economic history and public policy. He also holds a master's degree in public policy from Berkeley and an undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College. He has also been a leader in the collaboration between the Federal Reserve and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation on bringing health together with community development. His book on the history of community development, *The Housing Policy Revolution: Networks and Neighborhoods*, was published in 2009 by the Urban Institute Press.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Barbara A. Garcia, MPA**

Director of Public Health, San Francisco Department of Public Health



Barbara A. Garcia is director of health at the San Francisco Department of Public Health. She previously served as deputy director starting in 1999, when she became responsible for the department's community programs, which were comprised of more than 2,000 civil-service employees and 150 community-based organizations delivering primary care, behavioral health, maternal and child health, prevention and health promotion, housing and urban health, indigent health, adolescent health and women's health services. She had a number of previous roles in the department, including director of community substance abuse services, director of homeless services, and associate administrator of AIDS, health and human services. Before joining the San Francisco Department of Public Health, she was the executive director of Salud Para La Gente Health Center in Watsonville, Calif., a rural health center that provides primary and behavior health care to over 10,000 farm worker families. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and her master's in public administration from the University of San Francisco.

### **Salin Geevarghese**

Deputy Assistant Secretary Office of Policy Development & Research, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



Salin Geevarghese serves as HUD's Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of International and Philanthropic Innovation (IPI) within the Office of Policy Development and Research. Salin leads an innovation team charged with engaging philanthropic and other cross-sector partners—both internationally and domestically—to harness and apply best practices, programs and policies for the benefit of our communities. Prior to this appointment, HUD Secretary Donovan appointed Salin as Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities. In that role, he was responsible for advancing housing and communities that increase affordability, cost savings, efficiency, and quality of life, while also expanding regional economic growth and opportunity. Before coming to HUD as an appointee of President Obama, Salin worked as a Senior Associate at the Annie E. Casey Foundation where he focused on urban redevelopment issues, anchor institutions, regional equity and opportunity, and community and economic development policy.



## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### Eric P. Goosby, MD

Professor of Medicine and Director of Global Health Delivery and Diplomacy, Global Health Sciences, at the University of California, San Francisco



Dr. Eric Goosby is a Professor of Medicine and Director of Global Health Delivery and Diplomacy, Global Health Sciences, at the University of California, San Francisco. From 2009–2013, he served in the Obama Administration as Ambassador-at-Large and U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, overseeing the implementation of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), and also led the State Department's Office of Global Health Diplomacy. As CEO and Chief Medical Officer of Pangaea Global AIDS Foundation, 2001–2009, he played a key role in the development and implementation of HIV/AIDS national treatment scale-up plans in South Africa, Rwanda, China and Ukraine. During the Clinton Administration, Ambassador Goosby was Director of the Ryan White Care Act at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and later, served as Deputy Director of the White House National AIDS Policy Office and Director of the Office of HIV/AIDS Policy at HHS. In January 2015, Dr. Goosby was appointed by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to be the UN Special Envoy on Tuberculosis (TB). As Special Envoy, he works to promote awareness of TB, both to encourage people to get tested, and send a message to world leaders that more resources are needed to make the world free from TB.

### Marcus Grant

Editor-in-Chief, *Cities & Health*. Director of SHINE (Supporting Healthier Inclusive Urban Environments), Bristol Health Partners



Marcus Grant is an ecologist, who works as an urban designer and landscape architect. As a former Associate Professor and deputy director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Urban Environments, he has worked with the WHO European Healthy Cities Network for over 15 years. With a wealth of experience he has examined issues of sustainable development and health through consultancy, governmental organisations and academia.

He is a fellow by distinction of the Faculty of Public Health in the UK and acts as a built environment expert for the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment. In his consultancy, Environmental Stewardship for Health, Marcus focuses on the reconciliation of human health and biosphere health, in the urban realm. He is co-author of *Shaping Neighbourhoods for Local Health and Global Sustainability* (2010) and *The Routledge Handbook of Planning for Health and Well-Being* (2015). Marcus has an active following on Twitter as @marcusxgrant.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Daniel A. Griffith, PhD**

Professor and Faculty member, School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, University of Texas at Dallas



