



**WESTERN REGIONAL
ACADEMIC
HEALTH
DEPARTMENT
SUMMIT**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2019
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019
SOUTHERN NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT**



DAY 1

Monday, December 2, 2019 Red Rock Conference Room

12:30–1:30 p.m.

Registration

1:30–1:45 p.m.

Opening remarks and welcome

- **Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH**
Acting Chief Health Officer, Southern Nevada Health District
 - **James Cunningham, PhD**
Evaluator, The University of Arizona Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health
 - **Raymond Alden III, PhD**
Provost, Touro University Nevada
 - **Angela Amar, PhD, RN, FAAN**
Dean, UNLV School of Nursing
-

1:45–2:45 p.m.

Opening keynote

Benefits and Value of an AHD

Kathleen Amos, MLIS

Assistant Director, Academic/Practice Linkages,
Public Health Foundation (PHF)

2:45–3:00 p.m.

Networking break

Brought to you by the Western Regional Public Health Training Center

3:00–4:00 p.m.

Presentation

Workforce Competency and Training Needs at Selected Health Departments in Arizona, California and Nevada

James Cunningham, PhD

Evaluator, The University of Arizona Mel & Enid Zuckerman
College of Public Health

4:00–4:10 p.m.

Break

4:10–5:00 p.m.

Panel discussion

Model AHD Practices and Navigating Processes

- **Eileen Eisen-Cohen, PhD, MSW**
Manager, Office of Performance Improvement,
Maricopa County Department of Public Health
 - **Julia Flannery, BS**
Organizational Development Program Manager,
Pima County Public Health
 - **Laura Valentino, MPH, MEd, CHES®**
Academic Affairs Coordinator, Southern Nevada Health District
 - **Emily Waldron, MPH**
Community Engagement and Outreach Coordinator, The University
of Arizona Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health
-

5:00–5:15 p.m.

Questions and wrap up

DAY 2

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Red Rock Conference Room

7:00–8:00 a.m.	Registration
8:00–9:00 a.m.	Networking breakfast Courtesy of Touro University Nevada
9:00–10:00 a.m. Presentation	What is the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, and why should my AHD care? Julie Botnick, MLIS Education & Outreach Librarian, NNLM Pacific Southwest Region, UCLA Biomedical Library
10:00–10:15 a.m.	Break
10:00–11:00 a.m.	Table discussions
11:00–11:30 a.m. Presentation	General Approach to Contracts Veralynn Orewyler Contract Administrator, Southern Nevada Health District
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Presentation	Pursuing Innovative Workforce Partnerships: Finding Win-Win Solutions Across Public Health and Academia Mac McCullough, PhD Assistant Professor, College of Health Solutions, Arizona State University and Health Economist, Maricopa County Department of Public Health
12:30–1:30 p.m.	Meet and greet over lunch
1:30–2:15 p.m.	Working groups (work with those from your state and/or area)
2:15–3:00 p.m.	Closing session (bringing it all together)
3:00–3:15 p.m.	Closing remarks Cort Lohff, MD Preventive Medicine Residency Director, Southern Nevada Health District, and AHD Summit Planning Committee



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Raymond Alden III, PhD,

was appointed to the position of Provost of Touro University Nevada in April 2015. In this role, he oversees the academic, research, clinical and service programs of Touro University Nevada, which is located in Henderson, Nevada.



Previously, Dr. Alden served in a number of administrative leadership positions at three rapidly developing, doctoral/research universities: Northern Illinois University (NIU), University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV), and Old Dominion University (ODU). At NIU, Dr. Alden was the Vice President for International Affairs and the Executive Vice President and Provost (EVP/P). Dr. Alden served as both the EVP/P and Dean of Sciences at UNLV. He was the director of a multidisciplinary environmental program and a full professor of Biological Sciences at ODU.

Dr. Alden has a B.S. in Biology from Stetson University, a Ph.D. in Zoology from University of Florida, and was a postdoctoral fellow at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He has been inducted into four national and international academic honor societies and received a number of commendations for excellence in professional service. Dr. Alden has served in leadership roles in a number of national higher education organizations. He has been an editor for three professional publications and has served as scientific advisor to numerous state and federal agencies, including serving as an expert witness for a U.S. Congressional subcommittee. He has served as principal investigator on more than \$30 million of grants/contracts, authored over 250 scientific publications and reports, and made more than 100 invited presentations at professional meetings.

