



Christopher P. Austin, M.D.

Christopher P. Austin, M.D., is director of the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Austin leads the Center's work to improve the translation of observations in the laboratory, clinic and community into interventions that reach and benefit patients—from diagnostics and therapeutics to medical procedures and behavioral changes. Under his direction, NCATS researchers and collaborators are developing new technologies, resources and collaborative research models; demonstrating their usefulness; and disseminating the data, analysis and methodologies for use by the worldwide research community.

Austin's career has spanned the spectrum of translational research in the public and private sectors. He joined NIH in 2002 as the senior advisor to the director for translational research at the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), where he was responsible for conceptualizing and implementing research programs to derive scientific insights and therapeutic benefits from the results of the newly completed Human Genome Project. While at NHGRI, Austin founded and directed the [Therapeutics for Rare and Neglected Diseases](#) program, [Toxicology in the 21st Century](#) initiative, and NIH Center for Translational Therapeutics. When NCATS launched in late 2011, Austin became the inaugural director of the Center's Division of Pre-Clinical Innovation and then was appointed as the NCATS director in 2012. Before joining NIH, Austin worked at the pharmaceutical company Merck, where he directed programs on genome-based discovery of novel targets and drugs, with a particular focus on treatments for schizophrenia and Alzheimer's disease.

Austin is trained as a clinician and geneticist, and he is a member of the National Academy of Medicine, formerly the Institute of Medicine. He earned an M.D. from Harvard Medical School and an A.B. *summa cum laude* in biology from Princeton University. He completed a research fellowship in developmental neurogenetics at Harvard, studying genetic and environmental influences on stem cell fate determination. Austin also trained in internal medicine and neurology at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, after which he practiced medicine in academic and community hospitals, providing primary care in urban settings and in rural Alaska and Africa.



Rubin Baskir, Ph.D.

Rubin Baskir, Ph.D., is an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) science and technology policy fellow working with the *All of Us* Research Program engagement team. He is passionate about improving human health and excited to be working with a team that helps maintain the essential relationship between the program, participants and community partners. Prior to this AAAS fellowship, Baskir worked on health policy issues at Concert Genetics, a health care technology company dedicated to simplifying genetic test selection. His interest in health policy began during his graduate work at Vanderbilt University, where, in addition to researching mechanisms of disease and signal transduction, he had the opportunity to take part in Vanderbilt's Augmenting Scholar Preparation and Integration with Research-Related Endeavors internship with the biotechnology trade organization Life Science Tennessee. While researching and crafting policy documents during this internship, Baskir gained an appreciation for the effects of policy on human health.

Baskir received his doctorate in clinical and cellular biology from Vanderbilt University and his Bachelor's degree in biology from Washington University in St. Louis.



Katherine Blizinsky, Ph.D.

Katherine Blizinsky, Ph.D., is the policy director for the *All of Us* Research Program. A neuroscientist and geneticist specializing in research on mental health and cognition, with a focus on health disparities, Blizinsky completed her doctoral work at Northwestern University. She is an alumna of the American Society of Human Genetics/National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) Genetics and Public Policy Fellowship and has policy experience with both the legislative and executive branches. On Capitol Hill, Blizinsky worked with the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee under Ranking Member Patty Murray, where, among other activities, Blizinsky participated in the drafting and negotiation of the 21st Century Cures Act. Following her time on the Hill, she moved to NIH, where she held simultaneous appointments as policy advisor to the *All of Us* Research Program—concentrating on issues of data access, informed consent and participant privacy—and as an intramural research fellow with the NHGRI Health Disparities Unit. In addition to her current role with *All of Us*, Blizinsky continues her research as an assistant professor in the Department of Neurology at Rush University in Chicago, working with the Rush Alzheimer’s Disease Center.



Penny Burgoon, Ph.D.

Penny Burgoon, PhD., is the director of the NCATS Office of Policy, Communications and Education, where she previously and concurrently also served as the chief of the Policy Branch within that office. Before joining NCATS in July 2014, Burgoon was the director of the Salivary Biology and Immunology Program for the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, where she managed a portfolio of research in salivary biology, salivary gland disorders and diseases, host immune responses to infection, autoimmunity, and systemic diseases. Burgoon joined NIH in 2004 as an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science Policy Fellow. She provided program support for the first trans-NIH projects supported through the NIH Roadmap for Medical Research. Burgoon then served as the senior assistant to the NIH principal deputy director from 2006 to 2010. In that role, she provided primary staff support for several NIH leadership committees, including the NIH Steering Committee and the NIH Advisory Committee to the Director, and for Institute and Center Directors’ meetings.