Dr. Daniel A. Griffith is an Ashbel Smith professor of Geospatial Information Sciences at the U. of Texas at Dallas, affiliated professor in the College of Public Health at the U. of South Florida, and an adjunct professor in the Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology at the U. of Alberta. Previously he was a faculty member at the U. of Miami (UM), Syracuse U. (SU), SUNY/ Buffalo, and Ryerson Polytechnical U. in Toronto. While at

SU he served as Chair of the Department of Geography, Director of the Interdisciplinary Program in Statistics, and Deputy Director of the New York State Program in Geographic Information and Analysis. He has been a visiting professor at the U. of Cambridge, Erasmus U./Rotterdam, the U. of Rome "La Sapienza," and the U. of Jyväskylä (Finland), a superfund site remediation consultant for Syracuse Research Corporation, and a spatial statistics consultant for the Ministerio de Educación del Perú.

### **Andy Haines, MBBS, MD**

Professor of Public Health and Primary Care, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Chair, The Rockefeller Foundation–Lancet Commission on Planetary Health



Andy Haines is Professor of Public Health and Primary Care at LSHTM. He was Dean (subsequently Director) of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine for nearly 10 years until October 2010. He was a family doctor in inner London for many years and formerly Professor of Primary Health Care at UCL. His international experience includes a secondment at WHO Geneva and working in Jamaica, Nepal and the USA. His publications cover topics

such as climate change and health, evaluation of complex interventions in primary care and various aspects of global health policy. He has been a member of many national and international committees including the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (for the 2nd, 3rd and 5th assessment reports), the WHO Advisory Committee on Health Research, Sustainable Development Solutions Network and is currently a member of the Scientific Advisory Panel of the UNEP–hosted Climate and Clean Air Coalition. He was chair of the Rockefeller Foundation/Lancet Commission on Planetary Health. His research interests currently focus on the health co-benefits of "low carbon" policies including sustainable healthy cities and food systems.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Philippa Howden-Chapman, PhD**

Professor, Department of Public Health, University of Otago, Wellington, New Zealand



Philippa Howden-Chapman, QSO, PhD, Dip Clin Psych, Dip Tchng, FRSNZ is a professor of public health at the University of Otago, Wellington, New Zealand, where she teaches public policy. She is director of He Kainga Oranga/ Housing and Health Research Programme and the New Zealand Centre for Sustainable Cities. She has conducted a number of randomised community housing trials in partnership with local communities and sector agencies to provide an evidence base to inform housing, health and energy policy. She has a strong interest in reducing inequalities in the determinants of health and has published widely in this area, receiving a number of awards for her work including the Queens Service Order, the Liley Medal and the Dame Joan Metge Medal. She is a fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. In 2014, she and the He Kainga Oranga team were awarded the Prime Minister's Science Prize. She was a member of the Children's Commissioner's Expert Advisory Group on Solutions to Child Poverty and is currently the chair of the WHO Housing and Health International Guideline Development Group.

### **Mei-Po Kwan, PhD**

Professor of Geography and Geographic Information Science  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA



Mei-Po Kwan is Professor of Geography and Geographic Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Chair of the International Geospatial Health Research Network. She is currently Editor of the *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* and the book series entitled "SAGE Advances in Geographic Information Science and Technology." Kwan has received many prestigious research awards, including a Distinguished Scholarship Honors award from the

American Association of Geographers and a Research Award from the University Consortium for Geographic Information Science [UCGIS]. She has published 31 edited or co-edited volumes and over 150 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters. Her recent collaborative projects examine the health risks of female sex workers, adolescent and adult participation in high risk drug use, tobacco cessation in Ohio smokers, and individual exposure to air pollution.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### Edwin M. Lee

Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco



Edwin M. Lee, 63, was sworn in on January 8, 2012 as the 43rd Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco. Lee is the first Asian-American mayor in San Francisco history. In his first term, Mayor Lee focused on economic development and job creation, raised the minimum wage for San Francisco's lowest wage workers, revived the manufacturing industry and created a global hub for innovation and new economy industries. He focused

on making City government more responsive, efficient and accountable through innovation and technology. He made record investments in San Francisco public schools, public transit and health and homeless services for the most in need. In his next term, he will continue to invest in building more affordable housing than at any other time in San Francisco's history, creating true exits from homelessness for people, and improving the City's infrastructure to improve streets, parks, open spaces, libraries and public transit. Mayor Lee has worked for the City and County of San Francisco since 1989 holding positions including Investigator for the City's first Whistle Blower Ordinance, Executive Director of the Human Rights Commission, Director of City Purchasing, Director of the Department of Public Works, and City Administrator. Prior to his employment with the City and County of San Francisco, Mayor Lee was the Managing Attorney for the San Francisco Asian Law Caucus. Born in Seattle, Washington, he graduated Summa Cum Laude from Bowdoin College, and Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley.

