

Hafiz Anwar Ahmad, Ph.D.



Dr. H. Anwar Ahmad, a tenured professor in Biology-Environmental Science and Director Bioinformatics and Biostatistics Core at Jackson State University, possesses over 25 years of higher education experience, including teaching, research, consulting, and grant management. Besides teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in Biostatistics, Computational Biology, Risk Analysis and Information Systems.

Dr. Ahmad provide consulting services to faculty and researchers in various aspects of experimental designs and data management in US and abroad. Dr. Ahmad has been actively involved in multidisciplinary and multifunctional collaborative research nationally and internationally with organizations, such as US Department of Agriculture (Quantitative Risk Assessment Studies of Food borne Illnesses), US Department of State (Establishing a Biostatistician Consulting Center in Pakistan), etc.

Dr. Ahmad possesses extensive publication record with over 100 peer reviewed research papers, abstracts and conference proceedings. Some of his research areas include: 1) Biostatistics Education and Consulting, 2) Neural Network Modeling of Physiological Variables, 3) Microbial Risk Assessment, and 4) Animal Growth and Nutrition Modeling.

Dr. Ahmad formal education includes BS, MS, and Ph.D. in animal sciences, MBA and MS in computer information systems. He has participated in various short-term training, such as bioinformatics, risk analysis, recombinant DNA technology, teaching methodology, and international relations.

Njwen Anyangwe, Ph.D.



Dr. Njwen Anyangwe is Adjunct Professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences at Howard University, Washington D.C. She has over 17 years of higher education experience teaching biochemistry, biology, food science, organic chemistry, or nutrition and health courses at the University of Buea (Buea, Cameroon), Wayne State University (Detroit, Michigan), Madonna University (Livonia, Michigan) and Howard University, Washington D.C.

Dr. Anyangwe has substantial expertise in chemical risk assessment, scientific literature search, preclinical data review, scientific writing, molecular biology review, and allergenicity assessment. She has 10 years of experience as a regulatory toxicologist, conducting safety evaluations and risk assessments of food and dietary ingredients. She has several years of experience as a toxicology and food safety consultant, where she provided regulatory and technical support to clients including: strategy; advice; toxicology guidance; reviewed study protocols; evaluated toxicology data packages, identified data gaps, and made recommendations; bioinformatics analysis; molecular biology review; allergenicity analysis; and product characterization.

Dr. Anyangwe is a multidisciplinary scientist with education and experience in biochemistry, nutrition, cancer biology, molecular biology, nutrition, and regulatory toxicology. She holds a Ph.D. in Nutrition and Food Science with emphasis in Cancer Biology. She holds an M.S. degree in Medical Biochemistry and a B.S. degree in Biochemistry (First Class Honors).

Dr. Anyangwe is a member of several professional organizations including the American Society for Nutrition, the Association for Women in Science, the Food and Drug Law Institute, Genetic Toxicology Association, Society of Toxicology and the African Society for Toxicological Sciences.

Anthony E. Archibong, Ph.D.

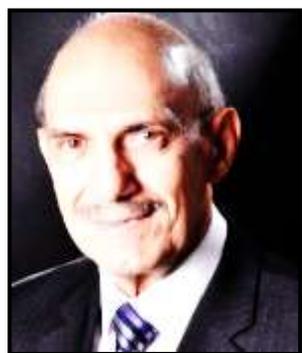


Dr. Anthony E. Archibong received a Ph.D. from Oregon State University, in the area of Reproductive Endocrinology and conducted post-doctoral research in the Department of Animal Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, in Embryo Physiology. He subsequently conducted another post-doctoral research at the Oregon National Primate Research Center, in Gamete Science. Dr. Archibong is currently an Associate Professor and Director of: 1). Endocrine Core laboratory; 2) Graduate Studies, Department of Physiology at Meharry Medical College. He is also an American Board of Bioanalysis (ABB) Certified Andrologist.

Dr. Archibong's expertise is in mammalian reproductive biology and the molecular mechanism(s) of environmental influence on reproductive function. He is particularly interested in the adverse effects of environmental pollutants on the hormones that regulate male and female gonadal function, gamete interaction and pre-implantation embryo development; and preservation of fertility using stem cell technology. He has served on the editorial boards, of *Biology of Reproduction*, *Archives of Andrology* and *Advances in Reproduction* and had served as a reviewer for *Journal of Animal Science*, *Theriogenology* and *Journal of Endocrinology*. He is currently a reviewer for *Biology of Reproduction*, *Fertility Sterility*, *Asian Journal of Andrology*, *Toxicology Letters* and *Andrologia*. He served two terms in the UDSA Animal Reproduction Study Section.

Dr. Archibong served on the Minority Affairs Committee of the Society for the Study of Reproduction for 14 years, a committee saddled with the responsibility of mentoring and encouraging Minority Students to take up profession in Biomedical Sciences. He served holds a fertility patent (Bombesin-like peptides and their receptor antagonists for fertility and contraception) and one pending patent for an apparatus for harvesting highly motile human spermatozoa from semen. His work in reproductive biology/toxicology is well published in reputable peer reviewed scientific journals.

Mohamed-Bassem Ashour, Ph.D.



Dr. Mohamed-Bassem Ashour, Professor of Molecular and Environmental Toxicology, former Vice President, Zagazig University, Egypt for Community Service and Environment Development. Former Dean Faculty of Agriculture. He was Vice Dean for Post Graduate Studies and Research Affairs, and Executive Director, Zagazig University Projects Management Unit (PMU). Dr. Ashour earned his B.Sc. degree in pesticides from Ain Shams University, Egypt in 1972; M.Sc. in pesticide biochemistry and residue analysis in 1976; and Ph.D. degree in chemistry of pesticide and environmental toxicology from Zagazig University, Egypt in 1979.

Dr. Ashour is the Rapporteur of the Standing Committee of the Supreme Council of Universities to promote faculty members in Pesticide Toxicology, Entomology, Zoology and Plant Pathology. He is Member of a Committee for peer reviewing Research Projects funded by the International Cooperation, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. He has been working as Zagazig University contact person for Interuniversity Learning in Higher Education on Advanced Land Management Project; co-funded by the Erasmus+programme of the European Union. He is a Professional expert on the Council of Community Service and Environment Development, Zagazig University.

Dr. Ashour has over 40 years of experience in contaminants research and has published several original research papers and reviews in peer review national and international scientific journals, and has written several book chapters. His research interests focus on source, degradation, exposure, metabolism and health impact of environmental contaminants including Chemical- and bio-pesticides . He got a 3- year post doctoral fellow in Departments of Entomology and Environmental Toxicology, University of California, Davis, USA in the areas of molecular and environmental toxicology. The research work involved characterizing esterases responsible for degrading pesticides and drugs in mammalian tissues including those from humans; a novel series of transition state mimic esterase inhibitors; immunoassays of toxic chemicals in the environment; work on recombinant DNA technology; and the use of a 96- well micro plate reader for measuring routine enzyme activities was established. He received training fellow from the French government in pesticide biotechnology and toxicology at the National Institute of Agricultural Research (INRA), National School of Veterinary in Lyon, and University of Saint- Etienne in France. He is recipient of several major research grants from Egyptian government and international funding sources including Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, Supreme Council of Egyptian Universities, Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, and USAID.

Dr. Ashour was a member of the committee of risk assessment protocols for pesticides and hazardous chemicals; Supreme committee of Pesticides, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation; the high committee of genetic engineering and biotechnology; Supreme Council of Egyptian Universities; and member of the Middle East and North Africa Water and Livelihoods Initiative: Improving rural livelihoods through sustainable water and land use management in 9 countries, USAID and ICARDA (International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas). He has been working as editorial board member of national and international journals including International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. He has been acting as a reviewer for several scientific journals and for the committee of the faculty members promotion at the Supreme Council of Egyptian Universities.

Dr. Ashour has given keynote, invited speech, and been a member of scientific advisor committee in national and international conferences. Member of monitoring and evaluation committee for Impact Assessment of Higher Education Enhancement Projects. He shared in establishment of the university strategic plan. Dr. Ashour has been involved in teaching and developing academic programs in pesticide biochemistry, environmental and molecular toxicology , environmental pollution and decontamination, sustainable Land Management ,Environmental and health risk assessment and management . He has supervised several M.Sc. and Ph.D. students.

Márcio Ribeiro Barbosa, MD, Ph.D.



Dr. Márcio Ribeiro Barbosa is a Plastic Surgeon who serves as Surgeon and Researcher in three hospitals in the Sao Paulo state. After obtaining his MD, he became a Resident Doctor from 1993 to 1996, in General Surgery at the Hospital of Clinics in the College of Medicine, University of São Paulo, doing a lot of scientific works in surgery and plastic surgery. From 1996 to 1999 he became a Plastic Surgeon, and was recognizes as a specialist by the Brazilian Society of Plastic Surgery in 2000.

Dr. Barbosa's professional experience include: Oncoplastic Surgery in Institute of Cancer Arnaldo Vieira de Carvalho (1996), Female Oncoplastic Reconstruction Surgery in Female Hospital Perola Biyngton (1999), Infants and Pediatric Plastic

Surgery in Pediatric Hospital Jesus Boy (1999) and Burns Unit of Hospital Tatuapé (1998) and Hospital of Clinics of College of Medicine of University of São Paulo (1994).

Dr. Barbosa currently serves as vice-director of Center of Teaching and Research of Santa Cruz Hospital in Sao Paulo-Brazil. He is graduating in Chemistry Engineering. He works in Researches with Nano carriers and effluents of waste water, and have post-graduation degrees in Chemistry and Management & Strategy.

Jorge Ble-Castillo, Ph.D.



Dr. Jorge Ble-Castillo, did his undergraduate studies in Chemistry at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (Mexico City), specializing in clinical biochemistry. He finished a Mastership in Biomedical Sciences in the Juarez Autonomous University of Tabasco. Later on, he obtained his Ph.D. degree in Medicine Research of the Superior Medicine School, National Polytechnic Institute in Mexico City.

