

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

IGNATIUS BAU

Ignatius Bau is an independent health care policy consultant, working on issues of health care reform, health equity, language access, cultural competency, health workforce diversity, health information technology, immigrant and refugee health, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender health. His organizational clients include consumer organizations, health departments, health plans, hospitals and health systems, physician organizations, community health centers, health care interpreter associations, community-based organizations, and private health foundations in California, Oregon, Connecticut, and nationally. Mr. Bau has served on expert advisory panels on health equity issues for the Institute of Medicine, National Quality Forum, Joint Commission, Office of Minority Health, Office of National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, California Department of Health Care Services, and California Health Interview Survey. He previously worked at The California Endowment, Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum, and Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area. Mr. Bau graduated from UC Berkeley with an undergraduate and law degree.

HOWARD S. BERLINER

Howard S. Berliner is an Adjunct Professor at the New School and a Clinical Professor of Health Policy at the Weil Cornell School of Medicine. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Isabella Geriatric Center in New York and the Health Alliance of the Hudson Valley, and as a member of the Public Health and Health Planning Council of New York State.

Mr. Berliner has served as Director of Ambulatory Care for the Health Systems Agency of New York City, Assistant Commissioner for Research, Policy, and Planning in the New Jersey Department of Health, and Director of Health Policy for the Service Employees International Union. He has also served as Professor and Chair of the Program in Health Policy and Management at the Milano Graduate School of the New School and as the Director of the Doctoral Program in Public and Urban Policy at the New School. He was the first Professor and Chair of Health Policy and Management at the School of Public Health at SUNY Downstate in New York and recently served as a Visiting Professor of Health Policy at New York University.

He has authored seven books on health policy and a large number of papers in academic and professional publications. He also serves as a consultant to numerous academic organizations, voluntary health agencies, hospitals, labor unions, and government. Mr. Berliner holds an MBA from the Johnson School of Management Sloan Institute of Hospital Administration at Cornell University and a Doctorate in health care organization and finance from the Bloomberg School of Public Health at the Johns Hopkins University.

SARAH DE GUIA

Sarah de Guia is the executive director of the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network (CPEHN), a multicultural health advocacy organization dedicated to improving the health of communities of color in California. She brings over 15 years of experience conducting legislative, budgetary, administrative, and legal advocacy on women's health and reproductive justice, language access,

immigrants' rights, and expanding health care to communities of color. Ms. De Guia previously worked with CPEHN as Interim Director for the Having Our Say Coalition, where she organized the statewide coalition to advocate on behalf of communities of color for health care reform. She has also served as the Health Program Manager for Latino Issues Forum and as Legislative Analyst for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. Recently, Ms. De Guia served as a mentor through the Women's Policy Institute, a legislative training program for women leaders. Ms. De Guia is a graduate of Santa Clara University School of Law, where she was awarded the Student Award for Social Justice and was the Herman Wildman Social Justice Writing Award. She earned her Bachelor of Arts from UC Berkeley in Ethnic Studies and Public Policy.

B. DARCEL LEE HARRIS

Brenda "Darcel" Lee Harris is the President and Chief Executive Officer of California Black Health Network (CBHN). She is only the third executive to sit at the helm of the organization in its 32-year history and brings over 30 years of healthcare policy, legislative, and leadership experience to CBHN.

Mrs. Lee Harris began her health care career in Nashville, TN, as a Director of Government Relations and a lobbyist at both the state and federal levels for Hospital Corporation of America, a Fortune 500 company, where she trained hospital administrators and executives in the special art of legislative advocacy. Mrs. Lee Harris has also held senior level positions with California Special Districts Association, California Primary Care Association, and as President/CEO of her own company, Harris Meeting Management Associates.