### Gina S. Lovasi, PhD

Assistant Professor in Epidemiology,

Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health



Gina S. Lovasi is an assistant professor in Epidemiology at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. Her research examines how local policies and initiatives influence cardiovascular and respiratory health, seeking to understand whether the anticipated health benefits have been realized and to explore any unanticipated health effects. She works to incorporate GIS into a range of health-related research projects in vulnerable populations.

Key aspects of the local environment measured in her research have included walkable urban form, sources of healthy and unhealthy foods, tree canopy coverage and other aesthetic amenities, and pedestrian safety hazards related to crime and traffic. Health outcomes recently studied include cognitive development, asthma, allergic sensitization, physical activity, obesity, myocardial infarction, and sudden cardiac arrest. Dr. Lovasi serves as co-director the Urban+Health Initiative ([urbanhealthmsph.org](http://urbanhealthmsph.org)) at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### Niels Lund, MBA

Vice President of Changing Diabetes® in Novo Nordisk



Niels Lund is Vice President of Changing Diabetes® in Novo Nordisk – the global platform to advocate for improving prevention, early diagnosis and improving treatment of diabetes around the world. He is responsible for the global programs Cities Changing Diabetes, Changing Diabetes in Children, Changing Diabetes in Pregnancy and Team Novo Nordisk, the first and only professional bicycling team

consisting of riders with diabetes. Before joining Novo Nordisk in 2007, Niels had an extensive career in international development with assignments for UNICEF and the World Bank.

### Blaise Nguendo-Yongsi, PhD

Professor, Health Geography IFORD, University of Yaounde II, Cameroon



Blaise Nguendo Yongsi earned his BEd at Laurentian University (Sudbury–Canada) and his PhD in Geography at Paris-X (France). He has a longstanding interest in urban health and has empirically focused on the spatial disparities of diseases and access to health care in Cameroon. His work involves an integrative understanding of the broad determinants of population health and research on environment and health

linkages within urban settings. He has served as a Research Professional at the Centre de Recherche Interuniversitaire de Gériatrie de Montréal and as Professor of Epidemiology and Health Geography at the University of Chicoutimi (Quebec–Canada). He is currently Associate Professor of Health Geography and Spatial Epidemiology at the Institute of Training and Research in Population Studies (IFORD) of the University of Yaoundé II (Cameroon).

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Tolullah Oni, MBBS, MRCP, MPH(Epi), DFPH, MD(Res), FCPHM(SA)**

Senior Lecturer, Division of Public Health Medicine School of Public Health and Family Medicine, University of Cape Town



Tolu Oni is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Public Health and Family Medicine, University of Cape Town, South Africa. As a Public Health Medical Specialist and Urban Epidemiologist, she is a passionate advocate of health equity and health in all policies. Her research aims to contribute significantly to existing knowledge on the changing patterns of disease and implications for health and wellbeing of the population in the context of urbanization. Having worked within the unplanned South African urban setting since 2007, her research focuses on understanding the interaction between commonly co-occurring chronic conditions (HIV, TB, non-communicable diseases [NCD]), upstream health determinants, the unplanned urban environment, and the impact on health outcomes, with a view to developing integrated inter sectoral public health interventions. She has received several awards in recognition of her research contribution including the Carnegie “Next Generation of African Academics” award, the Claude Leon Merit award, and the UCT College of Fellows Young Researchers awards.

### **Tracy Orleans, PhD**

Senior Scientist, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



As the Senior Scientist for Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), Tracy Orleans has led or co-led the Foundation's public policy and health care system grant-making in the areas of health behavior change, tobacco control, chronic disease management and prevention, physical activity promotion and childhood obesity prevention over the past 18 years. Over the past seven years, she focused mainly on discovering, evaluating and applying effective policy and environmental strategies for reversing the rise in childhood obesity and reducing the disparities in its prevalence and health tolls. She is now building on this work by developing models, metrics and research to guide the Foundation's broad Culture of Health mission. Dr. Orleans has authored or co-authored more than 250 publications, served on numerous journal editorial boards, national scientific panels and advisory groups (e.g., Institute of Medicine, U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, Community Preventive Services Task Force, National Commission on Prevention Priorities, National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research), and as the Associate Policy Editor for the American Journal of Preventive Medicine. She was deeply honored to receive the CDC's 2012 Weight of the Nation “Pioneering Innovation Award” for Applied Obesity Research along with Drs. Jim Sallis and Mary Story.



## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Douglas Richardson**

Executive Director, American Association of Geographers (AAG)



During the past decade, Douglas Richardson has led a highly successful organizational renewal of the AAG, developing many dynamic research and international initiatives, and building strong academic, publishing, diversity, and financial foundations for the AAG, and for geography's future. Prior to joining the AAG, Dr. Richardson founded and was the president of GeoResearch, Inc., a scientific research firm that developed and patented the world's first real-time space-time interactive

GPS/GIS functionality, which has transformed the way geographic information is now collected, experienced, mapped, and used within geography, and in society at large. Richardson sold his company and its core patents in 1998, and has since continued to develop the field of real-time space-time integration in geography and GIScience through interdisciplinary geographic research in areas such as human rights, health, sustainable environmental and economic development, coupled human-natural systems, and most recently the integration of spatial concepts, data, and analysis in the humanities and social sciences.

### **Mark W. Rosenberg, PhD**

Professor, Canada Research Chair in Development Studies, Department of Geography and Planning, Queens University



Mark W. Rosenberg is a Professor of Geography in the Department of Geography and Planning, cross-appointed as a Professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences and the Canada Research Chair in Development Studies at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

He is also an adjunct professor in the United Nations University Institute for Water, Health and the Environment.

Professor Rosenberg's research covers a wide range of

topics including health and the environment, access to health care services, and vulnerable populations. In Canada, Professor Rosenberg is currently working on various projects related to older people's access to various health and community services. In Beijing, Professor Rosenberg is collaborating on a series of project with colleagues at the Chinese Academy of Sciences – Institute for Geographic Science and Natural Resources Research and Beijing Normal University on health and the environment and older people's access to community and residential care services.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### Alex Ross, MSPH

Director, World Health Organization (WHO) Centre for Health Development, Kobe, Japan



Mr. Ross is a public health policy expert trained at the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA). Prior to his joining the Centre, he served as Director for Partnerships at WHO Headquarters (Geneva) for four years, as well as senior advisory posts to Assistant Director-Generals for Communicable Diseases and for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria for four years. During this time, he led development of a WHO partnerships policy, nurtured WHO's engagement with global health initiatives, non-governmental and private sectors. He also provided inputs to the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness framework negotiations, including strategies for engaging vaccine manufacturers, other private sector entities, and the World Bank/IMF to help provide funds to countries in need.

Before joining WHO, Mr. Ross served in senior positions in the UK Department for International Development between 2001 and 2003, and in several U.S. Government agencies between 1987 and 2001 (USAID Bureau for Africa, U.S. Public Health Service, U.S. House of Representatives' Energy and Commerce Committee, and U.S. General Accounting Office).

### Clive Sabel, PhD

Professor in Quantitative Geography, School of Geographical Sciences, University of Bristol



Following a BSc (Hons) in Geography from Lancaster in 1990 and an MSc in GIS from Edinburgh University in 1991, I took a few years off to travel to many interesting and far flung places. I returned in 1996, and completed my PhD in 1999 under Profs Tony Gatrell and Robin Flowerdew at Lancaster University, using an Exploratory Spatial Data Analysis approach to investigate Spatial and Temporal relationships between environmental exposure and health.

I did postdocs at St Andrews University with Prof Paul Boyle and then at Karolinska University in Sweden, before accepting a lectureship at University of Canterbury, New Zealand in 2004. I returned to the UK in 2007 to join Imperial College London's Dept of Epidemiology and Public Health but came back to Geography's fold in 2009 to become Associate Prof (and then Prof) at University of Exeter. In Sept 2013, I joined Bristol University as Professor in Quantitative Geography.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Gérard Salem, PhD**

Professor, University of Paris Ouest



Pr. Gérard Salem is 63 years old. After completing a BA and MA degree in geography (University of Paris 1 – Sorbonne), he went on to receive a PhD in African Studies at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (E.H.E.S.S.) in Paris. Additionally, he completed a master in urbanism at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, and another master in epidemiology from the Pasteur Institute in Paris. As a researcher with ORSTOM, he worked from 1980–1988

and from 2009–2012 in Senegal; has been Full Professor of Geography of Health at the University of Paris–Nanterre (1997–2013). He is currently Professor emeritus, member of the Scientific Committees of International Council for Science ICSU (Urban Health and Wellbeing program), International Society of Urban Health, and International Geographical Union.