Dr. Ble is currently a Professor-Researcher in the Juarez Autonomous University of Tabasco. He is a biochemistry professor to medical and postgraduate students. His research interests are in the areas of biomedical science with a special emphasis on metabolic alterations in chronic diseases. His specific topics of research are: a) The effects of resistant starch on glycemic and insulinemic responses in animal models and subjects with obesity or diabetes, b) The effects of magnesium and coffee supplementation in type 2 diabetic patients, c) The beneficial effects of plants derivatives in diabetes prevention and treatment and d) The effects of resistant starch on metabolic control and appetite control in subjects with diabetes, which is his current topic of research. Additional interests include the study of oxidative stress and treatment of pain in diabetes.

Dr. Ble belongs to the National Researchers System of the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) in Mexico.

Vincent Bond, Ph.D.



Dr. Vincent Bond, Professor and Chair of MBI at Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM), has studied HIV pathogenesis for 25 years serving as editor and reviewer for several leading virological journals, authoring/co-authoring over 225 scientific communications. These communications include: 110+ abstracts/magazine articles/media presentations, ten patent applications, eight granted patents, and 70+ publications, 31 of which are articles in peer-reviewed journals focused on aspects of HIV pathogenesis research. He received his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. at the Pennsylvania State University in Viral Genetics, and subsequently, did a postdoctoral fellowship at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in Cell Biology. He came to MSM in 1990 as Assistant Professor. He has been an active participant in the Emory CFAR as an adjunct member for over 10 years being involved in HIV-related activities such as the CFAR Science Council, WIHS Science Advisory Board, and Fulton County HIV/AIDS Task Force. During that time he has mentored 46 undergraduate, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty as part of his research activities.

INVITED SPEAKERS & ORAL PRESENTERS

As one of the lead researchers on the HIV research team at MSM, Dr. Bond has developed evidence that exosomes significantly contribute to immune activation, bystander CD4 T cell depletion, and HIV propagation via bystander cell activation during HIV infection. The team has shown this to occur through release of exosomes from HIV-infected cells that induce apoptosis in bystander uninfected CD4+ T cells. In HIV infected, viremic patients, exosomes circulating in the plasma were found to be enriched for a host of pro-inflammatory cytokines which induce immune activation in naive and central memory CD4 and CD8 T cells, one of the hallmarks of HIV infection, and well established as one of the strongest predictors of HIV disease progression. They have also shown the relevance of HIV exosomes to pathogenesis in a humanized mouse model, and are developing similar data in the macaque model. This patented work has uniquely positioned his group to decipher the triggering mechanisms underlying HIV disease. It has also led to potential new targets for AIDS therapy, as well as having uncovered a potential therapeutic antagonist against those cellular targets.

The described antagonist has been shown to modulate a cellular protein important in multiple cellular processes, and deregulated in cancer, IBD, bacterial pathogenesis, and biofilm formation. Dr Bond has formed a start-up company (Orunmila Pharma, Inc) that is developing the therapeutic potential of the antagonist, initially targeting its cancer chemo-preventive attributes.

Azad R. Bhuiyan, MD, Ph.D.



Dr. Azad R Bhuiyan is a tenured Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health (Initiative) at Jackson State University, Jackson, MS. He received M.P.H degree in Epidemiology in 2000 and the Ph.D. in Public Health with a concentration in Epidemiology in 2007 from Tulane University, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana.

As a former practicing physician in Bangladesh, Dr. Bhuiyan received his medical degree in 1996 from Sir Salimullah Medical College, Dhaka University, Bangladesh. A committed instructor, an avid Public health researcher and a prolific scholar,

Dr. Bhuiyan is known both internationally and at home for his work, which has appeared in several public health peer-reviewed journals, conference presentations and a book. Currently, he is working on RCMI-CEH Grant No. G12MD007581. His pilot research project is entitled “Progression of Metabolic Syndrome in Relation to Depression Symptoms and Inflammatory Biomarker: The Bogalusa Heart Study”.

Gloria Calaf, Ph.D.



Dr. Gloria Calaf is a full professor and Director of Instituto de Alta Investigación, Tarapacá University in Arica, Chile and Adjunct Research Scientist at Columbia University Medical Center of New York. She received her MS and PhD degrees in Biological Sciences at Michigan State University, East Lansing Michigan. After completing her PhD research, she joined University of Chile in Chile, then Michigan Cancer Foundation in Detroit, Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, PA and afterwards Columbia University in New York. Her research interest is in Environmental and Hormonal carcinogenesis, developing in vitro and in vivo breast cancer models to understand initiation promotion and prevention of breast cancer by the effects of either pesticides or

radiation in presence of hormones.

Dr. Calaf has identified several genes associated with such processes, and among them c-Ha-ras, a pivotal one in the transformation process by the effect of environmental substances. Her current research project is focused on drug resistance and genomic instability in breast carcinogenesis. She has published 130 research papers in peer reviewed journals and has presented her research in several conferences, symposiums and Twelfth International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research INVITED SPEAKERS & ORAL PRESENTERS Page | 17 workshops. She was a member of the Halifax project “Getting to know cancer to assess the carcinogenic potential of low dose exposures to chemical mixtures in the environment; and also by International Agency for Cancer Research (IARC) to participate in the Monograph Volume 112: to evaluate the carcinogenic risk to humans of organophosphate insecticides and herbicides: as malathion, parathion, and others.

Dr. Calaf is a member of American Association for Cancer Research, Tissue Culture Association, New York Academy of Sciences, International Association for Breast Cancer Research, among others. She has served as a reviewer for many peer-reviewed journals as well as Chilean grants. She is currently in charge of the Biology of Cancer laboratory at Tarapacá University in Arica, Chile and she has held several grants from American and Chilean institutions.

Edmond E. Creppy, Ph.D.



Dr. Edmond E. Creppy (Pharm. D, PhD, ERT), Pharmacist, Chemist, PhD Doctorate in Toxicology, and Director of Toxicology Laboratory, University Bordeaux. He was also the Laureate of the National Academy of Medicine (2001). He has served in the following capacities: Honorary President of the SFT (French Society of Toxicology) since 2005; President of the SFT, 2001-2003; Member of Executive Committee of EUROTOX (1998- 2004). Honorary member of the EUROTOX since 2010. Member of the Order of International Experts. European EUROTOX Toxicologist since 1997 (list United Kingdom). Member of the Commission on toxic and biological risks AFSSET and ANSES (French Agency for Environmental Health Safety and Food Safety) since its creation. National Educational Manager for the Training of Pharmacists of the national Fire Brigades by contract signed between Bordeaux University and the National School of Firemen Officers (ENSOSP) Aix en Provence. Visiting Professor in several African Universities since 1990 including Benin, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Senegal and Togo. Responsible since 2016 for drafting the new agreement between Togo and the Pierre FABRE Foundation for Pharmaceutical Sciences in Africa.

Dr. Creppy was the winner of the National University Teachers' recruitment competitions, contests Aggregation of Higher Education (ranked 1st) in June 1989. University Tenure Professor Title Holder since 1989. First Class Professor in 1996. Promoted to University Professor of Exceptional Class, at national level, since 2013. Member of following Scientific Societies - International Society Toxinology (1983) - European Society of Toxicology (1987) - individual member of EUROTOX (1989) date of its creation. - The British Toxicology Society, UK (1990) - The Society of Toxicology (USA) in 1995. Promotor of many international symposia in Toxicology and Toxinology. Author of more than 75 invited lectures. Director of 30 PhD theses, 20 of which are from the French speaking countries of Africa and Madagascar, including Togo. 2 PhD theses in progress. Holder of French, European and American patents. Member of the editorial boards of major international journal of Toxicology. Author of more than 260 international publications.

Mark A. DeCoster, Ph.D.



Dr. Mark A. DeCoster is the James E. Wyche III Professor of Engineering in the Department of Biomedical Engineering and Institute for Micro manufacturing at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana, USA. He received his Ph.D. degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics from the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, Virginia.

After completing his Ph.D. research, Dr. DeCoster served as a Captain in the United States Army. He was stationed at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, D.C., where he conducted neuroscience research. Before joining Louisiana Tech University, he was an Assistant Professor at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. He has published over 65 research papers, manuscripts, and book chapters, and currently holds 3 patents. This work has resulted in over 2,150 citations. His current research is focused on combining nanotechnology and neuroscience to understand the healthy and diseased brain, including cancer. He has served on numerous review panels for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and for the National Science Foundation (NSF), as well as for other granting agencies. Past projects in the lab have been funded from NIH, NSF, and other sources, and he currently has multiple projects funded from the NSF.

Waneene C. Dorsey, Ph.D.



Dr. Waneene C. Dorsey, Ernest Everett Just Endowed Professor - 2013 to 2017, Department of Biological Sciences, is a tenured professor at Grambling State University. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Microbiology from Southern University, Baton Rouge, LA; Masters of Arts in Teaching degree in Natural Sciences from Grambling State University (GSU), Grambling, LA; and Doctor of Philosophy degree in Environmental Science – Toxicology from Jackson State University, Jackson, MS. Currently, she is the Director of the Molecular Toxicology Research Laboratory at GSU. Her focal research interest is signal transduction in murine hepatocytes exposed to organochlorine compounds.

From 2006 to 2008, Dr. Dorsey served as Director of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-Water Quality Research Program (WQRP) where she investigated heavy metal translocation in recreational waters in six parishes located in the northeast Louisiana watershed. A significant highlight of the EPA-WQRP program was that 19 K-12 teachers in six Louisiana parishes were taught to perform water parameters on local recreational waters as well as the importance of water quality management. As a NCATE/CAEP liaison for the GSU Department of Curriculum and Instruction, she serves as the University Supervisor for Teacher Candidates in Secondary Biology Education. She was the team leader for NCATE/CAEP National Recognition of the GSU Secondary Biology Education Program

Dr. Dorsey is a reviewer for McGraw-Hill Publishers' undergraduate biology textbooks, and International Peer-Review Science Journals. She is a Council Member for Economic Development for the City of Grambling and a recipient of various civic awards. As an avid educator, her desire is to get middle school, high school, and undergraduate students excited about the dynamics of science. Funded by the GRAD Act, she previously supervised high school teachers, who teach college-level biology courses for the GSU Dual-Enrollment Program.

