



WORKING TO ELIMINATE MINORITY HEALTH DISPARITIES IN NEW YORK'S SMALL CITIES

Our new Presidential Doctoral Fellowship for Research Training in Health Disparities Fellows

**Simone A Seward, MPH**

Simone Seward earned her Master of Public Health (MPH) from Boston University School of Public Health. Additionally, she is a scholar of the Public Health Leadership Institute of Florida (PHLIF) and the SUNY SAIL Summer Leadership Institute. With over 10 years of training and diverse experiences in health promotion and disease prevention programs at the federal, state, and local level, Ms. Seward has developed a repertoire of skills to tackle complex public health challenges.

Ms. Seward began her career in public service in 2004 with the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) as a Public Health Prevention Specialist. She completed several assignments at CDC Headquarters and her first field assignment at the Hillsborough County Health Department in Tampa, FL. She led the development and implementation of a Community Health Advisor (CHA) Program aimed at training lay health workers to promote health education messages in low-income and medically underserved communities within the state of Florida.

Ms. Seward considers herself both an educator and a community health advocate. In her current position, she is an instructor in the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine and the Director of the Center for Civic Engagement at Upstate Medical University, in Syracuse, NY. Her vision is to train socially responsible health care professionals to address health disparities related to the unequal treatment received by minority populations as documented by the 2003 Institute of Medicine (IOM) report. Her research interests are focused on increasing the capacity of academic medical centers to effectively recruit, retain and train a diverse biomedical workforce equipped to provide quality health services to an increasingly diverse patient population.

By facilitating a mutually-beneficial community engagement process, Ms. Seward also is able to address community priority areas by harnessing the resources and expertise of the University to tackle issues such as food insecurity, inadequate transportation and housing instability. Through shared decision making, she ensures community members have a voice in the design and

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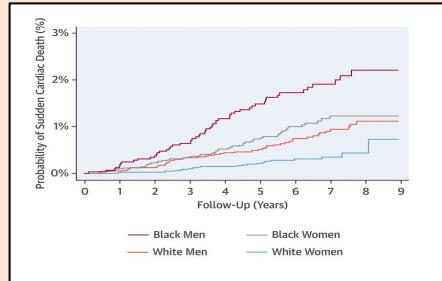
IN THIS ISSUE

Meet our new Presidential Doctoral Fellowship for Research Training in Health Disparities Fellows

Fast Facts: Sudden Cardiac Death

FAST FACTS

Racial differences in sudden cardiac death among individuals without a history of CVD



Source: Deo, R. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2018; 72(20):2431-9.

A study published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology, reported that the disparity between US Blacks and whites in the rate of death from sudden cardiac events was not able to be explained despite statistical control for the usual factors that explain sudden cardiac events. In this study of 22,507 participants who were 45 years of age or more and did not have a history of cardiac disease, the death rate from sudden cardiac events was nearly twice as high among Black adults compared to white adults. An important feature of this analysis is that the researchers adjusted the rates of death for 1) social characteristics, 2) any other existing diseases, 3) behavioral measures of health, 4) intervening cardiovascular events and 5) competing risks for non-sudden cardiac death mortality. These findings emphasize the importance of community-based interventions to increase awareness about warning signs and sudden cardiac death.

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 upcoming events!



Melissa Noel, Hui Lin Myo Y Kathryn
Schell, Director of CEMHD, nestsro
izquierda a derecha: Dr. Lawrence
Wayne Lawrence. Segunda fila de
jila: Yasalira Cabral-Tineo, Erica Tyler
En la foto, de izquierda a derecha, 1^a
esta edición!
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Nuestras cohortes 2016 y 2017; la
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escritores en la Universidad de Albany que se ocupó de la autoidentificación y la percepción. El grupo de escritores trabajó con mujeres
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Con su mentor, el doctor Horton, Sra. Kalu también examinó la incidencia del cáncer en el contexto de los cambios en la
servicio, maestros permanentes, profesores y poblaciones estudiantiles marginadas.

