

# Virtual Fall Summit November 12-14, 2021

## **FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES**

# Friday, November 12, 2021



# MODERATOR/FACULTY: KATHRYN L. MUELLER, MD, MPH, FACOEM

Dr. Mueller is a professor at the Colorado School of Public Health, former Medical Director for the Division of Workers' Compensation in Colorado. She is also past president of ACOEM. Her research interests are in developing evidence-based guidelines for work-related musculoskeletal disorders and in disability assessment. Dr. Mueller served as one of the six section editors for the American Medical Association's *Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment*, 6th edition, and has published research in such areas as impairment ratings, use of practice guidelines, and interstate variation of practice in workers' compensation.



## MONICA GANDHI, MD, MPH

Dr. Gandhi is an infectious diseases physician, Professor of Medicine and Associate Chief in the Division of HIV, Infectious Diseases, and Global Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). She is also the Director of the UCSF Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) and the Medical Director of the HIV Clinic ("Ward 86") at San Francisco General Hospital. Her research focuses on HIV and women and adherence measurement in HIV treatment and prevention and most recently, on how to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic.



## CHRISTOPHER R. BRIGHAM, MD, MMS, FACOEM, FIAIME

Dr. Brigham is Editor of the AMA *Guides Newsletter* and *Casebook* and Senior Contributing Editor for the AMA *Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment,* Sixth Edition. He is a thought leader on human potential and dis/ability whose goal is to have all of us, including injured and ill, experience joyful and productive lives. He has written over 300 peer-reviewed articles, spoken at hundreds of events, consulted extensively in the United States and internationally, and is skilled in using web-based technologies, focusing on virtual learning systems. Dr. Brigham received his Medical Degree from the Washington University School of Medicine – St. Louis, Master of Medical Science from Rutgers Medical School, and Certificate in Human Resources

Management from the University of Southern Maine. He is board-certified in Occupational Medicine (ABPM), a Founding Director of the American Board of Independent Medical Examiners, a Fellow of ACOEM, and a Fellow of the International Academy of Independent Medical Evaluators.



#### WILLIAM NIEHAUS, MD

Dr. Niehaus is Assistant Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and focuses on neurorehabilitation and working with patients who have suffered a spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, or stroke. He see patients in the intensive care unit and in the rehabilitation unit and has a twice-weekly outpatient clinic. He is also the Associate Program Director at CU Denver residency program and the PM&R provider in the University of Colorado ICU recovery and post-COVID clinic. Dr. Niehaus serves as the co-founder

and president of a free clinic for uninsured rehabilitation patients who suffered catastrophic injuries (<a href="www.ColoradoRSVPclinic.org">www.ColoradoRSVPclinic.org</a>). He is the social media editor for a major PM&R journal and is board-certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation. Follow him on Twitter: @NHausMD.



#### ROSS A. MULLINAX, MD, MPH

Dr. Mullinax has served on active duty in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps since 2010. He currently serves as Head of Occupational Medicine and Director for Public Health at U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka, Japan. He also leads the COVID-19 response as Public Health Emergency Officer for Navy Region Japan, a role he has held since the beginning of the pandemic. Dr. Mullinax completed residency training in Occupational and Environmental Medicine at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

# Saturday, November 13, 2021



## MODERATOR: KATHLEEN M. FAGAN, MD, MPH, FACOEM

Dr. Fagan is board-certified in Occupational Medicine and practiced in Cleveland, Ohio for over 25 years. She then joined the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) as a medical officer in 2009 for 10 years. Dr. Fagan currently does occupational and environmental health consultation work and teaching at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. She became an ACOEM fellow in 2020 and is vice-chair of ACOEM's Environmental Health section.



#### ISMAIL NABEEL, MD, MPH, MS, FACOEM

Dr. Nabeel is an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental Medicine and Public Health at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He serves as Deputy Medical Director of Employee Health, Safety, and Wellness for the Mount Sinai Health System. Having expertise in internal medicine, occupational/environmental medicine, and clinical informatics, his focus is to bring in cutting-edge innovative perspectives and solutions to enhance the health and wellbeing of people in the working environments. As part of the Employee Health Service, he has led the response to protect and care for healthcare workers who have been serving on the frontlines taking care of the sick patients impacted by this disease at the Mount Sinai Health

System. Prior to joining Mount Sinai, Dr. Nabeel held faculty appointments at occupational medicine and internal medicine departments at Wexner Medical Center at Ohio State University. He is a fellow of ACOEM and was recently awarded the President's award in 2021 for his contributions to the field of occupational and environmental medicine.



