

SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP ON **VIOLENCE** & *related health outcomes in* SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY COMMUNITIES

Speaker/Moderator Biographies

Susannah Allison, Ph.D.

**Program Officer and Training Director, Division of AIDS Research
National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

Susannah Allison, Ph.D., is a Program Officer and Training Director at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) within the Division of AIDS Research. She oversees a portfolio of research grants that focuses on innovative strategies to prevent HIV infection among infants, children and adolescents as well as research on the psychosocial and neurobehavioral impact of HIV infection among youth. As the Training Director for the division, she assists researchers at all stages in their careers in obtaining the training they need to become independent researchers. She is also the co-chair of the Sexual and Gender Minority Research Coordinating Committee at the National Institutes of Health. Prior to working at NIMH, Dr. Allison worked with children and families infected and affected by HIV in Baltimore, Miami, and Washington, D.C. She completed her doctorate at The George Washington University where she received her Ph.D. in Clinical Child Psychology with an emphasis in child health psychology.

Irene Avila, Ph.D.

**Assistant Director
Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office (SGMRO)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)**

Irene Avila, Ph.D., is the Assistant Director for the SGMRO, having joined the office in April. Irene's role in SGMRO involves the management of operational activities, strategic planning, and the executive secretary for the Council of Councils Sexual and Gender Minority Research Working Group. Irene previously served as the Special Assistant to Dr. Hannah Valentine, the Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity, and the Executive Secretary to the NIH Director's Advisory Committee's Working Group on Diversity. Dr. Avila's work has focused on postdoc and early-career investigator programming that sought to enhance diversity inclusion and retention in the biomedical research workforce. She received her Ph.D. in Behavioral Neuroscience from Arizona State University. Her dissertation was conducted at NINDS through the Graduate Partnership Program and she completed a postdoc at NIA.

Kimberly F. Balsam, Ph.D.

**Chair and Professor, Department of Psychology, Palo Alto University
Director, LGBTQ Area of Emphasis
Director, Center for LGBTQ Evidence-Based Applied Research**

Kimberly Balsam, Ph.D., is Department Chair and Professor in the Department of Psychology at Palo Alto University, where she is also the Director of the LGBTQ Area of Emphasis in the Ph.D. program and the Director of the Center for LGBTQ Evidence-Based Applied Research. She is Past President of American Psychological Association's Division 44 (Society for the Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity) and serves on the Advisory Committee for the Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology. Dr. Balsam has been conducting research on LGBTQ+ psychology since the 1990s, including such topics as trauma and minority stress in ethnically diverse LGBTQ populations, LGBTQ veterans and military personnel, differences and similarities between same-sex and heterosexual couples, and the development of culturally relevant assessment tools for LGBTQ-specific constructs. She received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Vermont in 2003 and completed her predoctoral internship at the VA Puget Sound Healthcare System in Seattle, as well as a postdoctoral research fellowship in the Department of Psychology at the University of Washington that was funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. Dr. Balsam worked for 5 years as a Research Assistant Professor at the University of Washington School of Social Work and has been the Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-PI on several National Institutes of Health grants and has contributed to more than 70 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters.

SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP ON **VIOLENCE** & *related health outcomes in* SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY COMMUNITIES

Speaker/Moderator Biographies

She is currently the PI of the LGBTQ+ Clinical Academy—a partnership with Santa Clara County—to develop, implement, and evaluate a 40-hour intensive cultural competence training for master’s-level clinicians. Dr. Balsam also has a 20-year history of clinical practice with LGBTQ+ patients in a wide range of settings.

Dara Blachman-Demner, Ph.D.