### **Olga L. Sarmiento, MD, MPH, PhD**

Associate Professor, Department of Public Health, School of Medicine, Universidad de los Andes



Olga L. Sarmiento is an Associate Professor of the Department of Public Health at the School of Medicine at Universidad de los Andes (Bogotá, Colombia). She holds an MD from the Universidad Javeriana (Bogotá), an MPH, and a PhD from the Department of Epidemiology at the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is the director of the Group of Epidemiology at the Universidad de los Andes. In

2011 she received the Honorary Distinction from The National Institute of Sports in Colombia (Coldeportes Nacional) for the academic work towards promoting healthy behaviors in Colombia. In 2015 received the honorary distinction from the Institute of Sports and Recreation from Bogotá for the academic work towards the evaluation of the Recreovia and Ciclovía programs. Her current research interests include physical activity, nutrition and built environment among the populations of children and adults in Latin America. She is the principal investigator of the natural experiment Al Ritmo de las Comunidades and the study of the evaluation of the Ciclovía of Bogotá.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### Jose Gabriel Siri, PhD, MPH, BS

Research Fellow, United Nations University

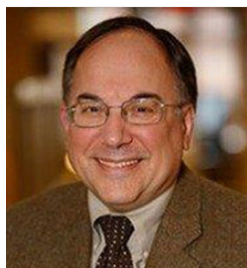


Dr. Jose Siri is an epidemiologist focusing on infectious disease transmission, systems thinking and global urban health. He joined UNU-IIGH in February 2014. Dr. Siri has recently worked with the International Council for Science to develop their new global initiative *Health and Wellbeing in the Changing Urban Environment – a Systems Analysis Approach*. He spent several years at Vienna's International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, and has worked on

four continents. He earned his BS in Ecology and Systematics from Cornell University, and his MPH in International Health and PhD in Epidemiology from the University of Michigan.

### Jeffrey L. Sturchio, PhD

President & CEO of Rabin Martin



Jeff is President & CEO of Rabin Martin, a global health strategy firm. A respected global health thought leader, Jeff is a trusted counselor to senior leaders in the private sector, multilateral organizations, governments, NGOs and foundations. Jeff has contributed to numerous publications in global health, most recently, *Noncommunicable Diseases in the Developing World: Addressing Gaps in Global Policy and Research* (Johns Hopkins University Press). Previously,

Jeff was President & CEO of the Global Health Council and Vice President of Corporate Responsibility at Merck & Co. Inc., President of The Merck Company Foundation and Chairman of the U.S. Corporate Council on Africa. He is a Visiting Scholar at the Johns Hopkins Institute for Applied Economics, Global Health and the Study of Business Enterprise; a Senior Associate of the Global Health Policy Center at the Center for Strategic and International Studies; a Principal of the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network; a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; a member of the Council on Foreign Relations; an Advisor to the Clinton Global Initiative; a member of the NCD Alliance Expert Advisory Council, and sits on the board of the Friends of the Global Fight against AIDS, TB and Malaria.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### **Shamim Hayder Talukder, MBBS, MPhil**

President, The International Society for Urban Health

Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Eminence



Shamim Talukder, MD, is founder and CEO of Eminence Associates for Social Development in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Since 2003, Eminence has been committed to improving the lives disadvantaged and marginalized populations through research, training, advocacy, community based interventions and communications in the areas of health, education, environment, governance and information technology. Dr.

Talukder is the first Member Secretary of Bangladesh Urban Health Network (BUHN) and has also co-authored a chapter of the first Bangladesh Urban Health Survey 2006 and the Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey (2011) that later was transformed into a National Policy Brief on Non Communicable Disease. Dr. Talukder also serves as the member secretary of the Non Communicable Diseases Forum (NCD-F), coordinator of Bangladesh Civil Society Network for Promoting Nutrition (BCSNPN), and founder and general secretary of the Global Citizen Forum for Sustainable Development. He has worked nationally and internationally to develop health policy with special focus on non-communicable diseases and nutrition.