Among her accomplishments since taking the helm of CBHN, Mrs. Lee Harris has spearheaded the creation of a statewide African American Speaker's Bureau on Health; led CBHN in hosting a national conference call for African American leaders on the Affordable Care Act and its Implications on African American Communities; provided input to the California Health Benefits Exchange concerning the needs of California's African Americans as they prepare for the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in California; established a 10-agency collaborative to conduct outreach and education on the Affordable Care Act and Covered California; and created and established the CBHN Black Infant Health Alliance. Mrs. Lee Harris has a Bachelor's in Business Management with an emphasis in organizational development.

AYAKO MIYASHITA

Ayako Miyashita is the Inaugural Brian Belt HIV Law & Policy Fellow at the Williams Institute. In her current role, Ms. Miyashita informs pending legislation impacting People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH). She performs legal research on issues related to the criminalization of HIV. Most recently, Ms. Miyashita helped plan and implement a legal needs assessment for PLWH in Los Angeles County. She often provides information and technical assistance on law and policy matters affecting PLWH and conducts presentations to a wide variety of audiences.

In her previous positions, Ms. Miyashita provided direct legal services to low-income clients living with HIV/AIDS. Her direct services experience includes assisting clients in obtaining disability benefits and other supports necessary to live independently. Ms. Miyashita's expertise runs a broad spectrum of public benefits, including income support, health coverage, and other

support services necessary for individuals living with disabilities. She regularly provided training and education to clients, attorney colleagues, and HIV/AIDS service organizations throughout Los Angeles County. Her policy work focused on Americans with Disability Act violations in the administration of local, state, and federally funded public benefits, including General Relief and California's Medi-Cal program. Ms. Miyashita received a Bachelor of Arts from UC Santa Cruz and a Juris Doctor from UC Berkeley School of Law.

XAVIER MORALES

Xavier Morales is the executive director for the Latino Coalition for a Healthy California. He is a longtime advocate for community-driven initiatives to achieve health equity and environmental justice. Taking an expansive view of what constitutes good health and community wellness, he diligently works to enable opportunities for youth development, workforce development, college access, prisoner reentry, early childhood development, affordable housing, and expanding access to culturally and linguistically appropriate health care for all Californians. Mr. Morales currently serves on the boards of The Praxis Project and the California Pan-Ethnic Health Network, and also on the advisory boards for the Diabetes Coalition of California and the California Department of Public Health's Biobank Community Values Panel. He was also a member of the Berkeley vs. Big Soda steering committee that passed the first local tax on sugar-sweetened beverages to begin to address the diabetes epidemic in the Latino community. Mr. Morales is also in a leadership role in the efforts to pass legislation for a sugar-sweetened beverage tax at the state level in California. He often provides testimony in the California State Legislature and is also a frequent speaker at legislative briefings, health conferences, health justice gatherings, and in college/university settings. Mr. Morales, a former Peace Corps volunteer (Hungary-3), is originally from Sanger, California, and studied environmental sciences at UC Berkeley and city and regional planning at Cornell University.

JONATHAN TRAN

Jonathan Tran serves as the Southeast Asia Resource Action Center's (SEARAC) lead advocate and community liaison in California, where the country's largest Southeast Asian Americans (SEAA) reside. He is also SEARAC's lead policy advocate on issues related to health care reform and aging on the national level. On a state and local level, Mr. Tran's advocacy work includes representing SEAA communities and families on issues related to the California State Budget, health and human services, and education policy. He is also spearheading SEARAC's efforts around the Alliance for Boys and Men of Color and President Obama's My Brother's Keeper Initiative through the convening of the SEAA Young Men's Collaborative (SEAYM), which focuses on empowering SEAA young men to become positive agents in transforming their community. Prior to joining SEARAC, Mr. Tran worked in the California State Legislature, first as a Senate Fellow for State Senator Sheila Kuehl and then as a Legislative Aide for California State Assemblyman Mike Eng. He is also active on a local level as an organizer for Hmong Innovating Politics and board member for the Asian Pacific Youth Leadership Project. Mr. Tran holds a Bachelor of Arts in Asian American Studies and Political Science from UCLA. The son of Teo-Chew refugees from Vietnam, Mr. Tran was born and raised in Los Angeles, California, and currently resides in Sacramento, California.