Dr. Dorsey is highly published in scientific journals and has presented research findings at various conferences. Some of her investigations also include analyzing ocean satellite imagery by using NASA Giovanni data. Most recently, Dr. Dorsey received a Research Competitive Subprogram grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents and a Louisiana Biomedical Research Network award.

Roy Duhé, Ph.D.



Dr. Roy J. Duhé, a native of Norco, Louisiana, received a BS in Biochemistry from Louisiana State University and a PhD in Biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin, followed by postdoctoral training at the University of Washington. He then joined the laboratory of Dr. William L. Farrar at the National Cancer Institute – FCRDC, where he cloned the rat jak2 cDNA and established his expertise in cytokine signal transduction and cancer biology.

In 1999 Dr. Duhé was recruited to the University of Mississippi Medical Center, where he is currently the Associate Director for Cancer Education of the UMMC Cancer Institute, Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, and Professor of Radiation Oncology. His public service awards include the 2011 St. George National Award from the American Cancer Society.

In concert with many key stakeholders throughout the state of Mississippi, Dr. Duhé leads the 70x2020 CRC Screening Initiative to ensure that at least 70% of Mississippians are up-to-date with recommended colorectal cancer screening by the year 2020.

Jimmy T. Efird, Ph.D.



Dr. Jimmy T. Efird is Chair of Public Health Statistics at the University of Newcastle (UoN) and Director of the Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics. He also jointly holds the position of Assistant Director and Chief Statistician of the Center for Health Disparities at Brody School of Medicine and Director of Epidemiology and Outcomes Research at the East Carolina Heart Institute.

Dr Efird specializes in multivariate statistical simulation, closed-testing methods for multiplicity adjustment, sinusoidal Cox regression, mixed-effects modelling, and risk stratification/predictive analytics. His key areas of application include vulnerable populations, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and obesity.

Dr. Efird received his doctorate from Stanford University School of Medicine and has over 232 publications in scientific journals and technical proceedings (i10-index=96, h-index=44, citations=7,853). Additionally, he serves as Specialty Chief Editor of *Frontiers in Epidemiology* and Editor-in-Chief of *Cancer Informatics*.

Ibrahim O. Farah, Ph.D.



Dr. Ibrahim O. Farah is Professor of Biology, Director of the graduate program in Biology and Director of the JSU Animal Core Facilities, College of Science, Engineering and Technology, Jackson State University. Dr. Farah graduated with a DVM (1977) and MVSc (1983) from the University of Khartoum in Sudan. He also earned an MS degree in Public health (1981) from the Royal University of Denmark and an MPH (1985) as well as a Ph.D. (1988) from the University of Minnesota, USA.

Dr. Farah is an academic editor, reviewer or member of the editorial board for more than 16 peer-reviewed journals including Annual Review and Research in Biology and advances in Biology and Biotechnology (Academic Editor), the International Journal of Experimental Pathology, Biomedical Sciences Instrumentation (board member), the British and Saudi Medical journals as well as panel review member for proposals submitted to DOD, DOE, EPA and the American Biological Institute (ABI). He has received many awards and honors and is a past president of the Mississippi Academy of Sciences. Dr. Farah authored and co-authored more than 200 peer-reviewed publications, book chapters and presentations as well as published abstracts in various journals, meetings, conferences and symposia.

Dr. Farah's core interests include: Bioactive Compounds; Medical Microbiology; Food Microbiology; Environmental Microbiology, Health and Food Safety, Molecular and Cellular Microbiology, Biomedical Sciences and biotechnology Fermentation Technology and Animal Research. The current primary research focus has been to understand/exploit the metabolic differences between cancer and normal phenotypes in many organ-associated cancers including those of the lungs, breast, liver and the prostate. These include: (1) Implementing metabolic modulations of cellular homeostatic/energetic deregulation. (2) Understanding the differential metabolic/energetic deregulation mechanisms involved in the development of obesity as a chronic entity as well as in its relation to cancer phenotypes and (3) The experimental modulation and utility of natural biotherapeutics.

Ebenezer Olatunde Farombi, Ph.D.



Dr. Ebenezer Olatunde Farombi is a Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Toxicology, Fellow Royal Society of Chemistry (FRSC) UK, Fellow Nigerian Academy of Science (FAS), Fellow Academy of Toxicological Sciences (ATS) and Fellow African Academy of Science (FAAS) holds B Sc (Hons) and Ph.D Degrees in Biochemistry from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He was postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Biochemistry, University of Liverpool, UK and visiting scientist at the Institute of Food Safety and Toxicology, Copenhagen, as well as Institute of Environmental and Occupational Medicine, University of Aarhus, Denmark. A former Head of Department of Biochemistry, former Dean, Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, University of Ibadan, he is

currently the Director Molecular Drug Metabolism and Toxicology Research Laboratories in the same University and currently serves as Vice-President of the Society for Free Radical Research (SFRR)-Africa. He is also presently the Editor in Chief of Toxicology Digest, the official journal of the West Africa Society of Toxicology (WASOT).

Professor Farombi's research areas over the past 20 years have been on Molecular Toxicology, Cellular Oxidative Stress Mechanisms, Reproductive and Environmental Toxicology, Antioxidant Redox

Biochemistry, Nutraceuticals as Prophylactic agents and Nutrigenomics as well as natural product Biotechnology. He is known nationally and internationally for his novel works on the elucidation of the Biochemical and Molecular Mechanisms of Chemoprevention of phytochemicals including Kolaviron, a natural antioxidant biflavonoid from the seed of *Garcinia Kola* (Bitter kola). Worthy of note his scientific impact globally has been recognized following the February 2015 Webometric Ranking of Nigerian scientists wherein he was Top-rated (Ranked Number 1 Nigerian Scientist) with h-index of 35, i10-index of 86 and 4,156 citations.

Professor Farombi has been Visiting Professor to Seoul National University, South Korea (2005-2006); Institute of Nutrition, Friedrich-Schiller University of Jena, Germany (2007), University of Chicago, USA (2010-2011), Cape Peninsular University of Technology, Cape Town, South Africa (2011) and Indiana University, Bloomington, USA (2014). He is a recipient of several International Fellowships and Grants including the 2014 Society of Toxicology SOT (USA) Global Senior Scholar Exchange Toxicology Fellowship.

A very effective, productive and innovative researcher, supervisor and mentor, Professor Farombi has supervised over 80 BSc, 150 MSc and 21 PhD students in Biochemistry and Toxicology. He is the supervisor of the adjudged best PhD Thesis in the discipline of Basic Medical Sciences within the Nigeria University system during 2009 assessment by NUC. Professor Farombi has recently edited a book titled “Nutritional Antioxidants in Cancer and Degenerative Diseases” with contributors from Nigeria, Cameroon, USA, Mauritius, South Africa, Japan and Denmark. He has published 190 scientific articles in reputable international journals, 12 chapters in books, and given over 80 invited lectures in countries spanning 4 continents of the world.

Emma Fernández-Repollet, Ph.D.



Dr. Emma Fernández-Repollet received her B.A. in Education from the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus, her M.S. and Ph.D. in Physiology from the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus (UPR-MS), and a postdoctoral training in renal physiology at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She joined the faculty of the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Puerto Rico Medical School in 1982. Her research interests relate to the areas of renal hemodynamics, protein malnutrition, and flow cytometry. Her academic experience includes conducting teaching

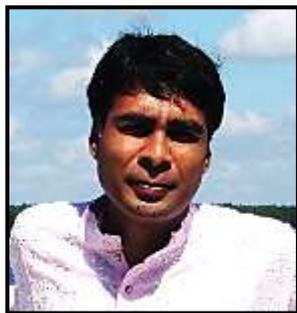
medical, graduate and dental students, as well as directing an active Research Center in Minority Institutions (RCMI) program, focusing on developing research infrastructure at the UPR-MS, since its inception in 1986. She is a co-inventor in two patents in the area of flow cytometry.

Dr. Fernández-Repollet served as Vice President for Research and Technology at the University of Puerto Rico from 2003-2009. She has also served on a number of review groups and advisory committees of the National Institutes of Health, including the National Research Resources Advisory Council. She was also the President of the National Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Program Directors Association, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Center for Quantitative Cytometry, and member the Board of Directors of the Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust and the Alliance for the Economic Development of Puerto Rico. She served as Vice President of INDUNIV, an industry-university research consortium from 2003-2009 and as President of the Puerto Rico Healthcare Council from 2010-2011. In 2007 she was recognized as Distinguished Ex-Alumni Graduate of the School of Biomedical Sciences University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus and in 2008 she received the Fred Greenwood Award

for her contributions in the area of research administration and health disparities. Recently, she has been recognized as a Distinguished Puerto Rican Women in STEM.

Dr. Fernández-Repollet is currently Principal Investigator of the RCMi Program at the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus and Chair of the Steering Committee of the RCMi Translational Research Network (RTRN).

Amit Kr Gorai, Ph.D.



Dr. Amit K. Gorai is an Assistant Professor in Department of Mining Engineering, National Institute of Technology, Rourkela, Odisha, India. He graduated in Mining Engineering in the year of 2000 from Bengal Engineering College (presently, IEST, Shibpur), Howrah. In 2002, he obtained the degree Master of Engineering from the same university.

Dr. Gorai obtained his Ph.D. degree in Environmental Science & Engineering from Indian School of Mines University, Dhanbad in the year of 2007. Dr. Gorai had also associated with the CIMFR Dhanbad, BIT Sindri, and BIT Mesra, Ranchi in different positions

In 2013, Dr. Gorai received a Raman post-doctoral research award from the UGC, New Delhi under Indo-US exchange scheme. Dr. Gorai also received Young Scientist Research Grant in 2012 from the DST (SERB), New Delhi, India. In the same year, Dr. Gorai received a Young Researcher Bursary Award from World Meteorological Organization, Geneva for presenting a paper at 8th International Conference on Air Quality 2012.