Health Scientist Administrator

Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR)

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Dara Blachman-Demner, Ph.D., is a Health Scientist Administrator in the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) at the National Institutes of Health. She leads OBSSR’s NIH-wide efforts in implementation science, violence prevention research and research on structural and systemic racism. Dr. Blachman-Demner received her BA from Duke University and her Ph.D. in clinical/community psychology from the University of California, Berkeley. She completed her clinical internship at the Institute for Juvenile Research at the University of Illinois, Chicago and a postdoctoral fellowship at the Family Institute/School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University. Prior to joining OBSSR, she served as a Social Science Analyst at the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) where she developed a portfolio examining the impact of youth violence and victimization experiences on health outcomes. Dr. Blachman-Demner began her Federal career as a Society for Research in Child Development/AAAS policy fellow at OBSSR from 2006 to 2008. Dr. Blachman-Demner’s research interests are to facilitate the translation, adoption and scale up of evidence-based interventions, practices and knowledge into clinical, community and public health settings. She focuses on coordination across health, justice, education, and social service sectors as well as on community-engaged and policy-relevant research. She works to advance the science of prevention and treatment of mental disorders and promotion of positive well-being among children and youth, particularly those from traditionally underserved communities.

David Burnes, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Associate Dean, Academic

Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto

David Burnes, Ph.D., is Associate Professor and Associate Dean, Academic, at the University of Toronto, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. He completed his Ph.D. at Columbia University School of Social Work in New York City, concentrating in gerontology and advanced practice. Dr. Burnes’ program of research focuses on issues related to elder abuse and ageism, including the development of basic science and interventions to prevent the mistreatment of older adults. He has advised major international organizations, such as the World Health Organization and different levels of government, on these topics to advance research priorities and to implement prevention strategies. Dr. Burnes’ interest in elder abuse stems from both family experience and clinical practice with older adults.

Katie M. Edwards, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Katie Edwards, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in Educational Psychology and in the Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Dr. Edwards’ work focuses on the development, implementation, and evaluation of violence prevention and response initiatives, predominantly among adolescents and young adults. Much of her work focuses on dating and sexual violence, specifically among LGBTQ+ populations. To date, Dr. Edwards has published more than 150 peer-reviewed publications on these topics, and she currently has funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, and U.S. Department of Justice. A recent study released by Stanford University named Dr. Edwards in the top 2 percent of researchers in the world.

SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP ON **VIOLENCE** & *related health outcomes in* SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY COMMUNITIES

Speaker/Moderator Biographies

Dorothy L. Espelage, Ph.D.

**William C. Friday Distinguished Professor of Education
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Dorothy Espelage, Ph.D., is William C. Friday Distinguished Professor of Education at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is the recipient of the American Psychological Association (APA) Lifetime Achievement Award in Prevention Science and the 2016 APA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Research in Public Policy. Dr. Espelage is a Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science, APA, and American Educational Research Association. She recently was elected to the National Academy of Education and received the Society for Prevention Research Award in 2020. Dr. Espelage earned her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Indiana University in 1997. Over the last 22 years, she has authored more than 200 peer-reviewed articles, six edited books, and 70 chapters on bullying, homophobic teasing, sexual harassment, dating violence, and gang violence. In addition, Dr. Espelage has conducted numerous studies on violence and adverse outcomes for gender and sexual minority youth. Her research focuses on translating empirical findings into prevention and intervention programming. Dr. Espelage conducts regular webinars for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health, and National Institute of Justice to disseminate research. She has conducted randomized clinical trials to evaluate K-12 social-emotional learning programs to reduce youth aggression, overseen peer-led interventions to address sexual violence and suicidal behaviors, and established virtual reality-based bully prevention programs.

Andrew R. Flores, Ph.D.

**Assistant Professor, American University
Visiting Scholar, The Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law**

Andrew Flores, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Government at the School of Public Affairs at American University and a Visiting Scholar at the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law. His research focuses on attitude formation, attitude change, and public policies affecting LGBTQ populations, and his work has been published in *Science Advances*, the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, the *American Journal of Public Health*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Political Psychology*, and other peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Flores served as a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Consensus Committee on the Well-being of Sexual and Gender Diverse Populations in the United States, which published its consensus study with National Academies Press. Recently, he has published about crime statistics and the victimization of LGBT people in the United States, resulting in some of the first nationally representative and comprehensive crime statistics by sexual orientation and gender identity. Dr. Flores has interest in LGBTQ politics and policy, race, ethnicity and politics, public opinion and political behavior, political representation, data visualization, data science, and political methodology.