Burgoon received her Bachelor’s degree from Oberlin College, a Master’s degree from California State University, Northridge, and her doctorate in physiology from The Ohio State University.



Alice Chen, M.D.

Alice Chen, M.D., is a program officer in the Office of Rare Diseases Research (ORDR), where she works with the ORDR team to advance diagnosis and treatment for rare diseases through research. Chen Grady came to NCATS in November 2017 from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), where she had been working since 2014 in the Office of Translational Sciences, which is part of the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER). She worked on demographic subgroup data collections and analyses, among other knowledge management initiatives. She also helped to lead the development of regulatory science informatics and focused on ways to better capture, develop and effectively use CDER’s institutional knowledge to achieve FDA’s public health objectives.

Chen received her Bachelor’s degree in biochemistry and molecular biology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and her medical degree from University of Maryland School of Medicine.



Elaine S. Collier, M.D., M.S., FACP

Elaine S. Collier, M.D., M.S., serves as senior advisor to the NCATS director, where she engages with diverse partners and communities, including patient groups, academia, industry, foundations, NIH Institutes and Centers, and other government agencies. As a physician scientist, she brings expertise in clinical research, clinical research informatics, bioethics, patient engagement and regulatory issues to NCATS and NIH programs.

Collier leads the ethics research program at NCATS, which fosters collaborative research across disciplines on ethical issues in the translation of novel discoveries, technologies and approaches to improve health. She co-chairs the NIH Coordinating Committee for Bioethics Research and Training, a forum for communication and coordination of bioethics research and training across the NIH. She also is translational ethics liaison to the NIH Clinical Center Department of Bioethics.

Collier served in various leadership positions at NIH in clinical research and informatics, including the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) program and the Biomedical Informatics Research Network. Currently, she works with the Office of Data Science Strategy on trans-NIH projects advancing implementation of the NIH Data Science Strategic Plan. She also serves as a Project Scientist in the Science of Behavior Change Common Fund program.

Collier completed her M.D. at The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine and served her fellowship at The University of Utah. She is board certified in internal medicine and in endocrinology, a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, and a member of the American Medical Informatics Association. She is an active member of the Clinical Center of the NIH, including serving on the Biomedical and Translational Research Informatics System Steering Committee.



Lori E. Crosby, Psy.D.

Lori E. Crosby, Psy.D., is a professor in the Division of Behavioral Medicine and Clinical Psychology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine. Crosby also is co-director of the Cincinnati Center for Clinical and Translational Science's Community Engagement Core and INNOVATIONS in Community Research and Program Evaluation. She is the co-lead for the Engagement and Dissemination Core of the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network Data Managing and Coordinating Center and directs a research program in pediatric sickle cell disease. Crosby also directs the Community Leaders Institute, which trains community organizations and advocates in research methods. She has been a principal investigator (PI), co-investigator or consultant on more than 18 federally funded projects, including serving as a co-investigator on the Health Resources and Services Administration-funded Sickle Cell Treatment Outcomes in the Midwest regional network, PI for K07 and R21 grants funded by the NIH and a PI on a contract award from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute. Parent and stakeholder partners have worked with Crosby's research team on a number of projects, including a mobile app and a shared decision-making intervention.



Jessica M. Faupel-Badger, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Jessica M. Faupel-Badger, Ph.D., M.P.H., is the director of education and training in the NCATS Education Branch, where she is coordinating education efforts across the Center, as well as creating new opportunities for scientists and the public to learn about the discipline of translational science. She and her staff collaborate Center-wide to develop and disseminate evidence-based tools and best practices to improve understanding of translational science, the skills necessary to become a translational scientist, and the translational science spectrum. Previously, Faupel-Badger served as the director of training and education in the Center's Division of Pre-Clinical Innovation (DPI), where she focused on identifying the skills necessary to succeed in a pre-clinical translational science environment and creating opportunities for early-career scientists in the NCATS intramural community to gain this skill set. In addition, she oversaw the summer, postbaccalaureate and postdoctoral training curricula and provided additional professional development opportunities to all DPI staff.

Prior to joining NCATS in 2018, Faupel-Badger directed the Postdoctoral Research Associate (PRAT) program at the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS); she also managed a portfolio of research and training grants. Before this, she was the deputy director of the Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program at the National Cancer Institute. Faupel-Badger is active at both the local and national levels on committees addressing biomedical research training. She has received several recognitions for her training and mentoring efforts, including a National Institutes of Health Merit Award for outstanding contributions to advancing postdoctoral fellowship training in cancer prevention. In 2016, she was the inaugural recipient of the NIGMS Mentoring Award for outstanding mentoring in the career development of NIGMS PRAT Fellows.