Dr. Gorai's research focuses on the air quality monitoring, assessment, and modeling with an emphasis to understand the impact on human health. He has published numerous papers in peer-reviewed journals and given presentations at national and international conferences. Dr. Gorai also published a book entitled "A Complete Guide for Mining Engineers". One more edited book entitled "Sustainable Mining Practices" is in Press for publication.

Fengxiang Han, Ph.D.



Dr. Fengxiang Han is an Associate Professor in Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry at Jackson State University. He received Ph.D. in Biogeochemistry from Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel in 1998.

Dr. Han has established graduate/undergraduate training & research programs in environmental chemistry, biogeochemistry and a new radiochemistry program.

Dr. Han was JSU 2016 HEADWAE Award by the Mississippi State Legislature, Outstanding Scientific Division Chair, Mississippi Academy of Science, 2016; and High Grant Award Winner, 2017. He has published one book, 90 refereed journal papers and 1 US provisional patent (Google Scholar H 31). He is on the Editorial Board of *Water, Air, & Soil Pollution*, *Soil & Sediment Contamination*, and Editor-in-Chief of *Journal of Bioremediation & Biodegradation*.

Chindo Hicks, Ph.D.



Dr. Chindo Hicks is Professor of Genetics in the Department of Genetic at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center-School of Medicine (LSUHSC-SOM) in New Orleans, USA. Dr. Hicks serves as Director of the Bioinformatics and Genomics Program at LSUHSC, Director of Bioinformatics for the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge and Director of Bioinformatics for the NIH supported Prostate Cancer Transatlantic Consortium (CaPTC) involving the US, UK, West Africa and the Caribbean. Dr. Hicks earned a Ph.D. in Computational Genomics and Bioinformatics from the University of Copenhagen in Denmark. He was a fellow in computational genomics at Guelph University in Canada and a fellow in Bioinformatics at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel.

Dr. Hicks is nationally and internationally known for his research. He served as a senior Research Fellow for the Science and Technology Agency in Tokyo, Japan working on the Japanese Animal Genome Project. He was the co-founder of the Institute of Bioinformatics at the University of Georgia; and a founding member of the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Bioinformatics Grid and the National Human Genome Research Institute's Genome-wide Association Information Network. He holds a joint patent on development of new germplines of grains for the United States Department of Agriculture. Dr. Hicks led the bioinformatics team that contributed to designation of the Alvin Siteman Comprehensive Cancer Center at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and the UC-Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center in Sacramento California. He serves on various National and International Scientific Panels and Editorial Boards. He is affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Hicks' current research focuses on four research streams: (1): Mapping the genomic and epigenomic landscapes of cancer genomes and other common human diseases. (2) Development and application of bioinformatics and computational genomics methods for the analyses and integration of multiplatform-multiscale ("omics", genotype, sequence and phenotype) data in different ethnic populations. (3): Biomarker discovery and modeling gene regulatory networks and biological pathways driving common human diseases. (4): Knowledge discovery and big data analytics with application to precision medicine, drug discovery and drug repositioning.

Ali B. Ishaque, Ph.D.



Dr. Ali Ishaque is a Professor of Environmental Science at University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), Princess Anne, MD since August 20015. He is also the Director of the Graduate Toxicology Program, Coordinator of UMES-Salisbury University (SU) Environmental Science Dual Degree Program and Group Leader for Environmental Science at UMES.

Prior to UMES in August 2001, Dr. Ishaque was a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at Free University of Brussels (VUB), Belgium and at Jackson State University (JSU), Jackson, MS.

Dr. Ishaque is a Board Member of Maryland Coastal Bay Foundation, serves on Advisory Council, Center for the Study of the Health Effects of Fire. Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Editorial Board Member, Journal of Marine Science: Research & Development- Open Access and Active Member Society of Toxicology.

Dr. Ishaque's research interest is in environmental chemical stressors, especially contaminant of emerging concerns and trophic levels relationship. His research focuses on approaches to understand the impact of environmental stressors on environmental quality, develop innovative tools that address biological and molecular mechanisms of environmental stressors, help to assess risk factors and identify health indicators, and develop and support environmental health policy and promote individual and public health. He is also using Fatty acid markers, stomach content analysis and stable isotope ratios to understand trophic relationships and how food web change in relation to environmental factors and climate variability.

Dr. Ishaque has published several scientific papers in peer review journals and presented some of his work at national and international scientific meetings.

Rupa Iyer, Ph.D.



Dr. Rupa Iyer is the founding director of Biotechnology Programs and the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies in the College of Technology at the University of Houston. As the founding director, she was responsible for the design, development, and implementation of the new interdisciplinary research-based biotechnology degree program. As the Director of the Center for Life Sciences Technology she is responsible for developing the core initiatives of the center including collaboration with the local biotechnology industry, workforce, research and outreach programs and development of a core facility to support the Life Sciences and biotech cluster for the state of Texas. To date she has received over \$4 million in external funding as Principal Investigator from

NSF, NIST, TWC and private industry sources.

Dr. Iyer received her Ph.D. in microbial genetics from Michigan State University and conducted her postdoctoral studies at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Research Center in Houston. Her research interests are in microbial and environmental biotechnology. The focus of her research is in microbial exposure and adaptation to xenobiotic compounds, and its implications and applications in biotechnology. She has integrated her disciplinary training in microbiology and her experience in evidence based and evidence generating approach to understanding STEM learning. Her model engages students in collaborative research experiences and provides a platform for integration of education and research, and addresses two challenges, one in STEM education and the other in the environment.

Ernest Izevbigie, Ph.D.



Dr. Ernest Izevbigie received his Ph.D. degree in Growth Biology/ Biochemistry from Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan in 1996. He received his MS degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee, and BS degree with *distinction* from Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee, and U.S.A in 1988 and 1986 respectively. He completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in Biochemistry/ Cancer Biology at the National Institute of Craniofacial and Dental Research (NIDCR) /NIH, Bethesda, Maryland, USA from 1996-1998. He joined the Jackson State University (JSU) Biology Faculty in 1999 and was made full Professor of Biology/Biochemistry in JSU in 2009, and

served in that capacity until 2011 when he returned to his home state (Edo State) to serve as Deputy Vice Chancellor of Benson Idahosa University, Benin City. He has now serving as Vice Chancellor.

Professor Izevbigie's research group was the first to demonstrate and report anti-cancer activities of aqueous VA extracts that culminated in the issuance of two U.S. patents titled "Phytochemotherapy for Cancer" in 2004 and 2005:1. A novel Phytochemotherapy for cancer (U.S. Patent #6,713, 098), March 2004. 2. A novel Phytochemotherapy (Edotides) (U.S. Patent# 6,849,604), February 2005.

After more than 12 years of *Vernonia amygdalina* anti-cancer/ pharmacognosy research, botanical pharmacological formulations under the trade name of edoTIDE™, were developed by Prof. Izevbigie and his team, and licensed to a biotechnology company. These formulations (with health benefits) are now commercially-available in the U.S. and other parts of the globe. In Nigeria for example, the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) has approved (NAFDAC Reg. no: A7-0902L) the use of edoTIDE™ botanical formulation for some health benefits. 101 top-world scientists, esteemed innovators were awarded the distinction of NAI Charter Fellow in Tampa, Florida, USA on February 22, 2013. Included in the Charter class of 2012 are 8 Nobel Laureates, 2 Fellows of the Royal Society, 12 President of Research Universities and Non-Profit Research Institutes, 50 Members of the National Academies (NAS, NAE, IOM), 11 inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, 3 recipients of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, and others. The 101 scientists and inventors were inducted as the 2012 NAI Charter Fellows during the inauguration ceremony conducted by the U.S. Patent Commissioner, Dr. Margaret Focarino from USPTO in 2013, in Tampa, Florida, U.S.A. The 113th U.S Congress (2013-2014), through its Congressional Record, commends the 101 fellows.

Supratik Kar, Ph.D.



Dr. Supratik Kar is a Post-Doctoral research associate in Interdisciplinary Center for Nanotoxicity at Jackson State University, Mississippi, USA in Prof. Jerzy Leszczynski research group Since April, 2015. He has completed his B.S. (Gold Medallist) (2008) and M.S. (Gold Medallist) (2010) degree from Jadavpur University, India securing first position in both degrees. He has earned his PhD (2015) from the Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, Jadavpur University (India) under the guidance of Prof. Kunal Roy. Former visiting researcher at the University of Gdańsk (Gdansk, Poland) under the Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme in Prof. Tomasz Puzyn's group. Has experience in QSAR and chemometric modeling studies for Eight years. He researches a range of topics in structure-activity relationship studies, dealing with biological activity prediction of natural compounds, organic compounds, physico-chemical and toxicity prediction of various chemicals, including nanoparticles.

Dr. Kar has published 41 research and review articles, 9 book chapters till date. He has also coauthored 2 QSAR related books entitled "*Understanding the Basics of QSAR for Applications in Pharmaceutical Sciences and Risk Assessment*" (Elsevier, 2015) and "*A Primer on QSAR/QSPR Modeling: Fundamental Concepts*" (Springer, 2015). His current h-index is 18 and i-10 index is 27 with citations of 1340. He serves as an associate editor of the International Journal of Quantitative Structure-Property Relationships (IJQSPR) [IGI-Global publishers]. He has served as reviewer for reputed journals like Science of the Total Environment, Drug Discovery Today, Expert Opinion On Drug Metabolism and Toxicology, Molecular Diversity, Nanoscale, Energy, Structural Chemistry *etc.*

Shafiq Khan, Ph.D.



Dr. Shafiq A. Khan is the Scientific Director of the Clark Atlanta University Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development (CCRTD), a University Center of Excellence that focuses on research in prostate cancer. He also holds the position of Eminent Scholar in Cancer Cell Biology at Clark Atlanta University, an endowed chair funded by the Georgia Research Alliance. He is also the Director of the NIH/NIMHD Center of Excellence for Prostate Cancer Research, Education and Community Services. He is Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences and also serves as Director of the RCMI Program.

