

The Diverse Faces of Biomedical Research: — Pathways for Everyone —

Diversity in the biomedical research workforce enhances innovation and the quality of research. Join us to hear from a diverse group of researchers from industry and academia as they share their personal academic and career experiences.

Featured Speakers

keynote



Issac Kinde, M.D, Ph.D

VP Technology Assessment and
Co-Founder
Thrive, an Exact Science Company

panelist



Christine Jorge, Ph.D.

Senior Scientist
Bristol-Myers Squibb

panelist



Diana Martinez, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Cooper Medical School of Rowan
University

panelist



Nicole Vaughn, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Rowan University

In Person Student Conference

Tuesday

10.19.2021

3 – 6 p.m.

Edelman Planetarium,
Science Hall

[Click Here to Register](#)

Program Schedule

Keynote

3-4 p.m. (2:30 p.m. check-in)

Panel Discussion

4:15 - 5:15 p.m. (4 pm check-in)

Networking Reception

5:15 - 6 p.m.

Attend one or more portions of
the program.

Sponsors:

NIH U-RISE@Rowan
College of Science &
Mathematics

For more information,
contact Dr. Nathaniel Nucci
at nucci@rowan.edu.

go.rowan.edu/urise

Issac Kinde, M.D, Ph.D.

Isaac A. Kinde, M.D., Ph.D., is VP Technology Assessment and a Co-Founder of Thrive, an Exact Sciences Company, where he is commercializing tests for the earlier detection of cancer from a simple blood draw.

As a graduate student at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, his thesis research produced inventions enabling the earlier detection of cancers and other genetic diseases through improvements to massively parallel DNA sequencing technology, under the mentorship of research advisors and co-inventors Drs. Bert Vogelstein, Ken Kinzler, Nickolas Papadopoulos, and Luis Diaz, Jr.

Notable applications of his work include the earlier detection of ovarian and endometrial cancers from liquid-based Pap tests, recurrent bladder cancers from urine, and a variety of cancers from blood. Descriptions of his inventions and their applications appear in prominent scientific journals – such as Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Science, and Nature – and are the subject of several issued patents and patent applications. In 2013, he was recognized as one of Forbes Magazine’s ‘30 under 30’ in Science and Healthcare.

Isaac holds a B.S. from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, where he was a Meyerhoff Scholar, a Ph.D. in Cellular and Molecular Medicine, and an M.D. from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Christine Jorge, Ph.D.

Christine completed her undergraduate studies at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany in Human Biology and Chemistry with a research focus in behavioral neuroscience. She subsequently joined the department of Biochemistry and Biophysics as a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania. She completed her thesis work in the lab of Professor A. Joshua Wand where she focused on optimizing techniques for measuring hydration dynamics of proteins encapsulated in reverse micelles using nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR) spectroscopy. Christine joined the Discovery NMR group at Bristol Myers Squibb in 2018 and has since been involved in numerous NMR based workflows including small-molecule and millimolar-molecule structure elucidation, quantitation, and metabolomics.

Diana Martinez, Ph.D.

Dr. Diana Martinez completed her Ph.D. from NJIT/Rutgers in Neuroscience in 2015 where she focused on understanding the connections (synapses) between neurons and how they affect behavior. She then went to McGill University in Montreal to complete a one-year postdoc in understanding how our brain processes sensory input. In 2017, she joined the Kline Laboratory at the University of Missouri to explore the mechanisms of cardiorespiratory dysfunction in a model of sleep apnea. She started as an assistant-professor at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University in February 2021.

Her lab is interested in studying how the brainstem controls cardiorespiratory function in circadian biology specifically in models of shift-work. She uses a mixture of different techniques including behavioral, surgical, recording directly from neurons, recording of cardiovascular parameters in awake animals, and molecular methods.

Due to the interdisciplinary nature of her work, she believes that the diversity of ideas from young scientists cultivate a successful research program. Her commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion in academia is grounded in her own personal experience as a first-generation Cuban-American, her years of research and teaching, and her commitment to mentoring students of all levels in and outside the classroom. For more information, please visit www.themartinezlab.com or on twitter @TheMartinezLab.

Nicole Vaughn, Ph.D.

Nicole Vaughn is an assistant professor in Rowan University’s Department of Health & Exercise Science. Dr. Vaughn received a B.S. in psychology from Morgan State University and a M.S. and Ph.D. in medical psychology from Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Her research interests include using community based participatory research methods to address chronic disease prevention (diabetes, overweight, obesity) as well as trauma informed programs that enhance resilience in underserved and urban settings with ethnic minority adults and youth (i.e., African American). Additionally, she is focused on identifying evidence-based and evidence-informed practices to disseminate and implement in these settings.

Dr. Vaughn works with community partners to implement evidence-based and evidence-informed strategies in their local settings (i.e., churches, after school settings, community centers) to promote healthy lifestyles. The dissemination and implementation of her research projects lie at the intersection of public health, health promotion, health education and community/industry partnerships.