Angela Amar, Ph.D., RN, FAAN,


joined UNLV School of Nursing as its Dean during January 2018. She is excited by the university's Top Tier initiative and the School of Nursing's amazing students, faculty, and staff. Prior to her new role, Dean Amar led the undergraduate programs, including pre-nursing courses, nursing, and accelerated programs at Emory University. Through her vision and innovation, the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing advanced the learning and leadership among undergraduate students, particularly within forensic nursing and cultural diversity. Her funded projects included an NIH-sponsored Bridges to Baccalaureate Program and a HRSA funded Nursing Workforce Diversity grant.



Dean Amar dedicates her career to enhancing diversity within nursing leadership, and improving care and support for survivors of violence and trauma when they enter the health care system. An advanced practice psychiatric nurse, Dean Amar co-authored an award-winning book on forensic nursing titled *A Practical Guide to Forensic Nursing*.

Prior to joining Emory University, she developed forensic nursing programs for Georgetown University and Boston College, and established an educational model for nursing schools nationwide. Her research focused on sexual assault, dating violence, and mental health responses to traumatic experiences has received support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and the National Institute of Nursing Research. She has published papers about dating violence and sexual assault, and is active in university service related to violence and diversity.

Dean Amar is an American Academy of Nursing fellow, an International Association of Forensic Nurses distinguished fellow, and



National League for Nursing's Academy of Nursing Education fellow. She is on the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson Future of Nursing Scholars program and was recently a committee member for the Biological and Psychosocial Effects of Peer Victimization: Lessons for Bullying Prevention, Academy of Medicine, formerly known as the Institute of Medicine. She also serves as a reviewer for the Scientific Merit Review Board of the Health Services Research & Development within the United States Department of Veteran's Affairs.

Dean Amar is certified as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Advanced Practice Adult Psychiatric and Mental Health, and as an Advanced Forensic Nurse.

Kathleen Amos, MLIS,

serves as the Assistant Director, Academic/Practice Linkages for the Public Health Foundation (PHF). In this role, she supports collaborative public health workforce development initiatives designed to strengthen connections between academia, public health practice, and health care. She coordinates the activities of the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice and its initiatives, including the Academic Health Department Learning Community and Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals, as well as workforce development efforts related to performance improvement and population health. Ms. Amos' prior experience includes fellowship placements with PHF, the University of Utah, and the National Library of Medicine. She holds a Master's degree in library and information studies, with post-graduate training in health sciences information services.



Sandra Annan is a

Community Based Instructor at the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, where she teaches health, nutrition, and physical activity in the Healthy Kids Early Start program to young children. She has been an advocate for infants, toddlers, and children in her former position as a Community Health Worker at the Southern Nevada Health District for a grant funded program that promoted healthy diets, breastfeeding, and enhancing early cognitive functioning among mothers and their children. In addition, she is a graduate student at UNLV School of Public Health and has been an active member/officer in the Public Health Student Association since 2015. She has worked on numerous community outreach projects over the years, such as Rebuilding Together of Southern NV's National Rebuilding Day and Make a Difference Day, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension's Healthy Kids Festival, and UNLV's National Service Day. She worked with Laura Valentino to plan and coordinate the first ever Western Regional Academic Health Department Summit.



Julie Botnick is an

Education and Outreach Librarian for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Pacific Southwest Region at UCLA Biomedical Library, where she works primarily with public and community health audiences. Previously, she worked in educational program development. She completed her Master of Library and Information Studies at UCLA and holds a BA from Yale.



James Cunningham, PhD,

is the Director of the Program Evaluation & Policy Research Group at the University of Arizona's College of Medicine. He is the principal evaluator for the Western Region Public Health Training Center at the University of Arizona's College of Public Health. Prior to coming to the University of Arizona, Dr. Cunningham worked at the Orange County Health Care Agency, the RAND Corporation, and the Public Statistics Institute. His research interests include substance misuse, mental health, and workforce development.



Dr. Eileen Eisen-Cohen

has held leadership positions in many nonprofit and public organizations for more than 20 years. She is currently employed as the Performance Improvement Manager with the Maricopa County Department of Public Health, working with quality improvement and performance management systems. Eileen has experience leading work teams, community partners, and stakeholders in local and statewide initiatives, and serves on several executive boards of directors for grassroots and community organizations. She has worked in public administration and program evaluation for 30 years. As a Faculty Associate in Public Administration and Public Health, she teaches courses in Public Management, Public Policy, Program Evaluation, Leadership, and Women and Politics.