Dr. Khan earned his Master's degree in Biological Sciences from Quaid-i-Azam University in Islamabad, Pakistan, and his Doctorate in Reproductive Endocrinology in 1985 from the Karolinska Institute in Sweden. He was an Associate Professor in the Department of Cell Biology and Biochemistry at Texas Tech University, where he also served as the Director of Basic Research of the Southwest Cancer Center. Prior to this, he was affiliated with the University of Muenster in Germany, the University of Toronto and the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Dr. Khan has provided services to the World Health Organization (WHO) through numerous collaborations with researchers from London, Stockholm, and Muenster. He has more than 30 years of experience in areas of reproductive endocrinology and cancer research. He has published over 68 journal articles and several book chapters and has 2 patents.

Sunali Khanna, Ph.D.



Dr. Sunali Khanna is an eminent educationist who is serving as a faculty member of the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, India. She teaches and also undertakes research in the areas of oral medicine, maxillofacial radiology and oral cancer and trace elements at Nair Hospital Dental College, Mumbai, a premiere institute in India. During the earlier years she won academic distinctions and was recognized by the International College of Dentists. She became the first candidate to qualify the Diplomate of National Board Examination in Oral Medicine & Radiology. She has worked extensively towards the health care of elderly &

marginalized sections of society. She has been conferred membership of the National Academy of Medical Sciences, India and is nominated for fellowship of the same. She is the President and of the Asian Academy of Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology. She is also the Chairperson of the 14th International Symposium on Metal Ions in Biology and Medicine and 12th Asian Congress of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology to be held in Mumbai, India.

Being a keen environmental health scientist and activist, Dr. Khanna's research highlights importance of such issues in the public sphere. She was the Convener of International Conference Green Health on Environmental Health Research at Mumbai in September 2012 and February 2015, and November 2016. It focused on integrating public concerns and precautionary principles into federal and regional policies in the health sector. She has conducted surveys on Tobacco related diseases and cessation practices. She has co-authored HIV/AIDS manual for health professionals in association with Mumbai District AIDS Control Society. She has participated as resource person/panelist in health awareness programs on the National Television. She is recipient of University Teacher's Research award for the year 2013-14.

Dr. Khanna's biography features in Marquis Who's Who in the World (Medicine & Healthcare) 7th Edition 2009. She is appointed on the editorial board of esteemed journals overseas. She was on the expert panel of University Grants Commission. She has made distinguished/plenary/paper presentations at 42 National and 40 International conferences across the globe. She has published 61 papers in reputed national (35) and international (26) journals. She has contributed chapters for books of Cancer prevention (Trafford), Oral Radiology (Elsevier), Pediatric Dentistry & Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery. She has obtained the Post-Graduate Diploma in Hospital & Healthcare Management, Medico-Legal systems and Clinical Research from the Symbiosis International University.

Joseph R. Landolph Jr., Ph.D.



Dr. Joseph R. Landolph, Jr., received a B. S. degree in Chemistry from Drexel University in 1971 and a Ph.D. in Biophysical Chemistry from Univ. Calif. at Berkeley in Berkeley, Calif., (1976) under Prof. Melvin Calvin (member, U. S. Natl. Academy of Sciences and Nobel Laureate). For his Ph.D., he studied metabolism of BaP and BaP-induced cytotoxicity in cultured mouse liver epithelial cells and chemically induced cytotoxicity and morphological transformation in cultured Balb/c 3T3 mouse fibroblasts. He next performed postdoctoral study in chemical mutagenesis and chemically induced morphological/neoplastic transformation of C3H/10T1/2 Cl 8 mouse embryo cells and chemical carcinogenesis, at the USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center of the University of Southern California (USC) under Prof. Charles Heidelberger (member, U. S. Nat'l. Academy of Sciences) from 1977 to 1980.

Dr. Landolph was appointed Assistant Professor of Pathology in 1980 and Assistant Professor of Microbiology and Pathology on the tenure-track in 1982, and promoted to Associate Professor of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology and Pathology with tenure at USC in 1987. He is currently an Associate Professor of Molecular Microbiology/Immunology and Pathology and a Member of the USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center in the Keck School of Medicine, Assoc. Professor of Molecular Pharmacology in the School of Pharmacy, and a Member of The Free Radical Institute, at USC. His research interests/activities include studies of the genetic toxicology/ carcinogenicity of carcinogenic nickel (Ni), chromium (VI), and arsenic compounds and P.A.H.s. His laboratory currently studies the ability of carcinogenic Ni and chromium (VI) compounds to induce morphological/neoplastic transformation of 10T1/2 mouse embryo cells, and expression of oncogenes/inactivation of expression of tumor suppressor genes and de-regulation of global gene expression, in Ni-transformed cell lines.

Dr. Landolph is an expert in chemically induced mutation and morphological/neoplastic transformation in murine/human fibroblasts. He has served as a grant reviewer for U. S. E.P.A.'s Health Effects Panel, for NIEHS, and as a member of the Chemical Pathology and AI-Tox-4 Study Sections of the NIH. He has also served as a member of the Carcinogen Identification Committee (CIC) for the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) of California's E. P. A. for the last 27 years. He has also served seven years as a member of the Scientific Review Panel for Toxic Air contaminants (SRP) reporting to the California Air Resources Board, and has just been re-appointed as a member of the SRP by the Speaker of the California Assembly, the Honorable Anthony Rendon, for another three years.

Dr. Landolph has authored 72 scientific publications and given 218 invited scientific lectures. He has also trained 120 B.S. students, 25 M.S. students, 5 M. D. students, 13 Ph.D. students, and 31 postdoctoral fellows, and hosted 10 faculty and 4 high school teachers on sabbaticals, in his laboratory.

Dora N. Mbanya, MD, Ph.D.



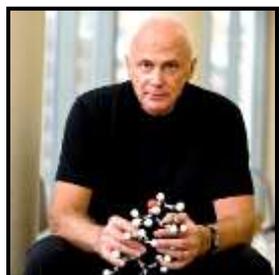
Dr. Dora Mbanya is Professor of Haematology in the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University of Yaoundé I, Cameroon and Head of Department in the said structure. She is also Consultant Haematologist in the Yaoundé University Teaching Hospital, where she currently heads the Haematology and Transfusion Service.

Dr. Mbanya has published several papers in scientific journals both at national and international levels and co-authored books in her field of interest (Transfusion Medicine and HIV/AIDS-related issues). She serves as Editor in Transfusion Medicine and Health Science & Disease, and is on the Expert Panel of the World

Health Organization for Transfusion Medicine.

Dr. Mbanya is a member of various professional societies including the British Society of Haematology, the International Society of Blood Transfusion and the African Society of Blood Transfusion. She heads the Cameroon Branch of the Society for Women and AIDS in Africa. She is married with four children.

John A. McLachlan, Ph.D.



Professor John A. McLachlan, received his undergraduate degree from the Johns Hopkins University where he was co-captain of the varsity football team. He is currently the Celia Scott Weatherhead and Albert J. Weatherhead, III Distinguished Chair in Environmental Studies as well as holding a Professorship in the Department of Pharmacology in the School of Medicine and an adjunct Professorship in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in the School of Science and Engineering at Tulane University. From 1995 to 2012, he was also the Director of the Tulane/Xavier Center for Bioenvironmental Research (CBR), a comprehensive center that deals with environment in an inclusive manner.

Prior to coming to Tulane, McLachlan was Scientific Director at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH. While at NIEHS, Professor McLachlan developed the conceptual framework thirty-five years ago for what is now called *Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals*. Dr. McLachlan has published over 220 peer-reviewed papers and sixty review articles dealing with the environment and the reproductive system and, in the process, helped introduce the concept of epigenetics to environmental research and thinking. He has been a leader in research and communication about the environment and women's reproductive health.

At Tulane, Professor McLachlan established a translational research program on women's health focusing on ovarian hormones and the environment. He expanded the vision in hormone biology to include evolutionary aspects of hormone action. His research and outreach team emphasized understudied diseases like uterine fibroids. McLachlan's commitment to "use-inspired research" led him to explore community-based issues that could be approached in trans-disciplinary ways, using the Mississippi River as an overarching metaphor for research and teaching. Faculty from the humanities, performing arts, natural sciences, social sciences came together around the ideas related to urban centers in river deltas. For a period of time, Tulane operated the only research vessel dedicated to river research. A highlight of this effort was, in collaboration with the author, John Barry, the planning and design of *RiverSphere*, a research and cultural center located on seven acres of riverfront in the center of New Orleans.

In September 2005, Professor McLachlan confronted the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina by establishing the NSF-funded *Katrina Environmental Research and Restoration Network* to coordinate research and restoration and, from 2009-2012, was co-principal investigator on a multi-disciplinary NSF grant, entitled, *The “New Normal”: The Impact of Trauma on Urban Ecological and Social Diversity* which studies how cities and communities function in the context of their natural ecosystems gaining a better understanding of resilience, recovery, and sustainability. McLachlan’s restoration efforts focused on the Lower Ninth Ward. He also took an active role in public education serving on the organizing committee for the New Orleans Charter High School in Science and Mathematics recently rated one of the top high schools in Louisiana.

McLachlan has had a career long commitment to diversity in science and with various partners has maintained funded programs to facilitate the entry of minority students into scientific research since 1995.

McLachlan’s current research focuses on using the principles of hormone signaling to understand how factors as diverse as trauma, stress, heavy metals and environmental chemicals exert their adverse effects on human health. He emphasizes differentiating systems such as stem cells for his studies and thinking.

Howard W. Mielke, Ph.D.



Dr. Howard W. Mielke is a Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and conducts research on the topic of environmental signaling at the Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans. He received his undergraduate degrees in biology, chemistry, and geography from Macalester College, Saint Paul, Minnesota where he majored. His graduate degrees are from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in Biology (MS) and a Ph.D. in Geography. His dissertation was on the effects of energy and material flows on the people living in a community surrounding a massive cement plant in SE Michigan.

