

NINA T. HARAWA, PHD, MPH

Core Director, Policy Impact Core

BIOGRAPHY

Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine and the Fielding School of Public Health at UCLA. She also holds a faculty appointment at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science where she serves as Associate Director of Research for the university's Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services (Drew CARES). Trained in epidemiology, Dr. Harawa's research involves developing and testing holistic interventions for encouraging prevention, care, and treatment for HIV, STIs, and substance use disorders and leading efforts to examine the impact of various policies on racial/ethnic health disparities. She also directs the Policy Impact Core of the NIMH-funded UCLA Center for HIV Identification Prevention and Treatment Services (CHIPTS), which examines how proposed and enacted policies may support or hinder efforts to end the HIV epidemic in the United States and abroad. Because of her commitment to health equity, Dr. Harawa started REACH UCLA Health, a faculty group dedicated to increasing access to the UCLA Health system for people of color and those with publicly-funded health coverage. She has conducted innovative research with a variety of populations – including sexual minority men of color, Black and Latina cis-gender women, transgender women of all backgrounds, and sexual and gender minorities who have experienced incarceration. Much of this work has involved partnering with local governmental and community organizations. She currently co-leads two multi-site NIH-funded studies. One examines the impacts of incarceration and related interventions and policies on HIV in Black men who have sex with men through agent-based modelling.



DAVID GOODMAN-MEZA, MD, MAS

Core Scientist, Combination Prevention Core

BIOGRAPHY

David Goodman-Meza, MD, MAS, is a Mexican-American physician-scientist in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He received his MD from Universidad Autonoma de Baja California in Tijuana, Mexico and a masters in clinical research at UCSD. He is an Assistant Professor and his research work is focused at the relationship of substance use disorders and infectious diseases, and developing interventions to improve health outcomes in this vulnerable population. He is currently a recipient of an NIH/NIDA Career Development Award where he is training in the use of natural language processing and machine learning to evaluate outcomes of people who inject drugs who are admitted due to Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia. He is site PI for HPTN 094, a study evaluating mobile units for the treatment of opioid use disorder.



JAMILA K. STOCKMAN, PHD, MPH

Co-Director, SD CFAR Health Equity Sociobehavioral. Science Core

BIOGRAPHY

Vice Chief and an Associate Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Global Public Health, Department of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego. She is also Director of the Disparities Core at UC San Diego's Center for AIDS Research. Dr. Stockman received her PhD in Epidemiology from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and an MPH degree from the George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health. Dr. Stockman has dedicated her research career towards improving the lives of women with experiences of intimate and sexual violence. An epidemiologist by training, her research focuses on the intersecting epidemics of intimate partner violence and sexual violence, HIV acquisition and transmission, and substance abuse among marginalized populations. She is working to advance understanding of the underlying immunological and physiological mechanisms linking these epidemics and develop interventions that provide maximal reductions in HIV, substance abuse, and violence against women. Currently, she conducts her work in the US, US-Mexico border region, Latin America and Caribbean. In addition to her research, Dr. Stockman actively collaborates with local public health departments and community-based organizations to ensure ethical and cultural appropriateness of her research among members of the community. She also serves on various domestic-violence prevention steering committees and community-based organizations working to address the deleterious effects of violence and HIV in families and relationships.



EILEEN VIRTUSIO PITPITAN, PHD

Co-Director, SD CFAR Health Equity Sociobehavioral. Science Core

BIOGRAPHY

Tenured Associate Professor in the School of Social Work at San Diego State University (SDSU), and an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine at UC San Diego (UCSD). She also serves as a Associate Director of the SDSU-UCSD Joint Doctoral Program in Interdisciplinary Research on Substance Use. Dr. Pitpitan has over 10 years of experience studying social and structural factors (e.g., substance use, violence, mental health, stigma) surrounding HIV among marginalized communities (incl. marginalized women, racial and ethnic minorities, sexual and gender minorities, and people who use drugs), and is an expert in quantitative methods. The focus of her research is on the development and evaluation of theory-driven interventions to reduce disparities and promote equity in the HIV prevention and care continuum. She has had a successful NIHfunded career trajectory beginning with a T32 postdoctoral fellowship, a Diversity Supplement Award, and a Mentored Career Development K01 Award, and is currently Principal Investigator on two active NIH R01 grants. Finally, Dr. Pitpitan is also a passionate teacher and mentor, especially for underrepresented racial/ethnic minority women and men. She is committed to promoting diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion across science and academia. As such, she serves as Co-Director of a NIH R25 research education and training program exclusively for Black and Latinx junior faculty to support their path towards and success in independent research, as Co-Director of a training program to support Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) pre- and post-doctoral fellows in HIV research.