Faupel-Badger received her doctorate in tumor biology from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, her Master's degree from the George Washington University, and her Bachelor's degree from Gettysburg College.



Tracy Hart

Ms. Tracy Hart serves as the CEO of the Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation (OI Foundation), headquartered in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The OI Foundation is dedicated to serving people with osteogenesis imperfecta through education, advocacy and research. Hart is responsible for the overall management of the OI Foundation's operations, including program development, identification of research projects, fundraising, advocacy and communication. She manages a staff of 10 full- and part-time employees; oversees activities, including regional constituent meetings and the OI Foundation's Biennial Conference; and manages a national board of directors. She also is a principal investigator of the Brittle Bone Disorders Consortium, part of the NIH's Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network and is the administrative lead for the OI Foundation's Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute contract.

Prior to coming to the OI Foundation, Hart served as managing director of development and regional operations at the American Kidney Fund in Rockville, Maryland, and as the Maryland Chapter's state director of the March of Dimes for 11 years. In addition to her current role as the CEO of the OI Foundation, Hart is the co-chair of the U.S. Rare Bone Disease Alliance, a past president of the National Health Council's Board of Directors and a recent member of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research's Advisory Council.



Matthew D. Hall, Ph.D.

Matthew Hall, Ph.D., joined NCATS in 2015 as a biology group leader in the NCATS Chemical Genomics Center within the Division of Pre-Clinical Innovation. Hall leads a team of research biologists, the Guanine Team, who develop and optimize both biochemical and cell-based assays for automated, small-molecule, high-throughput screening in collaboration with NIH intramural and extramural partners, including several National Cancer Institute (NCI) Chemical Biology Consortium programs. His research portfolio has an emphasis on oncology but covers a diverse range of other human pathologies and diseases.

Prior to joining NCATS, Hall was awarded an American Australian Association Sir Keith Murdoch Fellowship and worked under Valeria Culotta, Ph.D., at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. At Hopkins, Hall used yeast genetics and molecular biology to investigate the cellular regulation of transition metals, such as manganese. He then moved to the NCI Laboratory of Cell Biology under Dr. Michael M. Gottesman, bringing together his chemical and genetic experience to work on the clinically challenging phenomenon of cancer multidrug resistance. Hall ultimately became a staff scientist and led a number of collaborative research programs that included developing imaging probes for drug transporters at the blood-brain barrier, understanding mechanisms of resistance to cisplatin, and understanding the phenomenon of collateral sensitivity in multidrug-resistant cancer cells.

Hall earned his undergraduate degree (with first class honors) at the University of Sydney, investigating methods for modifying and targeting matrix metalloproteinase inhibitors during an honors research year. Hall also completed his Ph.D. at the University of Sydney under Trevor Hambley, Ph.D. His graduate research brought together cell biology and synchrotron spectroscopy for the first time to observe in real time the cellular distribution and metabolism of the platinum, the world's most-used class of chemotherapeutic agents. Hall also developed valuable techniques for observing drug reactivity in cell systems. His doctoral work included six months in the Nuffield Division of Clinical Laboratory Sciences at Oxford University, where he developed 3-D tumor models. He has published more than 70 peer-reviewed papers and is on the editorial board of *Drugs of the Future*.



Christina Hartman, M.P.H.

Ms. Christina Hartman is a D.C.-based policy and advocacy expert with a background in building alliances. Hartman recently joined The Assistance Fund from the EveryLife Foundation, where she led policy and advocacy efforts to advance treatment and diagnostic opportunities for rare disease patients. She is experienced in elevating the voices of patients, parents, scientists and clinicians to have a positive impact on health and nutrition policy. She worked with staff and member leadership at the American College of Cardiology to develop an agenda for improving cardiovascular health outcomes. At the Pew Charitable Trusts, she worked with a broad range of partners to advance legislative goals that incentivize the development of new antibiotic drugs. Prior to that, she served as an analyst at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta and in the Office of the Secretary for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in Washington, D.C. Hartman served as project officer for a cooperative agreement between HHS and the World Health Organization. She also has worked in the food and beverage industry, including at the Beer Institute, where she pursued outcomes favorable to industry on a wide range of domestic and international public health and policy issues. Hartman's engagement in the rare disease space is a [direct result of her own experience with her youngest daughter, Charlotte](#).



Patricia Jones, Dr.P.H., M.P.H.

Patricia Jones, Dr. P.H., joined NCATS as a program director in April 2016. She began her federal career with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2004 and has been with NIH since 2012. She has experience overseeing, conducting and evaluating prevention science programs, implementation science, and international and domestic clinical trials sites. She also has a strong background in clinical networks.