Professor Mielke has a range of experiences. He served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Malawi, Africa; conducted pioneering research on disparities of lead and other metals in Baltimore garden soils; evaluated soil and blood lead studies in Minnesota cities; assisted with banning lead additives in gasoline; carried out extensive studies in New Orleans at Xavier University of Louisiana on soil metals and health disparities. Moreover, he assisted Norway with establishing their National Clean Soil Program, provided information about lead in cosmetic products that spurred the Canadian Parliament to require labeling, and demonstrated the feasibility and cost effectiveness of transporting low lead soil into contaminated inner city areas. Hurricane Katrina provided a natural experiment to evaluate alternative primary prevention intervention methods in New Orleans and all major cities.

In July 2017, Dr. Mielke taught a course entitled Environment and Health at Shaanxi Normal University, Xi’an China.

Telma Nery, MD, Ph.D.



Dr. Telma Nery has been a medical practitioner for 30 years, and graduated from Universidade Federal Fluminense (UFF), Brazil, with Medical Residence in Preventive and Social Medicine. Her specialization is in Occupational Medicine, Homeopathy, and Health Services Management.

Dr. Nery worked as Sanitarian Doctor in Primary Health Centre and later in the Surveillance State Sanitary Epidemiological Surveillance Center. She has consulted for UNESCO in environmental health areas along with the Ministry of Health of Brazil.

Dr. Nery has served as Occupational Doctor for large corporations in Brazil, with operations in environmental activities, such as Post Office, Sabesp, and Telesp. She coordinated and participated in research and norms in health considering environmental health and occupational health, in particular the National Institute of Social Security.

Dr. Nery worked in Epidemiological Surveillance Centre since 1992 to 2015 and for 5 years served as Director of the Division of Disease caused by the environment. She coordinated a team of multidisciplinary health specialists (doctors, engineers, and biologists) in health related issues that are observed from the epidemiological surveillance of people exposed to health hazards and environmental events, using guidance, publications, and research activities. She also coordinates partnerships for these activities with universities and institutions in the area. She is also a Labor Doctor, attending to workers who are engaged with the environment.

Dr. Nery is an Assistant Professor in Under Graduations Medicine Course at S. Camilo University (SP/BRAZIL) and work at Pneumology Division of Heart Institute – InCor/University of SP - USP. In addition she serves as a reviewer of 3 journals for research, and coordinates the Health committee at Paulist Forum of impacts by pesticides. She is an active member of International Society of Environmental Epidemiology. Her actually focus is Pesticides and Health; COPD and environment.

Felicite Noubissi, Ph.D.



Dr. Felicite Noubissi is Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology and the Research Centers in Minority Institutions at Jackson State University. She received a PhD in Genetics and Molecular Biology from the Center for Cellular and Molecular Biology in Hyderabad-India under a Fellowship of the Third world Academy of Science, and a PhD in biochemistry from the University of Yaounde-I in Cameroon.

Dr. Noubissi's research in recent years has been focused on studying the regulation of mRNA turnover and its role in cancer development. She identified the coding region determinant-binding protein (CRD-BP) as a *bona fide* transcriptional target of Wnt/ β -catenin signaling pathway, and demonstrated that its induction is responsible for a variety of pleiotropic effects of WNT / β -catenin signaling in human colorectal cancer cells. She also showed that CRD-BP regulates GLI1, the transcriptional activator of the Hedgehog signaling pathway and therefore demonstrated a novel mechanism by which WNT signaling pathway stimulates the transcriptional output of Hedgehog

signaling. This mode of regulation of GLI1 appears to be important to several functions of Wnt, including survival and proliferation of colorectal cancer cells.

Dr. Noubissi's current research focuses on the investigation of the cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying tumor development with the goal of identifying new therapeutic targets for treatment. This involves: 1. Targeting CRD-BP to overcome resistance of colorectal cancer cells to chemotherapy and, 2. Investigate the role of CRD-BP in basal cell carcinoma development.

Maricica Pacurari, Ph.D.



Dr. Maricica Pacurari is an Assistant Professor of Biology in the Department of Biology at Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi. Dr. Pacurari received PhD in 2006 from West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia in cell molecular biology/biochemistry with emphasis on phospholipases A2 enzymes regulation and prostaglandins biosynthesis and their role in carcinogenesis.

Dr. Pacurari post-doctoral training began at School of Medicine, West Virginia University, under supervision of Dr. Guo followed by more training at CDC/NIOSH in the Division of Pulmonary Pathology and Respiratory Disease under the supervision of Dr. Castranova. Later, she continued her post-doctoral training at University of Alabama in Birmingham, School of Medicine in the laboratory of Dr. Sussane Oparil to study the role of uremia in endothelial dysfunction and chronic kidney disease.

Dr. Pacurari's research is focused on the regulation of inflammation and the role of inflammation in fibrosis, endothelial dysfunction, and lung cancer. Current research is focused on the regulation of small RNA and their role in lung cancer and fibrosis. The laboratory is funded, to develop *in vitro* methods to study lung fibrosis. A range of molecular and biochemical methods are employed in the lab firstly in *in vitro* system models, and later in *in vivo* models.

Dr. Pacurari has published in peer-reviewed journals and has given presentations at national scientific conferences. She is a member of American Heart Association, Society of Toxicology, and American Thoracic Society, and a reviewer of several peer-reviewed journals including Life Sciences, and Cell Molecular Biology.

Anita Patlolla, Ph.D.



Dr. Anita Patlolla is currently working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology/Environmental Science Ph.D Program at Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi, USA. She received her BS and MS degrees in Genetics from Osmania University, Hyderabad, India, and a Ph.D in Environmental Science [Major concentration: Genetic Toxicology] from Jackson State University, USA.

Dr. Patlolla's main area of research is toxicity studies of nanostructures and heavy metals with biological systems, with an emphasis on elucidating the relationship between the physical and chemical properties (e.g. size, shape, surface chemistry, composition, and aggregation) of nanostructures or nanoparticles and heavy metals with induction of toxic biological response. Dr. Patlolla has extensive experience on the toxicokinetics, molecular mechanisms of

toxicity and histopathology of heavy metals and nanomaterials in animal models and in vitro models. She also has expertise in Genotoxicity Bioassay such as Chromosomal aberrations, Micronucleus Test and Comet assay etc. She is the first woman research faculty at Jackson State University ever to receive the prestigious independent funding from Air Force Research Laboratory/Air force Base (AFRL/AFB) in the area of Nanotoxicology.

Dr. Patlolla has published several research papers and chapters in reputed international peer-reviewed scientific journals and books. She has presented her research findings in several National and International conferences in the form of lectures and posters. Her articles are widely cited by other researchers in the field. She served as a reviewer for peer review journals in toxicology including Environmental Toxicology, Toxicologic Pathology, Basic & Clinical Pharmacology Toxicology, Prostaglandins, Leukotrienes & Essential Fatty Acids, MidSouth Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, EPA-IRIS Program, Journal of Applied Toxicology, Mutation Research, Toxicological Sciences and Hepatotoxicity. She served as chair of the “Nanotoxicology” and “DNA repair and Genotoxicity” session in the Annual Meetings of the Society of Toxicology. She is a member of several professional organizations including Society of Toxicology (SOT), The Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC), American Nano Society (ANS), American Association of Cancer Research (AACR), European Association of Cancer Research (EARC), Environmental Mutagen Society (EMS), Emory Judson C Ward Consecutive Giving Society and Mississippi Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Patlolla is editorial member for the following journals: Drug Metabolism and Toxicology, International Journal of Nano Studies and Technology (IJNST), Journal of Nanomedicine and Nanotechnology, Journal of Analytical and Environmental Toxicology, Journal of Nanomedicine Biotherapeutics, Austin Journal of Environmental Toxicology and Journal of Nanotechnology: Nanomedicine & Nanobiotechnology (NTMB). She is also an honorable Editor for MedCrave Journal of Toxicology. She received awards such as American Association of Cancer Research MSI Faculty Scholar for five years (2007-2010, 2015) in conducting outstanding research in the area of cancer.

Joann Powell, Ph.D.



Dr. Joann Powell received her Ph.D. from Meharry Medical College in biomedical sciences, with an emphasis in pharmacology. She continued her training as a postdoctoral fellow at Emory University School of Medicine and the Winship Cancer Institute in the Department of Hematology and Oncology. She joined Clark Atlanta University’s Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development (CCRTD) in 2010 where she also has a joint appointment in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Dr. Powell’s research focuses on investigating molecular mechanisms utilized by the aryl hydrocarbon receptor (AhR) to influence cancer cell progression. Her lab is also interested in investigating whether natural compounds that inhibit AhR signaling might be effective therapeutic agents for castrate resistant prostate cancer.

Aramandla Ramesh, Ph.D.



Dr. Aramandla Ramesh is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry & Cancer Biology at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN. He earned his first Ph.D. in Marine Microbiology from Annamalai University, India in 1986. He earned his second Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology from Ehime University, Japan in 1992. His areas of expertise are bioavailability, toxicokinetics, and biotransformation, acute and subchronic toxicity of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

Current research in Dr. Ramesh's laboratory focuses on colon cancer caused by benzo(a)pyrene (BaP), a fat-soluble, widely distributed environmental chemical that belongs to the PAH family of compounds. Studies in his laboratory have shown that exposure of rats and mice to BaP and other PAHs through saturated fat cause induction of cytochrome P450 (CYP) family of enzymes resulting in the formation and distribution of reactive metabolites which stay in target tissues for a longer time and cause enhanced DNA damage. Ongoing research in his laboratory will eventually address the issue of how environmental factors (exposure to toxicants) and dietary practices (excessive intake of animal meat and fat products tainted with BaP) contribute to colorectal cancer in African Americans (third leading cause of cancer related mortalities) relative to other racial/ethnic groups.

Before joining the faculty at Meharry in 2001, Dr. Ramesh was a research specialist in the Departments of Family & Preventive Medicine, and Pharmacology at Meharry. His earlier research focused on acute and subchronic toxicity of PAHs found in hazardous waste sites that were in close proximity to minority communities.

Dr. Ramesh's association with the Meharry Medical College-Vanderbilt University Environmental Health consortium allows him to combine his long-standing research experience in classical PAH toxicology and work collaboratively with Vanderbilt colleagues from the Basic Sciences and Community Medicine departments to investigate the interplay between diet and environmental contaminant exposure using state-of-the-art analytical and molecular approaches. As a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Associate, his current research is focused on exposure of minority communities to environmental chemicals and health disparities.