### **Yonette F. Thomas, PhD**

Population Health Scientist, Scientific Advisor on Urban Health,

The New York Academy of Medicine

Senior Research Advisor, American Association of Geographers



Dr. Yonette F. Thomas is science advisor for urban health to The New York Academy of Medicine, a member of the International Society for Urban Health board, and a senior research advisor to the American Association of Geographers. She is a faculty affiliate of the Maryland Population Research Center at the University of Maryland College Park, and a voluntary associate professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Miami Miller School of

Medicine where she teaches social epidemiology. She was formerly the associate vice president for research compliance at Howard University. She served on the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Revisions to the Common Rule for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research in the Behavioral and Social Sciences. Her primary research and publications have focused on the social epidemiology of drug abuse and HIV/AIDS and the link with geography, including edited volumes: *Geography and Drug Addiction, Crime, HIV, and Health: intersections of Criminal Justice and Public Health Concerns*. She has a PhD in medical sociology and demography, with post graduate training in epidemiology.

## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### David Vlahov, PhD, RN, FAAN

Dean and Professor, School of Nursing, University of California, San Francisco.  
Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Urban Health*



Dr. Vlahov was the founding President of the International Society for Urban Health ([www.isuh.org](http://www.isuh.org)). Dr. Vlahov is the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Urban Health*, has edited three books on urban health. He is the Dean and Professor at the School of Nursing, University of California, San Francisco. Prior to this, Dr. Vlahov led epidemiologic studies in Baltimore, Harlem and the Bronx, which have served as a platform for subsequent individual- and community-

level intervention studies and community based participatory research to address social determinants of health. This work has contributed new knowledge to promote health equity. He has been a Visiting Professor at the Medical School in Belo Horizonte, Brazil to develop their programs in urban health, and served as an expert consultant to the WHO's Urban Health Center in Kobe, Japan. He has published over 645 scholarly papers. In 2011 Dr. Vlahov was both elected to the Institute of Medicine currently serving of the Institute's Board of Global Health. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and The New York Academy of Medicine.

### Sandra J. Winter, PhD, MHA

Director, Wellness Living Laboratory/Research Associate Stanford Prevention Research Center, Stanford University School of Medicine



Sandra J. Winter was born and raised in Zimbabwe, then moved to Cape Town in South Africa where she was a successful entrepreneur, owning and operating a number of businesses in the advertising industry. In 2003 Sandra moved from Cape Town, South Africa to Lexington, Kentucky where she completed a Master of Health Administration and a PhD in Public Administration (Health Policy Track). In 2009 Sandra started working at

the Stanford Prevention Research Center (SPRC). At SPRC Sandra has held a number of positions including Fitness assessor, biometric screener and wellness advisor with the BeWell program; Social Science Research Assistant with Abby King's Healthy Aging Research and Technology Solutions (HARTS) lab; Project Manager for the SPRC/Qassim University College of Medicine, Saudi Arabia collaboration; and Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute. Sandra is currently the Program Director of the Wellness Living Laboratory (WELL). The scientific goal of WELL is to generate novel hypothesis-driven inquiries, tested at the population level, to build the evidence base of wellness.



## PLENARY SPEAKER BIOS

### Yongguan (Y-G) Zhu, PhD

Professor of Environmental Biology, Director General of the Institute of Urban Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)



Dr. Yongguan (Y-G) Zhu, Professor of Environmental Biology, is the director general of the Institute of Urban Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). He has been working on the biogeochemistry of nutrients, metals and emerging pollutants (such as antibiotics and antibiotic resistance genes). Professor Zhu is a leader in taking multi-scale and multi-disciplinary approaches to soil and environmental problems. He obtained his BSc from Zhejiang Agricultural

University in 1989, and MSc from CAS in 1992, and then a PhD in environmental biology from Imperial College, London in 1998. Dr Zhu is currently the co-editor-in-chief of Environmental Technology & Innovation (Elsevier). He is a scientific committee member for the ICSU program on Human Health and Wellbeing in Changing Urban Environment, and served for nine years as a member of Standing Advisory Group for Nuclear Application, International Atomic Energy Agency (2004–2012). Professor Zhu is the recipient of many international and Chinese merit awards, including TWAS Science Award 2013, National Natural Science Award 2009; Professor Zhu has published over 200 papers in international journals.