Ellis Furman, M.A.

**Doctoral Candidate
Wilfrid Laurier University**

Ellis Furman (pronouns: They/Them) is a community-engaged researcher and educator who takes critical and creative approaches to understanding and addressing complex social problems that affect queer, transgender, nonbinary, and Two-Spirit youth in Canada. Furman's research and knowledge mobilization efforts aim to support youth in building individual capacity to recognize, name, navigate, and challenge harmful, values, attitudes, and behaviors that are structured by gender biases, patriarchy, power, and privilege. With passions for critical social theory, research, and action, Furman always is interested in exploring different quantitative, qualitative, and arts-based methods to analyze, make sense of, and share the realities of gender inequity, harm, abuse, and neglect in our families, schools, workplaces, and communities. Furman is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Community Psychology program at Wilfrid Laurier University and is a Vanier Canada Scholar.

SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP ON **VIOLENCE &** *related health outcomes in* SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY COMMUNITIES

Speaker/Moderator Biographies

M. Paz Galupo, Ph.D.

Professor

Towson University

M. Paz Galupo, Ph.D., (pronouns: She/They) is Professor of Psychology and Director of the Sexual and Gender Identity Lab at Towson University. Dr. Galupo's research focuses on individuals in the LGBTQ community who are marginalized the most (i.e., bisexual, trans, and nonbinary individuals, as well as LGBTQ Black, Indigenous, and people of color). As a mixed-methods (quantitative/qualitative) researcher, Dr. Galupo has developed a grant-supported research program that focuses on building theoretical understandings at the intersection of sexual orientation and gender diversity, with a focus on nonbinary expressions of bisexual and transgender experience. She has published more than 90 peer-reviewed research articles and has developed six different research measures. Dr. Galupo is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association (APA) and was appointed recently to the APA Task Force for revising the Professional Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Transgender and Gender Nonconforming People. She serves as Editor of the Journal of GLBT Family Studies and the Journal of Bisexuality and as Associate Editor for the International Journal of Transgender Health (the official journal for the World Professional Association for Transgender Health). In 2019, Dr. Galupo was appointed as Editor for Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity (the official journal for APA's Division 44).

Phyllis B. Gerstenfeld, Ph.D., J.D.

Professor and Chair of Criminal Justice

California State University, Stanislaus

Phyllis Gerstenfeld, Ph.D., J.D., is Professor and Chair of Criminal Justice at California State University, Stanislaus. Her research primarily focuses on hate crime and extremism, including organized extremist groups and the legal and policy challenges associated with hate crime legislation. Dr. Gerstenfeld is the author of *Hate Crimes: Causes, Controls, and Controversies*, which is currently in its fourth edition. She has published articles centered on such topics as extremist groups' use of the internet, factors affecting decision making in hate crime cases, and situational antecedents of intergroup bias. Dr. Gerstenfeld's most current work stems from her experiences as a Fulbright Scholar in Croatia; she is leading a multinational team to explore future criminal justice professionals' attitudes toward lesbians and gay men. Dr. Gerstenfeld received her B.A. in Psychology from Reed College, and she received her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Psychology and her J.D. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Jeremy T. Goldbach, Ph.D., L.M.S.W.

Associate Professor and Chair, USC Social Behavioral Institutional Review Board

Director, Center for LGBT+ Health Equity, University of Southern California

Jeremy Goldbach, Ph.D., L.M.S.W., is Director of the Center for LGBTQ+ Health Equity. He joined the faculty in 2012 after completing both his master's and doctoral degrees in social work at The University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Goldbach's research is focused primarily on measuring, understanding, and intervening upon experiences of minority stress and discrimination among LGBTQ+ children and adolescents. His work has been supported by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institute on Drug Abuse, U.S. Department of Defense, and various foundations. Dr. Goldbach's practice background includes organizing both clinical and community programs.

SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP ON
VIOLENCE & *related health
outcomes in*
SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY COMMUNITIES

**Speaker/Moderator
Biographies**

Naomi G. Goldberg, M.P.P.