#### RONDA B. MCCARTHY, MD, MPH, FACOEM

Dr. McCarthy is National Medical Director for Concentra's Medical Surveillance Services, chair of Concentra's Regulatory, Testing, and Exam Medical Expert Panel and occupational medicine consultant for several worksites in the Central Texas area. She is a graduate of the University of Texas Health Science Center- Houston (MD), Medical College of Wisconsin (MPH), and the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine (occupational medicine). She is board certified in Occupational Medicine and a fellow of ACOEM. Her current work includes ongoing efforts to bring awareness to the occupational medical community of the

importance of the occupational medicine provider's role in identification, mitigation and treatment of the health effects associated with climate change hazards. She is ACOEM's representative for Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health and serves on their steering committee.



### JAMES W. BUTLER, MD, MPH, FACOEM, FASMA, FAAFP, FIAIME

Dr. Butler is currently in private practice in occupational and aerospace medicine in Southern Indiana, after serving 30 years in the US Air Force. His practice includes a large amount of consultative work, but he also is the medical director and prime medical provider of multiple factories in the area. His particular interest in heat-related problems stem from stints in the middle East in the 80s and in the last 20 years covering an aluminum smelter and multiple other large factories without environment controls. He became involved as the senior member on ACOEM's heat

stress paper as a member of the Council on Scientific Affairs, when it was felt that climate changes had increased the risk to an unacceptable level for our workers. Dr. Butler is an active member of ACOEM having also been involved in multiple sections, components, House of Delegates as a delegate and Officer and member of the Board of Directors.



### THOMAS E. BERNARD, PHD

Dr. Bernard is a professor in the College of Public Health at the University of South Florida, and Director of the Sunshine ERC funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH). Currently, his major research interests center around heat stress and heat strain as well as developing a framework for heat stress management. The framework starts with a fully inclusive view of what traditional heat stress assessment tells us (and does not tell us) and then to place interventions into three tiers based on the severity of the heat stress. The framework then provides context to develop heat stress management programs and to develop regulatory models.



#### **GARY B. ORR, PE, CPE**

Mr. Orr is a licensed engineer and certified professional ergonomist. He works at the U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in the Office of Health Enforcement. His work includes developing policies, coordination of regional efforts and assistance for OSHA compliance officers with investigations. Prior to joining OSHA, he had been a consultant to a variety of industries including healthcare, distribution, meatpacking, textiles and was the lead ergonomist in the implementation of the ergonomics process for one of the largest employers in the U.S. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland School of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and serves on the Board of Directors for the Applied Ergonomics Society.



#### NICHOLAS K. REUL, MD, MPH, FACOEM

An ACOEM Fellow and board-certified occupational and environmental medicine physician, Dr. Reul serves as Medical Officer for the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, Division of Occupational Safety and Health. His role includes developing public policies and occupational safety and health regulations to prevent injuries and diseases in Washington State's workforce. In this capacity, he presently supports Washington's COVID-19 response and ongoing wildfire smoke rulemaking.



#### **CHRIS PYKE**

Mr. Pyke is an industrial hygiene technical specialist at the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, Division of Occupational Safety & Health. Christopher specializes in protecting workers from exposure to airborne particulates such as asbestos, crystalline silica, and wildfire smoke.



#### ROBERT J. HARRISON, MD, MPH

Dr. Harrison is a Public Health Medical Officer with the California Department of Public Health Occupational Health Branch and Clinical Professor at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) in the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. He established the UCSF Occupational Health Services where he has diagnosed and treated thousands of work and environmental injuries and illnesses. He has designed and implemented numerous medical monitoring programs for workplace exposures, and has consulted widely with employers, health care professionals, and labor organizations on the prevention

of work-related injuries and illnesses. Dr. Harrison has led many work and environmental investigations of disease outbreaks. He has served as a technical and scientific consultant to Federal OSHA and CDC/NIOSH and was a member of the California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board. His research interests include the collection and analyses of California and national data on the incidence of work-related injuries and illnesses. Dr. Harrison has authored or co-authored more than 50 peer-reviewed journal articles, and more than 40 book chapters/contributed articles/letters to the editor. He is the co-editor of the most recent edition of the textbook *Occupational and Environmental Medicine* (McGraw-Hill Education, New York, NY, 2021).