Dr. Ramesh has extensively published in environmental chemistry & toxicology (more than 50 peer-reviewed publications, and 6 book chapters). He completed 6 National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded projects in toxicology & chemical carcinogenesis.

Dr. Ramesh served as a consultant to the Common Wealth Foundation, UK, International Development Research Centre, Canada, and Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), UK. He is also serving as a reviewer for research proposals submitted to the NIH, HHS, NSF, EPA, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, NERC, (UK) and INSERM (France).

Dr. Ramesh also serves on the editorial boards of *Toxicology Mechanisms & Methods*, *ISRN Toxicology*, and *Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds*.

Paresh C. Ray, Ph.D.



Dr. Paresh C. Ray is a program director of NSF-PREM program, in the Department of Chemistry, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi. He received his BS in Chemistry from Vidyasagar University, India and MS in Physical Chemistry from Kalyani University, India, in 1989 and 1992, respectively; and a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from Indian Institute of Science in 1997. He has been appointed to several positions including as a Research Scientist in Blacklight Power, New Jersey, as a Postdoctoral fellow in the University of Chicago, Illinois and Columbia University, New York.

Dr. Ray has published over 100 scientific publications including peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters and abstracts. He has presented over 60 seminars, lectures and courses on various topics of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Nanomaterial spectroscopy, Nano-Bio technology, nonlinear optics and PDT material.

Over the last decade, Dr. Ray has focused his attention on laser spectroscopy of nano-bio interface, RNA/DNA detection based on nanotechnology, Bacteria detection, Alzheimer's biomarkers detection, cancer detection, molecular level understanding of CVD process, CVD diamond, carbon nanotubes, nano particle synthesis and characterization, alternative energy source based on plasma technology, theoretical understanding of nonlinear optical process and supramolecular hydrogen bonding.

Hector O. Rubio-Arias, Ph.D.



Dr. Hector O. Rubio-Arias obtained his PhD program at New Mexico State University in 1989. He is retired of the National Research Institute of Forestry, Agriculture and Animal Production (INIFAP-Mexico). Presently, he is a Professor-Researcher in the College of Animal Production and Ecology of the Autonomous University of Chihuahua, where he is involved in different projects related to level of pollution in soils and water resources.

Dr. Rubio-Arias has written four books, several book chapters and has about 50 peer-reviewed publications in different journals. He belongs to the National Researcher System of CONACYT-Mexico and he is participating as a member of the bio-security experts of the CONABIO-Mexico and serves on the editorial boards of several journals as well as had served as reviewer of many publications. Currently, he is the President of the Mexican Chapter of IMGA.

Daniel Sarpong, Ph.D.



Dr. Daniel Sarpong is a trained biostatistician, is the Director of the Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities Research and Education, Endowed Chair of Health Disparities and Professor of Biostatistics at Xavier University of Louisiana. He is also an Associate Director with Xavier RCMI Cancer Center and Director for Community Engagement and Outreach Resource (CEOR) of the Louisiana Clinical and Translational Science (LACaTS). Prior to returning to Xavier University of Louisiana in 2013, he was Research Professor with the School of Health Sciences at Jackson State University (JSU) and served in various capacities/positions at the Jackson Heart Study (JHS). The JHS is the largest single site epidemiological study investigating the etiology and

progression of cardiovascular disease in African Americans. During 2000 and 2010, he was Director of the JHS Coordinating Center (JHSCC), Director of Data Management, Quality Assurance, and Information Technology, Co-Principal Investigator and Senior Biostatistician of the JHSCC at JSU.

Dr. Sarpong's research focuses on translational research exploring innovative approaches to mitigating both biological and social determinants of health disparities in the areas of obesity, Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus, cancer, substance abuse and HIV/AIDS. Professionally, he has served as a scientific reviewer for: 1) American Health Association, and 2) International Society for Pharmacoeconomics & Outcomes Research for conference abstracts, 3) RCMC Annual Symposia and 4) Chaired the Abstract Committee for Xavier University College of Pharmacy Health Disparities Conferences; Ad-Hoc grant reviewer for: National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and American Cancer Society; Reviewer of scientific manuscripts for: the Intl. Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health and American Heart Association, AHA Journal on Stroke; and editorial board member for Ethnicity & Disease.

Dr. Sarpong is the author of *Data Analysis Using SPSS: Visual Step-By-Step Process Manual One* (Creative Force Publishing Company, 2016; ISBN: 978-0-9969873-9-4) and *Pearls Of Wisdom: The G.A.P.P. Principle For Success* (Creative Force Publishing Company, 2017; ISBN: 978-0-996987-8-7).

Natalia Shtemenko, Ph.D.



Dr. Natalia Shtemenko, a Biochemist, graduated from chemistry department, Dnipropetrovs'k National University (Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine) in 1976. She worked for Institute of Organic Chemistry, USSR Academy of Sciences 1976-1981, Institute of Biology of Dnipropetrovs'k National University 1981-1996, from 1996 till 2015 she was the Head of the Department of Biophysics and Biochemistry of the Oles Honchar Dnipropetrovs'k National University. Now she is the Professor of the Ukrainian State University of Chemical Technology.

Dr. Shtemenko's research interests are in the areas of anticancer research, application of metal-organic substances in medicine, nano-biotechnology. In recent years, she focused on the development of rhenium – platinum antitumor system that in an animal model completely eliminates cancer cells and shows itself as antioxidant and anti-hemolytic – and in elaboration of complex nano-particles for cancer therapy.

Dr. Shtemenko is an active participant of the "NATO Science for Peace and Security Program", in 2011 she was a co-director of the NATO Advanced Research Workshop (ARW): "Environmental and Food Security and Safety in Southeast Europe", Dnipropetrovs'k, Ukraine. As a Fulbright scholar in 2011-2012 and an invited researcher in 2013 she worked in the Texas A&M University in the Departments of Chemistry and Biochemistry. In 2014, she was a visiting Professor of the Friedrich-Alexander University in Erlangen, Nuremberg, Germany, according to DAAD grant. She is a member of the Ukrainian Biochemical Society; member of the International Society of Inorganic Biochemistry; takes part in the COST Action CM1105.

Kamaleshwar P. Singh, Ph.D.



Dr. Kamaleshwar P. Singh is an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Toxicology, and Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH), Texas Tech University at Lubbock, Texas.

Dr. Singh received his PhD degree in Molecular Genetics from University of Delhi, India. He completed postdoctoral training at the University of Alabama at Birmingham as a National Cancer Institute (NCI) postdoctoral training fellow. His research interests are Molecular Toxicology, Environmental Carcinogenesis, Toxicogenomics, and Human Cancer Genomics.

Dr. Singh's current research is focused on the genetic and epigenetic bases for environmental estrogenic-chemicals and heavy metals-induced human cancers. He has published 35 research articles in peer-reviewed journals and has presented his research in several national and international meetings. He is a member of American Association of Cancer Research (AACR), American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), and Society of Toxicology (SOT).

Dr. Singh has served as a panel member for review of grant applications for federal and private funding agencies and many peer-reviewed journals. Currently, he serves as an editorial board member for *PLoS ONE*, *Bulletin of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology*, *Journal of Environmental Immunology & Toxicology*, and *Journal of Environmental & Analytical Toxicology*.

MS. August Slater, M.S.



Ms. August Slater is the Program Manager of the NIH All of Us (AoU) Research Program for Jackson-Hinds Comprehensive Health Center, where she leads the effort of JHCHC AoU research staff to implement the program. August is a magna cum laude graduate of Howard University, where she received a B.S. in Psychology with a concentration in Neuroscience.

Ms. Slater received her Master's Degree in Global Health from American University. August is a native of Terry, MS.

Karam F. A. Soliman, Ph.D.



Dr. Karam Soliman is the Associate Dean for Research and graduates Studies and Distinguished Professor of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences at the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences of Florida A&M University. His research interest is in the area of Neuroscience, Cancer Biology and anti-cancer drug discovery.

Among 100 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) in the country, Dr. Soliman ranked the number one as the most Science published faculty member. His publications record includes 1164 published research articles, five books, and 4 US Patents. He is also the nation's top trainer of African Americans holding Ph.D. degrees in Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Also to be the principal investigator of COE CRTCS, Dr. Soliman is the Principal Investigator, and Program Director of the NIH-supported grant “FAMU Pharmacy Research Center in Minority Institution (RCMI).” During the 2010 RCMI International Symposium on health disparities meeting, he was honored by receiving the Fredrick G. Greenwood Award for “Exemplifying excellence in research and service to the RCMI community.” His research has been supported by grants from NIH, NASA, Office of Naval Research and Department of Energy. During his tenure at FAMU, he was awarded federal grants totaling over \$ 68 million.

Tammi Taylor, Ph.D.

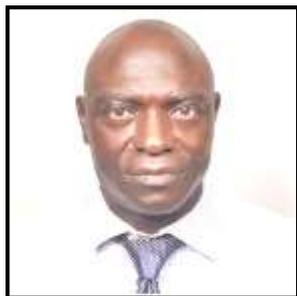


Dr. Tammi Taylor joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Genetics in the Department of Biology in the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology at Jackson State University.

While at JSU, Dr. Taylor is a Research Center for Minority Investigators (RCMI) faculty member, a graduate and undergraduate student advisor, mentor, and professor. She obtained her PhD in Microbiology from Indiana University, a Masters of Science degree in Biology, from Jackson State University, and her Bachelors of Science degree in Biology from Tougaloo College. She was a Fellowship in Research and Science Teaching (FIRST) postdoctoral fellowship at Emory University in the Departments of Anesthesiology and Neurology.

Dr. Taylor’s current research focus is determining the role of signal transducer activator of transcription 3 (STAT-3) on the regeneration of nerve tissue and functional recovery after focal ischemic stroke.

Nole Tsabang, Ph.D.