Julia Flannery is the Program Manager for the Pima County Health Department's Organizational Development Program. In this role, she fosters collaborative approaches critical to the success of employee enrichment and workforce development programming. Julia's passion for public health has led her to champion a collaborative partnership with the University



of Arizona Mel Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, design a robust internship program, and serve as a site visitor for the national public health accreditation board where she supported several Arizona health departments in their accreditation efforts.

Dr. Fermin Leguen

currently serves as the Acting Chief Health Officer and Chief Medical Officer at the Southern Nevada Health District. Prior to beginning at the Southern Nevada Health District in 2016, he served as Medical Executive Director at the Florida Department of Health in Pasco and Hernando Counties. Before that, he served as the Chief Medical Officer for Doctor's Medical Centers, Inc., Medical Executive Director/Epidemiology Director for the Miami-Dade County Health Department and was a primary care physician. He received his MD from Havana University and completed his General Preventive Medicine Residency and MPH at Johns Hopkins University.



Dr. Cort Lohff

currently serves as the Residency Program Director at the Southern Nevada Health District. In that role, he is responsible for overseeing the training of physicians for careers in preventive medicine and public health and provides supports to other training and educational efforts within the District. Prior to taking this role in 2018, Dr. Lohff served in various roles at other local and state public health departments. He received his MD from the University of Wisconsin Madison and his MPH from the University of Michigan.



Mac McCullough

works as both Assistant Professor in the College of Health Solutions at Arizona State University and as Health Economist for the Maricopa County Department of Public Health. He



has worked in this unique joint role since 2014. He works directly as part of the public health staff to perform economic analyses of public health programs, policies, and systems in the nation's fourth largest local health jurisdiction. At ASU, Mac's research centers on the structures and financing of organizations promoting population health. He recently led the development of a new way to measure local governmental investments in health and social services. This has enabled long-term tracking of how both spending and population health outcomes change over time. Mac was recently named to the inaugural list of "40 Under 40 in Public Health" by the deBeaumont Foundation. Prior to academia he worked at the National Academy of Sciences and U.S. Department of State. He completed his PhD in health services at UCLA, his MPH at the University of Minnesota, and his bachelor's degree at Georgetown University.

Veralynn Orewyler

currently works for the Southern Nevada Health District in the Legal Department, where she serves as the Contract Administrator. Prior to her employment with the Health District, she worked as a freelance consultant to private legal firms, and regularly negotiated contracts while employed in the private sector. Her aptitude for language and her attention to detail function as valuable tools while she works with dynamic combinations of internal and external stakeholders to formalize a wide variety of collaborative and business arrangements.



Laura Valentino is the Academic Affairs Coordinator for the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD). As Academic Affairs Coordinator, she coordinates students, residents and fellows, writes and delivers staff preceptor development, and champions academic and community partnerships.



She led the effort, and serves as coordinator, for the Academic Health Department. The Academic Health Department, a collaboration with academic institutions to bridge the gap between academia and public health practice, is the first of its kind in Nevada.

Laura is a Ph.D. candidate in Health Studies at Texas Woman's University. She holds Master of Public Health and Master of Education degrees. She has presented on the topics of health disparities, family caregiving, and agenda-setting at several national conferences. She is a former nonprofit programs manager, emergency services dispatcher, and elementary school teacher.

Emily Waldron, MPH,

is the Community Engagement and Outreach Coordinator for the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health (MEZCOPH). She earned an MPH in Family and Child Health from MEZCOPH in 2015.



After graduating with her MPH, Emily worked as Program Manager at the American Lung Association where she was responsible for spear-heading smoke-free housing efforts in Southern Arizona. She worked closely with HUD, county health departments, and non-profit organizations to support apartment properties in Southern Arizona adopt and implement smoke-free policies.

In her current role, Emily is responsible for establishing and maintaining Academic Health Department partnerships throughout Arizona. She collaborates with MEZCOPH and health department personnel to develop meaningful learning, professional development, and research opportunities for staff, faculty, and students.

Emily enjoys exploring downtown Tucson, hiking, traveling, and attending local "foodie" events.





SPECIAL THANKS

Sponsors

Gold Medal Sponsorship



Silver Medal Sponsorship



Bronze Medal Sponsorship



Keynote Presenter Sponsor



Host



AHD Summit Planning Committee

- **Sandra Annan**, University of Nevada Las Vegas and Southern Nevada Health District
- **Eileen Eisen-Cohen**, Maricopa County Department of Public Health
- **Patty Cross**, Utah County Health Department
- **Julia Flannery**, Pima County Public Health
- **Laura Valentino**, Southern Nevada Health District
- **Emily Waldron**, The University of Arizona