#### **CECILIA SORENSEN, MD**

Dr. Sorensen is the Director of the Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education at Columbia University, Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at Columbia Irving Medical Center and Associate Professor of Environmental Health Sciences at Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. As a physician-investigator at the nexus of climate change and human health, translating research into policy, clinical action, and education to build resilience in vulnerable communities is the focus of her research. Her recent work has spanned domestic as well as international emergent health issues related to climate change, including,

heat stress and worker health in Guatemala, wildfires and health care utilization in the United States, the emergence of Zika virus in Ecuador following the Earthquake of 2016, climate change and women's health in India and mortality following hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. She currently serves on the working group for the

National Academy of Medicine's Climate and Human Health Initiative. She has served as an author for the U.S. Fourth National Climate Assessment and serves as a technical advisor for the Lancet Climate and Health U.S. Policy Brief. She lectures nationally and internationally, publishes in high impact journals and her work has been featured in mainstream media outlets like National Public Radio and the New York Times. Dr. Sorensen is a member of the Colorado Consortium for Climate Change, a scientific advisor for the Citizens Climate Lobby and the course director for the nations' first medical school course on climate change and human health. She also directs the National Climate-Health Fellowship, a post-residency training program for physicians. Dr. Sorensen received her Doctor of Medicine from Drexel University College of Medicine and completed her emergency medicine residency at Denver Health. Following residency training, she completed a 2-year fellowship in climate change and human health policy through the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS).



#### MANIJEH "MANI" BERENJI, MD, MPH, FACOEM

Dr. Berenji is a double board-certified occupational and preventive medicine physician with over 8 years of experience in occupational medicine practice in academic and industrial settings. She is currently Chief of Occupational Health at the Long Beach VA Healthcare System in Long Beach California. She also holds a faculty appointment as Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the UC Irvine School of Public Health.



#### **BARAKA CARTER**

Chief Carter is the Deputy Chief of Safety & Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Southern Region, CAL FIRE. He began his career in 1997 as a firefighter in the Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit (MMU) of CAL FIRE. In 2000, he was promoted to an engineer assigned to a CAL FIRE/Merced County Fire Department station and joined the Merced County Hazardous Material Team as a Hazmat Specialist. In 2004, he was promoted to fire captain with assignments at Mt. Bullion Camp where he supervised inmates on a hand crew, and later at the CAL FIRE Training Center in Ione, CA training new engineers. A promotion to battalion chief in

2011 sent him to the San Benito-Monterey Unit. Four years later he returned to MMU overseeing a field battalion in Merced County along with the Merced County Technical Rescue Team. He moved into his current position with the Safety and EMS Programs in 2019. Chief Carter has been assigned to CAL FIRE Type I Incident Management Teams (IMT) for the past 10 years. He has worked as the Safety Officer, in the Operations Section, and is currently assigned to CAL FIRE Type I IMT #2 as a Deputy Incident Commander. He is a certified Chief Officer, a Registered Instructor, a cadre member for S-420 (Command and General Staff), AAIM (Advance All-Hazard Incident Management) and the cadre lead member for C-404 Safety Officer course.



#### **TODD RAUSSER**

Chief Rausser, Deputy Chief of the CAL FIRE Emergency Medical Services Program, has served the people of California for over 30 years (5 years as an EMT, 26 years as a paramedic with 22 of those years with CAL FIRE.) Todd has served as a Training and Safety Officer in San Diego and has been a firefighter in Riverside, San Diego, and Lassen-Modoc areas in California. In Chief Rausser's current position, his duties are providing EMS Program guidance to Sacramento Headquarters, Region Headquarters,

Personnel and EMS Coordinators to implement the Departments EMS Program. He is also the CAL FIRE liaison to State and Local EMS Agencies. He has held swift water rescue technician credentials in Riverside and Critical Incident Stress Management teams in San Diego. Chief Rausser is a Fire Instructor, California State Fire Marshal

certified Fire Officer, National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) training officer, American Heart Association Instructor for ACLS, PALS, BLS and member of the California Homeland Security Strategy Working Group: Health & Medical. He also holds a High Honors Associates of Arts degree in Fire Science.



#### JEREMY LAWSON

Chief Lawson serves as Staff Chief, Safety and Emergency Medical Services Programs for CAL FIRE. He began his firefighting career in 1996 with CAL FIRE. In his position as Staff Chief of Safety and EMS Programs, he is responsible for employee safety, personal protective equipment specifications, interaction with Cal-OSHA, policy, EMS credentialing and investigations. Chief Lawson's past assignments have included managing the day-to-day operations of CAL FIRE's Training Centers in lone, CA and

Riverside, CA, supervision of an inmate hand crew, assignments in the Napa County Fire Department under CAL FIRE's cooperative agreement with the County of Napa, and as a Safety Officer assigned to one of the six CAL FIRE Type I Incident Management Teams. He is certified through the California State Fire Marshal as a Fire Instructor, Fire Officer, and Chief Officer.