**Deputy Director and LGBTQ Program Director
Movement Advancement Project**

Naomi Goldberg, M.P.P., is the Deputy Director and LGBTQ Program Director at the Movement Advancement Project (MAP), an independent think tank focused on providing independent and rigorous research, insight, and communications that help speed equality and opportunity for all. For more than 12 years, she has focused on advancing LGBTQ public policy, with a focus on engaging, collaborative, and data-centered efforts. At MAP, Ms. Goldberg frequently collaborates with leading LGBTQ organizations and progressive allied organizations on issues that include LGBTQ people and the criminal justice system, the importance of marriage for same-sex couples and their families, and the challenges facing LGBTQ workers, LGBTQ women, and LGBTQ people of color. Her work has been published in the Archives of Sexual Behavior, Fertility and Sterility, and Journal of Health Psychology about findings from the U.S. Longitudinal Lesbian Family Study—a study analyzing data from the California Health Interview Survey about intimate partner violence in Journal of Interpersonal Violence. Ms. Goldberg also has written several book chapters about LGBTQ-parent families, their economic well-being, LGBTQ family law, and transgender people and their economic security. Prior to joining MAP, she completed a public policy fellowship at the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law. Ms. Goldberg received her undergraduate degree from Mount Holyoke College and Master's in Public Policy from the University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy.

Xavier L. Guadalupe-Diaz, Ph.D.

**Associate Professor and Criminology Program Coordinator
Framingham State University**

Xavier Guadalupe-Diaz, Ph.D., is Associate Professor and the Criminology Program Coordinator at Framingham State University. Dr. Guadalupe-Diaz's research focuses on various aspects of intimate partner and sexual violence within LGBTQ communities including help-seeking behaviors, police disclosure, transgender victimization, risk factors, emotional abuse, and identity. He has published numerous scholarly articles and chapters in such journals as Violence Against Women, Deviant Behavior, and the Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment, and Trauma. Dr. Guadalupe-Diaz is the author of the first scholarly book on transgender intimate partner violence—titled Transgressed: Intimate Partner Violence in Transgender Lives—by New York University Press (NYU Press) and co-editor of Transgender Intimate Partner Violence: A Comprehensive Introduction, also by NYU Press. He was recognized with his university's Distinguished Faculty Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activity. Dr. Guadalupe-Diaz's ongoing research includes theoretical work on queer(ing) #MeToo, abolition and queer(ing) victimology, and examinations of polyvictimization and intimate partner violence (IPV) help-seeking behavior among transgender survivors of IPV from the U.S. Transgender Survey. Dr. Guadalupe-Diaz serves on the editorial board of the SAGE journal Violence Against Women and serves as a Crime and Research Justice Alliance expert on violence in intimate relationships.

SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP ON **VIOLENCE** & *related health outcomes in* SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY COMMUNITIES

Speaker/Moderator Biographies

Jen Marchbank, Ph.D., M.A., FHEA

Professor

Simon Fraser University

Jen Marchbank, Ph.D., M.A., FHEA, is a Professor of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies at Simon Fraser University. She has authored, co-authored, and co-edited several publications—including *States of Conflict: Gender, Violence, and Resistance* (2000); *Women, Power, and Politics: Comparative Studies of Childcare* (2000); *Introduction to Gender: Social Science Perspectives* (2014); *Basically Queer: An Intergenerational Guide to LGBTQ2SIA+ Lives* (2017), and *Making Sense of a Global Pandemic: Relationship Violence & Working Together Towards a Violence Free Society* (2020) (ebook kpu.pressbooks.pub/nevr/). Dr. Marchbank is part of the LGBT Elder Abuse project—headed by Dr. Gloria Gutman of the Gerontology Research Centre at Simon Fraser University, also with Dr. Claire Robson (see www.sfu.ca/lgbteol/lgbt-elder-abuse-2.html)—that created Canada's first educational materials on LGBT Elder Abuse and is a member of NEVR—the Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships. Dr. Marchbank also researches resiliency in trans and nonbinary children and youth and is the co-founder and co-facilitator of Youth 4 Change, an LGBTQ2SIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, Two-Spirit, intersex, asexual, plus) activist youth group.