Dr. Nolé Tsabang is a researcher in Botany, Ethnobotany, ethnopharmacology, Biodiversity and Environmental and social impact assessment. He possesses 31 years of research and higher education experience including teaching and consulting. Besides botanical and ethnopharmacological research at the Institute of Medical Research and Medicinal Plants Studies where he was retired, Dr Tsabang teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in Ecophysiology, Sustainable development, Ethnobotany and socio-economic aspects of Agroforestry, Ethnopharmacology and Traditional medicine, as adjunct lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Science, at the university of Dschang

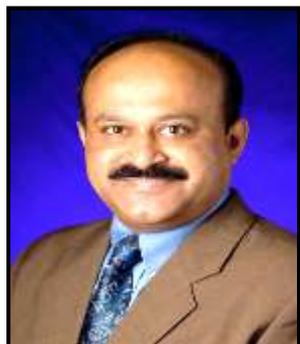
and at the Higher Institute of Environmental Sciences.

Dr. Tsabang is an editorial member and Reviewers of more than 15 reputed journals including OMICS Groups International: Indian Journal of Natural Products and Resources, *International Journal of Biological and Chemical Sciences*, *Journal of Medicinal Plants and Research* and *African Journal of Biotechnology*. He also works as an Independent Consultant with Heifer Project International and Global Water Partnership.

Dr. Tsabang is investigator of about 50 publications and 18 scientific reports on EISA, ethnobotanical and ethnoveterinary studies and co-presenter in conferences including 13th International Conference on Ethnobiology and 10th world conference on animal production. He is the principal investigator of four books in the ethnoveterinary practices in Cameroon, published by Heifer International.

Dr. Tsabang formal education includes Licence (BS), Maîtrise and DEA (MS) and Ph.D. in Plant Biology and Ecology sciences. He has participated in three short-term training, such as Ethnobiology, Implantation of Biodiversity plot and Evaluation and Monitoring of Biodiversity.

Mohammad N. Uddin, Ph.D.



Dr. Mohammad Nasir Uddin FAHA is an Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Pediatrics and Internal Medicine at Texas A&M University College of Medicine, USA. He is also currently serving as Director of Research for OB/GYN Residency and Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship Program at Baylor Scott & White Health/Texas A&M University College of Medicine, USA. He was a faculty member in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Dhaka (1991– 2006) and has been taken an early retirement as an Associate Professor in 2006.

Dr. Uddin is a Fellow of the American Heart Association and also serving as a Councilor of the Central Society for Clinical and Translational Research (CSCTR) for 2017-2020. His lab focuses on Women health research especially on the pathogenesis of the pregnancy induced hypertension (preeclampsia) and ovarian cancer and their therapeutic intervention. He has published more than 100 peer reviewed articles and has presented more than 200 abstracts in national and international meetings.

Dr. Uddin mentored more than 100 medical students, medical residents and fellows, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. He obtained BS and MS in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. He obtained PhD in Molecular Medicine from Gifu University, Japan. He is an awardee of Japanese society for promotion of science (JSPS) postdoctoral fellowship (2003 -2005). He is a member of several professional societies and also a peer review member of several Journals and funding agencies at USA and several other countries.

Dr. Uddin has also been serving as President of the executive committee of Dhaka University Biochemistry Alumni in North America (DUBANA) for 2013-2017.

John B. Vincent, Ph.D.



Dr. John B. Vincent received a B.S. in Chemistry and Mathematics from Murray State University and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Indiana University. He was a NIH postdoctoral fellow at The University of Virginia before joining the faculty of The University of Alabama in 1991, where he is currently Professor of Chemistry. His research interests are in bioinorganic chemistry, with a particular focus on the nutritional biochemistry of chromium(III).

Dr. Vincent is author or co-author of over 155 peer-reviewed publications, over 15 book chapters, 9 books, and 9 patents. According to Web of Science, his publications have been cited over 8,200 times, giving an average of over 62 citations per publication and an H-index of 46.

Dr. Vincent is currently co-editor-in-chief of Biological Trace Element Research.

Kristine L. Willett, Ph.D.



Dr. Kristine L. Willett is Chair of the Department of BioMolecular Sciences in the School of Pharmacy at the University of Mississippi. A professor of Pharmacology and Environmental Toxicology, she has taught at UM the past 17 years including both graduate and undergraduate courses in toxicology and environmental toxicology. She also teaches classes in the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College. During her time at UM, she has mentored eight Masters, nine PhD and 36 high school and undergraduate students in her laboratory. She also serves at the Environmental Toxicology Graduate Program Coordinator.

Dr. Willett's research has been funded over the years by NIEHS, NOAA and the Army Corps of Engineers. Her lab studies the developmental, reproductive and multigenerational impacts of benzo[a]pyrene exposure using fish models. She also studies nanosilver mechanisms of toxicity and the consequences of the Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill on oysters. Throughout her career she has led research projects which were designed to fundamentally understand the molecular mechanisms underlying toxicity and/or shed light on the potential adverse outcomes due to relevant anthropogenic contamination. New work in her lab uses zebrafish to investigate drug-resistant epilepsy including the efficacy vs toxicity of cannabidiol and Δ^9 -tetrahydro-cannabinol.

Dr. Willett is active in both the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) where she is a member of the Board of Directors as well as the Society of Toxicology (SOT) where she is the Past-President of the Molecular and Systems Biology Specialty section and past Chair of the Undergraduate Education sub-committee. She is also an Associate Editor of *Toxicological Sciences*.

Dr. Willett earned her BA in Chemistry at the University of North Carolina and a PhD in Toxicology from Texas A&M University. She was a Dreyfus postdoctoral fellow in environmental chemistry at Indiana University followed by a RJR Leon Goldberg postdoctoral fellow in toxicology at Duke University prior to moving to Ole Miss.

John Pierce Wise Sr., Ph.D.



Dr. John Pierce Wise, Sr. is head of the Wise Laboratory of Environmental and Genetic Toxicology; Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University Scholar and Chair of the Center for Environmental and Occupational Health in the School of Medicine at the University of Louisville. As head of his laboratory, he leads a team of faculty, staff and students who conduct state-of-the-art research aimed at understanding how environmental toxicants affect health and cause cancer. In particular, he leads a strong toxicology research program focused on cellular and molecular mechanisms in cancer biology that includes human and wildlife studies. Broadly defined, his research interests focus on understanding, preventing and reversing the impact of chemicals in the environment on health

from a "One" Environmental Health perspective. This perspective of environmental health encompasses both humans and wildlife and spans the ecosystem. He also works on exomedicine – the study of biomedical research in outer space. Some of his specific research topics include: 1) Chromosome instability, 2) DNA damage and repair, 3) Disruption of mitosis including spindle assembly checkpoint changes and centrosome

amplification, 4) Exosome signaling, and 5) Stem cell toxicology. In pursuit of these interests, his work deploys experimental approaches involving cell biology, molecular biology, toxicology, molecular epidemiology, and genomics, to study the health threats and impacts of environmental chemicals at the molecular, cellular, tissue, individual, community and population levels.

Dr. Wise has earned and managed over \$14 million in grants and contracts and published over 100 peer reviewed research papers, and over 425 abstracts. His work has been featured in numerous articles in local, national and international press and social media sites including short documentaries with Alexandra Cousteau and Miles O'Brien. He has been the primary mentor for 18 doctoral level and 12 masters' level graduate students and has guided and trained over 90 undergraduate and 56 high school students in biomedical and environmental research. His students have won numerous local, national and international awards and grants.

Dr. Wise's formal education includes a Bachelor's degree in Biology with high distinction and with recognition from George Mason University, a Ph.D. in Pharmacology from the George Washington University, postdoctoral training in molecular epidemiology under Curtis Harris at the Laboratory of Human Carcinogenesis at the National Cancer Institute where he expanded his training into molecular epidemiology and training in risk assessment and occupational health at Jonathan Borak and Company, an environmental and occupational medicine consulting firm.

Momoh A. Yakubu, Ph.D.



Dr. Momoh A. Yakubu, Tenured Professor of Pharmacology and Environmental Toxicology in the Department of Environmental and Interdisciplinary Sciences, a Senior Scientist and Head of Vascular Biology Unit of the Center for Cardiovascular Diseases, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Texas Southern University, Houston - Texas. He obtained his PhD from the University Department of Materia Medica at Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow - Scotland. He had held research and academic positions at University of Glasgow, Michigan State University, University of Tennessee HSC at Memphis before joining Texas Southern University.

Dr. Yakubu employs interdisciplinary research approach integrating environmental, biological, pharmacological and toxicological analysis to meet the challenges of integrated medical and environmental concerns. My research is synergized by an integrated environmental analysis involving the use of instruments - HPLC-Uv-Vs, MALDI-TOP, GS/MS, NMR, FT-IR as well as bioassays/ animal models to determine effects of environmental toxicants on biological systems and to understand the consequences of exposure-induced pathologies – environmental toxicology. The use of instrumental analysis has enabled identifications of modified proteins and genes following exposure to toxicants, infections (pathogens, viruses, trypanosomes, etc.) and pathological conditions - cardiovascular, neurotoxicology (Alzheimer's and stroke). Current research interests: Synthesis and evaluation of metal complexes as anticancer agents; Profiling and analysis of emerging contaminants; Analysis and therapeutic evaluation of herbal plants; Molecular consequences of exposure to complex chemical mixtures. His research had attracted funding from NIH, AHA, and others with a recent collaborative (with mentees from the University of Ibadan) award from UK based - World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA).

Dr. Yakubu has served on review panels for EPA, NSF, and RCMI-Pilot grants; he reviews for numerous journals and has published numerous articles in high impact and reputable journals. He serves as consultant

to several institutions, he is on the board of the Association of African Biomedical Scientists Inc (AABS, Inc). He has established collaborations across disciplines and mentoring several faculty and students in Africa. He has advised several Environmental Toxicology (MS/PhD) Program at TSU. He is twice a recipient of Carnegie Fellowship to the University of Ibadan, Nigeria Summer 2015 and University of Abuja, Nigeria Summer 2017.

Dr. Yakubu is a member of the Mission Connect, a Neurotrauma Translation Research Group a part of TIRR Foundation and several other professional scientific bodies.