# Sunday, November 14, 2021



# MODERATOR: DAVID C. CARETTO, MD, MPH

Dr. Caretto is a Medical Director of Employer Health Services for Sutter Health. He received his medical degree from UCSF School of Medicine. He completed his Master of Public Health at University of North Carolina, and his occupational medicine fellowship training at Duke University. In his current position, he provides subject matter expertise and oversight for injury care and employee health services to EHS sites across the Sacramento Valley Region. Dr. Caretto is an active participant in ACOEM and the Western Occupational and Environmental Medicine Association (WOEMA). His ACOEM service includes Vice Chair of the Finance and Practice Management Section and member of the Component Relations

Committee. In WOEMA, he recently completed 3 years as Co-Chair of the Education Committee and was recently elected to the WOEMA Board of Directors.



#### MASON D. HARRELL III, MD, MPH, FACOEM

Dr. Harrell is Chief Medical Officer at WorkCare, Inc., a U.S.-based, physician-directed occupational health company with global outreach. WorkCare provides total worker health solutions at 500+ companies and institutions employing more than 2 million people. He also co-founded Sequoia Port, Inc., an online software system that enhances the medical record review process. Dr. Harrell is Chair of ACOEM's Health Informatics Section and Vice-Chair of its Corporate Medicine Section. He recently completed active duty in the U.S. Navy and co-founded I Define, a non-profit organization funding clinical trials on treatment and a cure for children with autism and

intellectual disabilities. He teaches occupational medicine residents at the Harvard School of Public Health. He is a graduate of Brigham Young University, the Uniformed Services University and Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Harrell is board certified in occupational medicine, aerospace medicine, preventive medicine and public health, and a Fellow of ACOEM. He is trilingual and enjoys traveling and spending time with his family in Sicily.



#### MARIANNE CLOEREN, MD, MPH, FACOEM

Dr. Cloeren is Associate Professor, Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Department of Medicine, University of Maryland School of Medicine, where she participates in a variety of research projects, as well as teaching. She provides employee health services to University of Maryland Faculty Physicians, Inc. and occupational health consulting services to the University of Maryland, Baltimore and College Park campuses. She has been heavily involved in preparation, planning and response of the campuses to the COVID-19 pandemic, and her work includes the development of an integrated COVID-19 exposure, illness, contact tracing and tracking

tool in REDCap, a publicly available web application used by many researchers. Dr. Cloeren is board certified in occupational medicine and internal medicine. She is a member of the ACOEM's Council on Education and Academic Affairs, Council on OEM Practice and Co-Chair of ACOEM's Direct Educational Programs Oversight Committee.



## JILL A. ROSENTHAL, MD, MPH, MA, FACOEM

Dr. Rosenthal is the Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at The Zenith Insurance Company where she leads the team of physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and medical assistants who apply evidence-based medicine while maintaining an appreciation for the needs of each individual patient. She is board certified in Occupational Medicine. Dr. Rosenthal has served as the Medical Director for General Motors in Doraville, Georgia; for Midwest Generation in Chicago, Illinois; for Evanston-Northwestern Hospital's Employee Health Department; and for two Johnson and Johnson companies, Cordis and Microtyping Solutions. Dr. Rosenthal was the Area Medical Director for Concentra in

South Florida where she also acted as the Medical Director and Infection Control Officer for the City of West Palm Beach's Fire and Police Departments. In addition, she has served as a Physician Advisor for SBC-Smart Disability Program, Broadspire, General Electric, and Federal Occupational Health. Dr. Rosenthal was on the Board of Directors for ACOEM of which she is a fellow. She is the past Chair of the Legislative Committee of WOEMA and past president of the Florida Association of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. Florida's Surgeon General appointed Dr. Rosenthal to a second term on the Florida Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Foundation Board of Directors and is also the Chair of its Executive Committee. Dr. Rosenthal is a member of the AMA's CPT Advisory Committee, an Affiliate Assistant Professor at the University of South Florida Occupational Medicine Residency Program, and a member of the GMEC for the Palm Beach County Preventive Medicine/Public Health Residency Program.



#### TOM DENBERG, MD

Dr. Denberg is the Senior Medical Director of Pinnacol Assurance, Colorado's largest worker's compensation carrier. He is a physician executive with expertise in population health, complex care management, and alternative payment models. Prior to his role at Pinnacol, Dr. Denberg was Chief Strategy Officer of the Carilion Clinic in Virginia, a multi-hospital health system. He also served as Chief Quality Officer for Atrius Health in Boston, a large multispecialty physician group practice. Dr. Denberg is an active, board-certified internist, completing his residency at the University of Chicago and a fellowship in health services research at the University of California-San Francisco. He earned his

MD, with honors, at the University of Illinois. Dr. Denberg has published more than 50 peer-reviewed journal articles and for several years chaired the clinical guidelines committee of the American College of Physicians.