

Health Equity, Culture, and Cancer—American Society of Preventive Oncology (ASPO)'s 2021 Annual Meeting

Elisa V. Bandera¹ and Sandi L. Pruitt²



Health inequities are not new. However, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and recent death of George Floyd among many other people of color has brought the issues of structural racism and discrimination and health inequity into the forefront of American consciousness. Communities of color, and people who are low income, rural, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning (LGBTQ+), immigrants, and indigenous, among others, face disproportionate and inequitable cancer burden. While advances in prevention and control research have led to improvements in cancer incidence and better survival from cancer overall, U.S. cancer inequities persist, and for some populations, gaps have widened over time. For example, Black Americans, of all racial or ethnic groups, face the highest death rate and the lowest survival rate for most cancers in the United States.

To inspire and propel cancer prevention research and intervention toward achieving health equity, the theme of the 45th ASPO meeting will be **Health Equity, Culture, and Cancer**. As a first step, we assembled an outstanding program committee selected for their commitment and expertise in key areas of cancer health disparities. Working closely with the program committee, we organized a thought-provoking meeting designed to address high-priority emergent challenges to cancer equity, including COVID-19. Four symposia are planned on the topics of: (i) structural racism, discrimination, and cancer, (ii) unequal access to cancer prevention and care, (iii) novel remote technologies that bridge the digital divide, and (iv) impact of COVID-19 in cancer prevention and control. The final program is shaping up with prestigious scholars in each of these topics already confirmed.

Call for abstracts is now active and the highest scoring abstracts will be selected for oral presentations at the virtual conference and we will also have, as usual, best poster awards. Meeting registration is now open.

ASPO's Annual Meeting will be held virtually from Monday, March 29, 2021 to Wednesday, April 1, 2021. The Associate Director and Program Leader Workshop will be held on Sunday, 28 March. More information is available at www.aspo.org.

ASPO's 45th Annual Meeting, Presented Virtually
Schedule as of November 1, 2020, please visit ASPO.org for up-to-date information

Program Committee:

Elisa Bandera, MD, PhD, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey,
 New Brunswick, NJ, **Co-Chair**

Sandi L. Pruitt, PhD, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX,
Co-Chair

Karen Basen-Engquist, PhD, UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center,
 Houston, TX

Otis Brawley, MD, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Scarlett Lin Gomez, MPH, PhD, University of California at
 San Francisco,
 San Francisco, CA

Saira Khan, MPH, PhD, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

Lawrence H. Kushi, ScD, Kaiser Permanente Northern California,
 Oakland, CA

Elena Martinez, PhD, UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center,
 San Diego, CA

Lisa Newman, MD, MPH, FACS, FASCO, Weill Cornell Medicine,
 New York, NY

Melissa Simon, MD, MPH, Feinberg School of Medicine,
 Chicago, IL

¹Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, New Brunswick, New Jersey.
²University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, Texas.

Corresponding Author: Elisa V. Bandera, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, 195 Little Albany St, New Brunswick, NJ 08903. Phone: 7322359874; E-mail: elisa.bandera@rutgers.edu

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Bandera and Pruitt

All times Eastern

Sunday, 28 March 2021

12:00 pm–4:00 pm **Associate directors/program leaders workshop**

Monday, 29 March 2021

12:00 pm–1:15 pm **Early career investigator session 1 - Perspectives on leveraging existing cohort datasets for secondary data analyses: From initiation to publication**

Chairs: Marvin Langston, PhD, MPH, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente Northern California, Oakland, CA; Meghan Skiba, MS, RDN, University of Arizona Zuckerman College of Public Health, Tucson, AZ

Speakers: Elizabeth Calhoun, PhD, MEd, University of Arizona, Zuckerman College of Public Health, Tucson, AZ; Justin Xavier Moore, PhD, MPH, Augusta University at the Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA; Elizabeth A. Platz, ScD, MPH, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

1:30 pm–2:00 pm **Interactive poster session**

2:15 pm–3:00 pm **Opening ceremony**

- (i) Business meeting
- (ii) Presidential address
- (iii) Award presentation

3:00 pm–4:30 pm **Symposium - Structural racism, discrimination, and cancer**

Chairs: Scarlett Lin Gomez, MPH, PhD, UCSF, San Francisco, CA; Lisa Newman, MD, MPH, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, NY

Speakers: Robert Winn, MD, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA; Zinzi Bailey, ScD, MSPH, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL; Teshia Solomon, PhD, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Tuesday, 30 March 2021

12:00 pm–1:30 pm **Symposium - The many shades of unequal access to cancer prevention and care**

Chairs: Melissa Simon, MD, MPH, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL; Otis Brawley, MD, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

Speakers: Robin Yabroff, PhD, American Cancer Society, Atlanta, GA; Reggie Tucker-Seeley, ScD, USC; Zeke Emanuel, MD, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

1:45 pm–2:15 pm **Interactive poster session**

2:30 pm–3:30 pm **Concurrent paper sessions**

3:45 pm–4:45 pm **Concurrent special interest group sessions**

- (i) Cancer health disparities
- (ii) Molecular epidemiology and the environment

Wednesday, 31 March 2021

12:00 pm–1:30 pm **Symposium - Novel remote technologies that bridge the digital divide**

Chair: Karen Basen-Engquist, PhD, MPH, The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Speakers: David Ahern, PhD, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC; Brian Rivers, PhD, MPH, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA; Bettina Yanez, PhD, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

1:45 pm–2:15 pm **Interactive poster session**

2:30 pm–3:30 pm **Concurrent paper sessions**

3:45 pm–5:00 pm **Early career investigator session 2 - Research resiliency: Navigating a research or career setback and moving forward**

Chairs: Sheetal Hardikar, PhD, MBBS, University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute, Salt Lake City, Utah; Lauren Houghton, PhD, MSc, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY; Nicole Niehoff, PhD, MSPH, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle, NC

Speakers: Nur Zeinomar, PhD, MPH, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ; Theresa Hastert, PhD, MPP, Wayne State University Karmanos Cancer Institute, Detroit, MI; Yamile Molina, PhD, MPH, MS, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL; David Wetter, PhD, MS, University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute, Salt Lake City, Utah

Thursday, 1 April 2021

12:00 pm–1:30 pm **Concurrent special interest group sessions**

- (i) Lifestyle behaviors, energy balance, chemoprevention
- (ii) Joint session: Survivorship and health outcomes/comparative effectiveness research and behavioral science and health communication

1:45 pm–2:15 pm **Interactive poster session**

2:30 pm–4:00 pm **Symposium - Impact of COVID on cancer prevention and control**

Chairs: Elena Martinez, PhD, UC San Diego, Moores Cancer Center; Larry Kushi, ScD, Kaiser Permanente Northern California, Oakland, CA

Speakers: Samir Gupta, MD, UC San Diego; Monica Webb Hooper, PhD, NIH, Bethesda, MD

On Demand Only

2020 and 2021 Fraumeni and Cullen award addresses

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AACR American Association
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