Adam G. McCormick, Ph.D., M.S.S.W.

Associate Professor of Social Work

St. Edward's University

Adam McCormick, Ph.D., M.S.S.W., is Associate Professor of Social Work at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, and teaches courses in child welfare and social work with families. Dr. McCormick has a number of research interests, including LGBTQ youth in the child welfare system, the relationship rights of siblings in foster care, the intersections of child welfare and immigration, and masculinity and violence. He is the author of books about LGBTQ youth in the foster care system, such as *Empowering Approaches to an Inclusive System of Care and Supporting LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care: A Guide for Foster Caregivers*, and he currently is working on a book project that explores the impact of harmful masculinity on boys and young men and strategies social workers can use to address these issues in practice. Dr. McCormick is a frequent contributor to a number of media outlets on a range of topics related to social work.

Adam M. Messinger, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Northeastern Illinois University

Adam Messinger, Ph.D., (pronouns: He/Him/His) is an Associate Professor of Justice Studies and of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Northeastern Illinois University, where he researches intimate partner violence (IPV) in the relationships of LGBTQ people, with a focus on causal pathways and help-seeking behaviors. Dr. Messinger is the co-editor of *Transgender Intimate Partner Violence: A Comprehensive Introduction* (Messinger and Guadalupe-Diaz, 2020, New York University Press) and the author of *LGBTQ Intimate Partner Violence: Lessons for Policy, Practice, and Research* (Messinger, 2017, University of California Press)—books that offer an in-depth look at the last 40 years of LGBTQ IPV research and that have drawn evidence-based tips for future public policy and service provision.

SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP ON
VIOLENCE & *related health
outcomes in*
SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY COMMUNITIES

**Speaker/Moderator
Biographies**

Karen L. Parker, Ph.D., M.S.W.

Director

**Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office (SGMRO)
National Institutes of Health**

Karen L. Parker is the Director of the Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office (SGMRO) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Dr. Parker was instrumental in the formation of the office in fall of 2015 and was appointed Director in June 2016. In her role as Director, Dr. Parker is co-chair of the trans-NIH Sexual and Gender Minority Research Coordinating Committee (RCC), a committee on which she has served since its inception in 2011, and co-chair of the NIH SGM Research Working Group of the Council of Councils. Dr. Parker is also a member of the NIH Anti-Harassment Steering Committee and serves as the co-chair of the NIH Office of the Director Anti-Harassment Champions Working Group. Additionally, she sits as an ad-hoc member on the Advisory Committee to the NIH Director Working Group on Diversity. Dr. Parker is involved in several SGM-related initiatives beyond NIH. She serves as co-chair of the Measuring Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Research Group, an entity of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, as well as co-chair for the Department of Health and Human Services LGBT Coordinating Committee. Previously, Dr. Parker worked at the National Cancer Institute for 14 years, where she served as Acting Branch Chief in the NCI Office of Science Planning and Assessment and as Special Assistant to the President's Cancer Panel. She began her career at NIH in 2001 as a Presidential Management Fellow. Dr. Parker received her Bachelor of Arts in English from Indiana University and her Master of Social Work from the University of Michigan, where she studied community organization, social policy, and evaluation. She subsequently completed her Ph.D. at the University of Maryland, School of Social Work.

June C. Paul, Ph.D., M.S.W.

**Assistant Professor, Social Work Department
Skidmore College**

June Paul, Ph.D., M.S.W., is an Assistant Professor in the Social Work Department at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. Her research examines public and community-based programs and policies for vulnerable children, youth, and families, with an explicit focus on intersectionality and disproportionality among dimensions of race, class, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Using a community-based approach, Dr. Paul investigates the origins, structures, and consequences of discrimination and social injustice in child welfare, juvenile justice, and other social service settings, with a particular focus on advancing strategies for providing more equitable and effective care and services to sexual and/or gender minorities. Prior to obtaining her Ph.D., she worked in the field of human services for nearly 17 years as a direct service practitioner, policy advisor, and statewide administrator in both public child welfare and education in Wisconsin. Dr. Paul received her M.S.W. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP ON **VIOLENCE** & *related health outcomes in* SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY COMMUNITIES

Speaker/Moderator Biographies

Elizabeth C. Payne, Ph.D.

