

# HEALTH RESEARCH ALLIANCE MEMBERS' MEETING

September 13-14, 2018



**Sponsored by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund and the V Foundation for Cancer Research**

*All sessions will be held at the Washington Duke Inn, Durham, NC*

## November 15 | Thursday

**10:30 - 11:00AM**  
(30min)

### **Welcome to the Members' Meeting and Introductions**

#### **Program Committee Co-Chairs**

**Sindy Escobar-Alvarez, PhD**

Senior Program Officer for Medical Research | Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

**Margaret Flowers, PhD**

Director, Scientific Communications and Grants | Breast Cancer Research Foundation

#### **HRA Board Chair**

**Steve Rose, PhD**

Chief Science Officer | Foundation Fighting Blindness

#### **HRA Website Update**

**Cecilia Arradaza**

Communications Consultant

**11:00AM - 12:30PM**  
(90min)

### **Measuring Funding Impact Through Grantee Outputs**

Measuring the impact of a non-profit organization's grants program can be a difficult, and sometimes ambiguous, process. For example, answering a seemingly simple question like, "how successful are we at accomplishing our mission?", typically results in more questions than definitive or tangible answers. One approach to gauging organizational success is to measure the success of grant recipients that result from an organization's support. This session will explore how to connect grantees to landmark discoveries in their particular field based on outputs collected from progress reports. In addition, we will look at ways to examine these outputs, either individually or in aggregate, to more broadly evaluate the health and success of a grants program. Lastly, we will discuss why these data are important and how they can be leveraged for communications to stakeholders, donors, and the public will be discussed.

#### **Moderator**

**Carole Wegner, PhD**

VP, Research and Grants Administration | The V Foundation for Cancer Research

#### **Presenters**

**Samuel Thomas**

Chief Technology Officer and Project Manager | Rose Li and Associates

**Natalia Volfovsky, PhD**

Director, Data and Analytics | Simons Foundation

**Alycia Halladay, PhD**

Chief Science Officer | Autism Science Foundation

**12:30 – 2:00 PM**  
(90min)

**LUNCH:** (separate networking lunch area provided)

**FIRST Group Update**

This session will provide context for and discuss recent activities aimed at building effective working relationships between funders and universities. We will report on topics addressed at the May 16th Nonprofit Funder - Research Institution Partnership Workshop, and on progress since the workshop. We will discuss next steps for the effort in general and the three different workstreams: Intellectual Property, Streamlining Reporting Requirements, and Indirect Costs. Those who led the sessions at the workshop and are continuing to engage with universities will lead the discussions.

**Moderator**

**TBD**

**Presenters**

**Heather Snyder, PhD**

Senior Director, Medical & Scientific Relations | Alzheimer's Association

**Jim Luther, PhD**

Associate VP Finance & Compliance Officer | Duke University

**Jackie Hausman**

Director, Research & Regulatory Relations | Kenneth Rainin Foundation

**Calvin Ho, PhD**

Science Project Coordinator | Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance

**Diane Bovenkamp, PhD**

Vice President of Scientific Affairs | BrightFocus Foundation

**Amy Laster, PhD**

Senior Director, Grants and Award Programs | Foundation Fighting Blindness

**2:00 - 3:30PM**  
(90min)

**Peer Review Under the Microscope: From Best Practices to Current Challenges**

Scientific peer review has long been the gold standard for evaluating grant applications, but different organizations implement peer review in different ways. In addition, issues like unconscious bias and data reproducibility has brought these processes under greater scrutiny. This session will focus on peer review best practices that are informed by studies on the science of peer review.

**Moderator**

**Diane Bovenkamp, PhD**

Vice President of Scientific Affairs | BrightFocus Foundation

**Presenters**

**Stephen Gallo, PhD**

Chief Scientist | American Institute of Biological Sciences

**Lucy Liaw, PhD**

Director, Research Training Programs | Maine Medical Center Research Institute

**Richard Nakamura, PhD**

Former Director (2011-2018) | Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health

**3:30 - 4:00 PM**  
(30min)

**Break**

## November 15 | Thursday (continued)

**4:00 - 5:00 PM**  
(60min)

### Highlighting our Sponsors

#### Moderator

**Maryrose Franko, PhD**

Executive Director | Health Research Alliance

#### Presenters

**Rolly Simpson**

Senior Program Officer | Burroughs Wellcome Fund

**Susan Braun**

Chief Executive Officer | V Foundation for Cancer Research

**6:30 - ?**

### Reception With Heavy Hors D'Oeuvres at the Burroughs Wellcome Fund

*(roundtrip transportation between the hotel and BWF will be provided)*

## November 16 | Friday

**8:00 - 9:30 AM**  
(90min)

### BREAKFAST: BREAKOUTS & NETWORKING

**9:30 - 10:15 AM**  
(45min)

### HRA News and Updates

**Maryrose Franko, PhD**

Executive Director | Health Research Alliance

#### HRA Board Chair

**Steve Rose, PhD**

Chief Science Officer | Foundation Fighting Blindness

**10:15 - 10:45 AM**  
(30min)

### Break

**10:45 - 12:15 PM**  
(90min)

### Implementing New Ways to Model Human Disease for More Effective Drug Discovery

The cost of drug R&D makes up the bulk of the cost of prescription drugs because consumers not only pay for the medicines they are prescribed, but also for all the ostensibly promising agents emerging for the laboratory only to fail in clinical trials. The preclinical drug discovery and testing phases are filled with challenges and have a poor success rate especially in certain disease without good preclinical models.

This session will explore ways to change the drug discovery paradigm with novel strategies such as machine learning and other technologies which are expected to make the drug discovery quicker, cheaper and more effective.

#### Moderator

**James Hendrix, PhD**

Director, Global Science Initiatives | Alzheimer's Association

#### Presenters

**Han Lim, MD, PhD**

Vice President, Global Head of Partnering | Atomwise, Inc

**Paul Macklin, PhD**

Associate Professor | Intelligent Systems Engineering, Indiana University

**Rick Monsma, PhD**

Senior Vice President, Scientific Operations | New York Stem Cell Foundation Research Institute

**12:15 - 1:45 PM**      **LUNCH: BREAKOUTS & NETWORKING**  
(90min)

**1:45 - 3:15 PM**      **Stronger Together: How Collaboration Can Lead to Greater Impact**  
(90min)

Collaboration is often the key to scientific success, bringing together individuals with different expertise and skills to advance the field. This type of teamwork can also elevate and improve the efforts of biomedical research grant makers, bringing organizations together toward a common mission. This session will focus on a few examples of successful collaboration between HRA members, as well as HRA members and the public sector, that serve to not only provide crucial resources to the research community, but also to advance scientific knowledge and patient care. Members will share their stories on how these collaborations were forged, how working with other organizations contributes to and improves their mission-driven work, and what they hope to accomplish from establishing such symbiotic relationships.

**Moderator**

**Nicole Burpo**

Manager, Focused Research | American Heart Association

**Presenters**

**Shannon Gallagher-Colombo, PhD**

Assistant Director | AACR Foundation

**James Hendrix, PhD**

Director, Global Science Initiatives | Alzheimer's Association

**Kristen Mueller, PhD | Joe Cotter**

Scientific Program Director | Research Constituent Engagement Manager  
Melanoma Research Alliance | American Cancer Society

**3:15-3:30PM**      **Closing remarks**  
(15min)