Jones has served as an associate editor for a clinical trials peer review journal and has taught psychology and research methods as a lecturer at Oglethorpe University. She is a behavioral scientist and holds a doctorate in public health in health promotion and health education with a concentration in psychology, health services research and epidemiology from Loma Linda University. Jones also holds an M.P.H. in behavioral sciences and health education from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a Bachelor's degree in women's studies from the University of California, Berkeley. She is currently pursuing an M.S. in biotechnology with an emphasis in regulatory affairs, as well as an M.B.A.



Brendan Lee, M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Brendan Lee is the Robert and Janice McNair Endowed Chair in Molecular and Human Genetics, professor and chairman of the Department of Molecular and Human Genetics at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM). As a pediatrician and geneticist, Lee studies structural birth defects and inborn errors of metabolism. He was the first to identify genetic causes of human skeletal dysplasias and new causes of brittle bone diseases. He has published more than 280 peer-reviewed papers and more than 80 invited reviews, chapters and books. He leads the NIH Undiagnosed Diseases Network Clinical Site at BCM and the NIH Brittle Bone Disorders Consortium. He holds multiple patents in drug discovery and gene therapy, and several are licensed technologies currently in clinical trial. Lee is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Association of American Physicians, the American Society for Clinical Investigation and the Society of Pediatric Research (SPR). He has received the American Society of Human Genetics Curt Stern Award for Outstanding Scientific Achievement, the Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas Peter and Edith O'Donnell Award in Medicine, the SPR E. Meade Johnson Award for Pediatrics Research, and the American Philosophical Society's Judson Darland Prize for Patient-Oriented Clinical Investigation.



Jennifer B. McCormick, Ph.D., M.P.P.

Jennifer B. McCormick, Ph.D., M.P.P., is an associate professor in the Department of Humanities at the Penn State College of Medicine. She has an interdisciplinary background, having completed a doctorate in molecular and cellular biology, a postdoctoral fellowship in biological chemistry, a Master's degree in public policy, and an NIH Center of Excellence in Ethical, Legal and Social Implications Research fellowship.

McCormick conducts empirical studies examining the ethical, policy and social implications of medical record and genomic data sharing, the challenges to protecting participants' privacy and confidentiality in the era of "big data," and the ethical complexities presented by translating genomic research findings into clinical and public health domains.

McCormick also leads the Research Ethics Consultation Service at Penn State College of Medicine, and as such, some of her scholarship focuses on promoting professionalism and social responsibility in science, responsible conduct of research, research ethics and science policy.

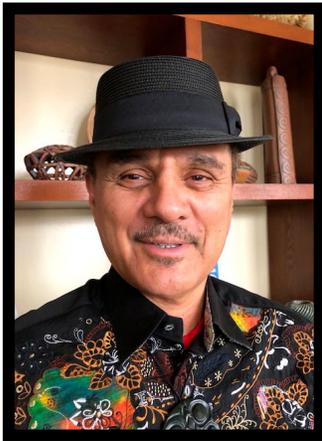


Emily Carlson Marti, B.A., M.A.

Emily Carlson Marti joined NCATS as its communications director in 2019. In this role, she oversees the team responsible for developing and implementing communications strategies that raise awareness of NCATS — its mission, activities and outcomes — among researchers, journalists, patients and other key audiences.

Her work at NCATS builds upon years of experience as a science writer, public affairs specialist, content strategist and communications leader. Marti started her career in 2001 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she wrote about advances from labs across the campus. After arriving at NIH in 2004, she spent 13 years promoting NIH's National Institute of General Medical Sciences through creative and collaborative approaches, including blogs and a partnership with a major science news outlet. During this time, she served as deputy communications director and, for a short period, acting communications director. Most recently, Marti led the editorial team at NIH's *All of Us* Research Program that developed and edited material to inform, recruit and retain participants in this million-person cohort program.

Marti holds a Bachelor's degree in English from Grinnell College and an Master's degree in science writing from Johns Hopkins University.



Eruera "Ed" Edwin Bryer Napia, Ph.D. Candidate, M.S.

Ed Bryer Napia serves as the Sacred Paths Youth Services and special project director at the Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake. He is a member of the Community Faces of Utah, current vice-chair of the Utah Indian Health Advisory Board, and a community adviser for the University of Utah Pediatrics Native American Research Internship Program; serves in the Trial Innovation Networks Patient, Provider and Public Work Group; and works with the University of Utah Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences. Napia also serves on city, county and state committees and work groups that work toward including community voices or that provide technical assistance for youth art programs, youth health and wellness programs or the Native American Health. He is a former commissioner for the Utah Governor's Martin Luther King Jr. Human Rights Commission.



