

HEALTH RESEARCH ALLIANCE MEMBERS MEETING

October 1 – 2, 2024



**Sponsored by Conquer Cancer, the ASCO Foundation;
Foundation Fighting Blindness; Melanoma Research Alliance; and BrightFocus Foundation**

*The meeting will be held at the American Society of Clinical Oncology offices
2318 Mill Rd #800, Alexandria, VA 22314*

All sessions will be live streamed via Zoom unless otherwise noted

September 30 | Monday

5:00 – 8:00pm ET **Reception (Daniel O'Connell's Irish Restaurant and Bar: 112 King St, Alexandria, VA 22314)**
Hosted by [SmartSimple](#)

October 1 | Tuesday

8:30 - 9:30am ET **Breakfast and Networking**

9:30am - 10:00am ET **Welcome**

Presenters

Nancy R. Daly, MS, MPH

Chief Executive Officer | Conquer Cancer, the ASCO Foundation

Clifford A. Hudis, MD, FACP, FASCO

Chief Executive Officer | American Society of Clinical Oncology
Executive Vice Chair | Conquer Cancer, the ASCO Foundation

Christine Riordan, PhD

Executive Director | Health Research Alliance

10:00am - 11:00am ET **Generative AI for Tracking and Communicating Research Impact**

The recent emergence of generative AI has many in the non-profit sector scrambling to keep up. This is especially true in terms of leveraging AI to measure, track and communicate the impact that research grant funding and its outcomes have on science and society. In this session, we will hear use cases and best practices on how AI can be used to capture, evaluate and communicate research impact to donors and stakeholders.

Moderator

Jennifer Mortenson, PhD

National Director, Program Evaluation | American Heart Association

Presenter

Chris Belter

Program Analyst, Division of Extramural Research | Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, US National Institutes of Health

(agenda continues on next page)

- 11:00am – 11:15am** **Meet the Members Meeting Sponsors**
Learn more about the Health Research Alliance member organizations that are generously sponsoring this Members Meeting.
- Presenters**
Amy Laster, PhD
Senior Vice President, Science Strategy and Awards | Foundation Fighting Blindness
- Preeti Subramanian, PhD**
Director of Vision Science Programs | BrightFocus Foundation
- Joan Levy, PhD**
Chief Science Officer | Melanoma Research Alliance
- 11:15am - 12:30pm ET** **Lunch**
- 12:30pm - 1:45pm ET** **How do Foundations Successfully Implement or Manage DEI Grant Programs in Light of Anti-DEI Legislation?**
In light of the recent Supreme Court decision on Affirmative Action, and other state anti-DEI legislation, foundations are at a crossroads when it comes to managing DEI grant programs. This session will explore how Foundations can remain compliant with current legislation while offering grant programs that institutions can accept that continue to advance DEI-related efforts.
- Moderator**
David Leyden, MPA, CRA
Senior Director, Finance and Administration, SFARI, Neuroscience, and Informatics | Simons Foundation
- Presenters**
Tammy Collins, PhD (virtual)
Program Officer | Burroughs Wellcome Fund
- Emily Cuneo DeSmedt (virtual)**
Partner | Morgan, Lewis & Blockius, LLP
- David Henderson, MD**
Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Belonging, Department of Medical Education | American Medical Association
- Jessica Koenigsknecht-Talboo, PhD**
Director of Foundation & Corporate Philanthropy | University of Kentucky Philanthropy
- 1:45pm - 2:15pm ET** **Break**
- 2:15pm - 3:15pm ET** **AI in Grant Application and Management: Strategies, Risks and Considerations**
Artificial intelligence tools are becoming widespread and more robust across various disciplines. This session will focus on the promises and perils of AI for funders to integrate AI for efficient grant making process. What funder workstreams could be made easier, faster, or more insightful with artificial intelligence? What are the concerns around privacy, biases, or truth that should be considered? This session will introduce a range of ways in which funders are using or considering artificial intelligence in the grant application process.
- Moderator**
Kevin Sia, PhD
Program Officer for Medical Research | Doris Duke Foundation

(session details continue on next page)

Presenters

Andrea Brandon

Deputy Assistant Secretary; Budget, Finance, Grants and Acquisition | US Department of the Interior

Chantal Forster (virtual)

AI Strategy Resident | Annenberg Foundation

Jennifer Hall, PhD

Chief of Data Science, Co-Director of the Institute for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine | American Heart Association

3:15pm - 3:45pm ET

Break

3:45pm - 4:45pm ET

Therapeutic Development Learning Community Session - Unlocking Cures: Navigating the Therapeutics Frontier in Collaboration with the Federal Government

As non-profits, we want to make sure any investments we make in potential new therapeutics are as impactful as possible. In this session, we will explore how we can complement what federal agencies support in this space, and make sure we catalyze the therapeutics development ecosystem. We will hear from NIH and ARPA-H on how their efforts support innovative drug discovery and development, and talk about how to effectively engage with these agencies. We will also hear from a trailblazer investigator who has taken a drug from conception to the clinic and discuss how different types of funding sources have helped them in their journey.

Moderator

Raeka Aiyar, PhD

Vice President, Scientific Outreach & Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging | The New York Stem Cell Foundation

Presenters

Susan Monarez, PhD

Deputy Director | Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)

Anath Shalev, MD (virtual)

Professor and Director, UAB Comprehensive Diabetes Center | Heersink School of Medicine, The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Amir Tamiz, PhD

Director of the Division of Translational Research | National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

5:00pm - 7:00pm ET

Reception at the ASCO offices

Hosted by [Altum](#)

October 2 | Wednesday

8:00am - 9:00am ET

Breakfast

Grants Administration Learning Community Meet-Up

(agenda continues on next page)

9:00am - 10:15am ET

Partnerships: Two sides of the same coin

Partnerships can be so much more than cofunding a research program. From partnering with corporations, to engaging with industry partners, to collaborating with other nonprofits and consortia, diversity in partnership is beneficial to furthering the goals of HRA member organizations. This session will explore how our member organizations can partner with nonacademic organizations to further shared goals in biomedical research. HRA members and their partners will provide dual perspectives and real-life examples on the successes and challenges of the partnership and provide take home lessons for attendees interested in pursuing similar partnerships.

Moderator

Jennifer Brummet, PhD

Associate Director, Scientific Affairs and Partnerships | CurePSP

Presenters

Kuldip Dave, PhD

Senior Vice President of Research | The ALS Association

Maaïke Everts, PhD

Executive Director, Translational Therapeutics Accelerator | Critical Path Institute

(session details continue on next page)

Deb Gokie

Vice President of Consumer Health and Ease of Use | Arthritis Foundation

Alessio Travaglia, PhD

Director, Translational Science, Neuroscience | Foundation for the National Institutes of Health

10:15am - 10:30am ET

Break

10:30am - 12:00pm ET

Career Advancement: Aligning Passion with Prosperity

This interactive workshop will teach you how to align your passion with your goals to build a career that lights you up with purpose. No matter what stage you're at in your career, you'll walk away with actionable strategies for career growth that integrate your values and talents. Managers and leaders will also learn cutting-edge staff retention techniques that foster the professional growth of your team (even in small shops!) Whether you're early in your career or seeking to ascend to new heights, this session offers invaluable insights and practical advice to empower you in your professional journey.

Moderator

Jacquelyn Crutchley

Senior Administrative Manager, Research and Grants Administration | American Association for Cancer Research

Facilitator

Shannon Bowen

Founder and CEO | Monsoon Leadership

12:00pm - 1:00pm ET

Lunch

Boxed lunches will be available – feel free to take lunch to go, or stay and network with colleagues!