Director

QuERI - The Queering Education Research Institute

Elizabeth Payne, Ph.D., is Founder and Director of QuERI - The Queering Education Research Institute and is education faculty at the City University of New York. QuERI is dedicated to bridging the gaps between research, policy, and practice in support of LGBTQ+ students. She is a sociologist of education, with a focus on gender and sexual minorities. Dr. Payne's research explores anti-bullying discourses, state-level LGBT-inclusive anti-bullying policy and its implementation, educator experiences working with gender and sexual minority students, and the school experiences of LGBTQ+ young people. She serves on the New York State Dignity for All Students Act Task Force and works directly with the New York State Education Department and the State legislature toward more effective research-based policy for LGBTQ students and families. Dr. Payne worked with the U.S. Department of Justice on the historic application of Title IX to LGBTQ student harassment cases and served on the 2020 Biden/Harris LGBTQ Public Policy Committee. Her applied work additionally addresses state-level sex education and HIV education policy, as well as policies related to teacher education and school climate. Dr. Payne teaches courses on LGBTQ issues in education, public policy, qualitative research methods, and foundations of education. Her forthcoming edited volume, *Queer Kids, School Violence, and the Limits of "Bullying,"* brings together leading international scholars to challenge the current limits of anti-bullying efforts in support of gender and sexual minority students. Dr. Payne was a high school English teacher in Houston, Texas, before completing her Ph.D.

Jillian R. Scheer, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology
Syracuse University

Jillian Scheer, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at Syracuse University and a licensed counseling psychologist. Dr. Scheer earned a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology at Boston College and completed a predoctoral internship accredited by the American Psychological Association at Mount Sinai St. Luke's in New York City. She also completed a T32 postdoctoral research fellowship funded by the National Institute of Mental Health at the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS at the Yale University School of Public Health. Dr. Scheer is Principal Investigator (PI) of the Minority Stress and Trauma Lab at Syracuse University; her multi-method program of research broadly focuses on (1) examining potentially traumatic events, such as dating and sexual violence, and stigma-related stressors, such as rejection and discrimination, as determinants of sexual and gender minority (SGM) individuals' poor mental and behavioral health; (2) identifying cognitive, affective, and behavioral pathways through which trauma and stigma-related stress affect diverse sexual and gender minorities' health; (3) understanding contextual and structural predictors of dating and sexual violence among SGM youth and adults; and (4) developing trauma-informed, evidence-based prevention and intervention efforts aimed to reduce SGM individuals' comorbid post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms and hazardous drinking. Dr. Scheer's laboratory currently is launching a national multiwave ecological momentary assessment study examining trauma-exposed sexual minority women's help-seeking behaviors, PTSD symptoms, and alcohol use in near real time and also is conducting a meta-analysis of the prevalence of PTSD symptoms and comorbid alcohol-related outcomes among sexual minority women.

Rob Stephenson, Ph.D., M.Sc., M.A.

**Sylvia S. Hacker Collegiate Professor of Nursing and Sexual Health
Chair, Department of Systems, Population and Leadership, School of Nursing
Director, Center for Sexuality and Health Disparities
University of Michigan**

Rob Stephenson, Ph.D., M.Sc., M.A., is the Sylvia S. Hacker Collegiate Professor of Nursing and Sexual Health and Chair of the Department of Systems, Population, and Leadership in the School of Nursing at the University of Michigan. He also directs the Center for Sexuality and Health Disparities (www.sexualityandhealth.org). Trained as a demographer and an epidemiologist, Dr. Stephenson's work focuses on sexual and reproductive health among vulnerable populations, with specific foci on HIV prevention for sexual and gender minorities. His mission is to develop and test culturally appropriate HIV prevention interventions for gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM) and for transgender- and gender-diverse populations, including HIV testing and counseling for male couples, testing dyadic models of care and online service provision to reduce barriers to accessing HIV. Dr. Stephenson particularly is interested in the intersections of social stress, violence, and HIV risk, with projects that examine how the social stressors experienced by LGBT people may shape their experiences of intimate partner violence (IPV) and HIV risk-related behaviors. He also works on the use of technology and mHealth to influence HIV testing and linkage to HIV care for GBMSM and for transgender and gender-diverse groups. Dr. Stephenson developed the IPV-GBM Scale—the first scale to measure IPV as specifically experienced by GBMSM. His currently funded research examines the impact of IPV on viral suppression and engagement in care among GBMSM living with HIV, as well as the behavioral, biological, and immunological pathways between IPV and HIV risk for GBMSM.