Linda Seestedt-Stanford, Ph.D., M.A.

Linda Seestedt-Stanford, Ph.D., M.A., retired from Mary Baldwin University in December 2017 after serving as founding vice president and dean of Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences. In her role there, Seestedt-Stanford helped create the overall vision and mission for Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences; led the development of new undergraduate and graduate health sciences programs, as well as the construction of a 54,000-square foot building; attracted and recruited new faculty; and created partnerships within the college community and beyond.

She joined the team at Mary Baldwin from Western Carolina University (WCU), where she served as founding dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences and as interim provost and senior vice chancellor for academic affairs. Among her many achievements, Seestedt-Stanford helped to create the vision and coordinated planning for the 170,000-square-foot health sciences building on WCU's new "Millennial Campus."

Previously, Seestedt-Stanford was founding assistant dean at The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow College of Health Professions at Central Michigan University (CMU), where she also supervised a new building project for that College. That building was designated by the Chronicle of Higher Education (2005) as the most technologically advanced educational facility in the country.

Prior to her tenure in the dean's office at CMU, Seestedt-Stanford was director of clinical instruction and services in the Department of Communication Disorders. In that capacity, she expanded audiologic clinical services to deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals in central and northern Michigan, creating numerous satellite facilities. In her role as a faculty member, she mentored and supported a new generation of audiologists and helped initiate one of the first Doctor of Audiology programs in the nation. She has held numerous state and national board positions and has published widely in the field. Additionally, she maintained a private health care practice for more than 20 years in Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

Seestedt-Stanford earned her doctorate in higher, adult and lifelong education from Michigan State University.



Louisa A. Stark, Ph.D.

Louisa A. Stark, PhD., is a professor of human genetics at the University of Utah and holds appointments as director of the Community Collaboration and Engagement Team of the Utah Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) and as director of the Genetic Science Learning Center (GSLC).

Stark's community engagement work focuses on facilitating researcher-community communication and collaboration. She is a founding member of Community Faces of Utah (CFU), a collaborative that includes leaders of five organizations serving diverse communities—Best of Africa, Calvary Baptist Church, Hispanic Health Care Task Force, National Tongan American Society and Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake—as well as Utah Department of Health staff and CCTS faculty and staff. CFU engages in community-based participatory research studies and education projects that seek to improve the health of all Utahans, particularly those facing health disparities.

Stark is recognized nationally and internationally for her work directing the GSLC, whose mission is “making science and health easy for everyone to understand.” The center's companion websites, Learn.Genetics and Teach.Genetics, constitute the most highly used online life science education resource in the world. Precollege- and college-level students and educators, as well as patients and other members of the public, compose a majority of the more than 16 million visitors who come to the sites annually from every country.



Marie A. Westbrook, Ph.D.

Marie Westbrook, Ph.D., is founder of Inspire Concepts, LLC, an organizational consulting firm specializing in promoting organizational effectiveness through customized leadership development, team building and executive coaching initiatives. Marie provides strategies and solutions to support public and private-sector clients facing change management, transition management, culture change and crisis leadership challenges. Her workshops and executive coaching have involved both private and public-sector organizations and 15 federal agencies, including the NIH Executive Leadership Program.

Westbrook has more than 20 years' experience in public sector leadership, management and consulting. Her public service roles included being a subject matter expert and education consultant for reform projects in Armenia, Central Asia and Russia; a U.S. Department of State program officer covering education reform projects in 14 countries worldwide; the U.S. Department of Commerce director for the Office of Professional Development; the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation chair for the College of Leadership Development; and the Southeastern Conference dean of the College of Leadership, as well as a development and training director.

Westbrook is a graduate of the University of Virginia, where she received her doctorate in comparative education with a minor in Russian & East European studies and extensive coursework in evaluation and assessment and government and foreign affairs. Her undergraduate degree in business administration was awarded "with distinction" by Mary Baldwin University.



Robert Wright, Pharm.D.

Robert (Bob) Wright, Pharm.D., received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy. He has more than 20 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry across a variety of local and global roles within the medical function at multiple companies. He currently is the global head of scientific communications for the Office of the Chief Medical Officer at Sanofi. In this role, he leads the company-wide processes and systems related to scientific publications, medical education, and medical content development. He also leads the Sanofi team dedicated to data sharing (through ClinicalStudyDataRequest.com and other consortia) and works cross functionally with the Trial Transparency team to support Sanofi's clinical data transparency efforts.