Karina Walters, Ph.D., M.S.W.

**Associate Dean for Research, Professor, and Katherine Hall Chambers Scholar
Co-Director, Indigenous Wellness Research Institute
University of Washington**

Karina Walters, Ph.D., M.S.W., an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is the Associate Dean for Research, the Katherine Hall Chambers Scholar, and the Co-Director and Principal Investigator of the Indigenous Wellness Research Institute (IWRI; National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities [NIMHD] P60MD006909) at the University of Washington. IWRI is one of 16 NIMHD Comprehensive Centers of Excellence and one of two devoted to American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) research in the country. Dr. Walters has more than 20 years of experience in social epidemiological research on the historical, social, and cultural determinants of health among AIAN populations, as well as chronic disease prevention research (e.g., HIV, AOD, obesity). She has presented at more than 350 national and international conferences; was an invited speaker for Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (WALS) at the National Institutes of Health; and was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. Dr. Walters received her B.A. (Sociology) in 1987, her M.S.W. (Clinical) in 1990, and her Ph.D. in 1995, all from the University of California, Los Angeles.

SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOP ON
VIOLENCE & *related health
outcomes in*
SEXUAL & GENDER MINORITY COMMUNITIES

**Speaker/Moderator
Biographies**

Sarah Whitton, Ph.D.

**Professor, Psychology Department
Director, Behavioral Health Center
University of Cincinnati**

Sarah Whitton, Ph.D., is a Professor of the Psychology Department and Director of the Behavioral Health Center at the University of Cincinnati. She received her Ph.D. in 2004 from the University of Denver, where she studied links between couple relationships and depression, and the effects of PREP, an evidence based relationship education program. She then completed a 3 year NIMH-funded postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard Medical School/Judge Baker Children's Center, studying family influences on offspring's mental health and intimate relationships. From 2007-2009, Dr. Whitton was research faculty at Boston University. She joined the Psychology department at the University of Cincinnati in 2010. Dr. Whitton's current research interests are largely focused on the intimate relationships of sexual minorities (LGBT individuals). In 2016 she launched a 5-year NIH funded study of healthy and unhealthy/violent relationships in LGBT adolescents and young adults (FAB400). She is also a co-investigator on two studies at Northwestern University evaluating 2GETHER, a couples-based intervention to reduce HIV risk among young MSM. Dr. Whitton continues to work on refining, testing, and broadening the reach of the Strengthening Same Sex Relationship Programs, relationship education programs she developed to be culturally sensitive for use with same-sex couples.

Michele Ybarra, Ph.D., M.P.H.

**President and Research Director
Center for Innovative Public Health Research**

Michele Ybarra, Ph.D., M.P.H., is a recognized public health researcher with a focus on technology-related health issues for young people. She has published extensively in the areas of youth violence—particularly technology-mediated violence—and has led more than 10 federally funded research projects. Dr. Ybarra was one of the first researchers to study the mental health correlates of youth internet harassment victimization and perpetration, and she subsequently led research that contextualized bullying victimization and perpetration behaviors online with those that were enacted offline. Dr. Ybarra also is known for her contributions to research methodology as it relates to technology-based adolescent health behavior change interventions. She is the President and Research Director of the Center for Innovative Public Health Research, a nonprofit research incubator located in Orange County, California. Dr. Ybarra earned her doctorate in child mental health services research from the Department of Mental Health at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, where she is currently an Adjunct Professor.