varios sistemas de escuelas públicas con tales como trabajadores sociales, consejeros, maestros de educación especial, maestros en
Kalu ha trabajado en varios proyectos de investigación relacionados con el logro de la igualdad educativa, trabajando en asociación con
el género y el estatus socioeconómico que pude influir en el éxito y los logros académicos con estudiantes afroamericanos. La Sra.
dirigirse a las disparidades de salud mental en estudiantes afroamericanos y desarrollar conocimiento sobre la complejidad de la raza,
estudiantes afroamericanos (niñas, adolescentes y mujeres específicamente). Su propia identidad como
interesarle en cómo el currículo de alfabetización podría mejorar la salud mental y emocional de los
Mientras enseñaba en las escuelas de Titulo I en el sur de Florida, la Sra. Kalu comenzó a
especialización en currículo de instrucción (Ed.S) de Florida.
certificado de postgrado en planificación comunitaria de Florida International University y una
literatura inglesa de Florida State University, una maestría en educación infantil temprana y un
la tutela del Dr. Hayward Horton. Criada en el norte de la Florida, la Sra. Kalu tiene un bachillerato en
Ola Kalu es una estudiante de doctorado de Sociología en la Facultad de Artes y Ciencias bajo
que traducirise en prácticas de salud pública sostenibles y liderezgo transformador.



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Bienvenidos a Simone y Ola de parte de todos en CEMHD, UA Albany y Todos los Beccarios!



Ola Kalu, MA

Sra. Seward planea obtener su título de Doctor en Salud Pública (DrPH) en el Departamento de Normas, Administración y
Comportamiento de Salud. A través de la Beca Presidencial de Doctorado para la Entrenamiento en Investigación comunitaria, que
Saud, espera infundir entreno en investigación transdisciplinaria sobre su enseñanza, beras y participación comunitaria, que
de la comunidad tenga una voz en el diseño e implementación de intervenciones, intervenciones y programas basados en la
alimentaria el transporte inadecuado y la vivienda. Por medio de decisiones compartida, asegura que los miembros
de la comunidad creen firmemente que tales esfuerzos de colaboración pueden conducir a soluciones sostenibles impulsadas
por la comunidad.

implementation of community-based research, interventions, and programs. Ms. Seward firmly believes that such collaborative efforts can lead to sustainable, community-driven solutions.

Ms. Seward plans to pursue her Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) degree in the Department of Health Policy, Management, and Behavior. Through the Presidential Doctoral Fellowship for Research Training in Health Disparities, she hopes to infuse training in transdisciplinary research into her teaching, scholarship, and community engagement, which can translate into sustainable public health practices, effective public policies and transformational leadership.



Ola Kalu, MA

Ola Kalu is a Sociology doctoral student in the College of Arts & Sciences under the mentorship of Dr. Hayward Horton. Raised in North Florida, Ms. Kalu has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from Florida State University, Master of Early Childhood Education and Graduate certificate in Community Planning from Florida International University and a Specialist degree in Curriculum and Instruction (Ed.S) from University of Florida.

While teaching in Title I schools in South Florida, Ms. Kalu began to take an interest in how literacy curriculum could boost agency and mental and emotional wellness of African American students (girls, adolescents, and women specifically). Ms. Kalu's own identity as a first-generation Nigerian - American has contributed to her two research focuses: addressing mental health

disparities in African American students and developing awareness regarding the intricacy of which race, gender, and socioeconomic status can influence academic success and achievement with African American students. Ms. Kalu has worked on several research projects related to attaining educational equity working in partnership with various public-school systems with critical stakeholders, such as social workers, guidance counselors, special education teachers, pre-service teachers, tenured teachers, faculty and staff, and marginalized student populations.

Alongside, her mentor Dr. Horton, she has also examined the incidence of cancer in the context of changes in the social structure relative to access to societal resources. Ms. Kalu's latest project has been the creation of a writing group at University at Albany that deals with self-identification and perception. The writing group worked with African American undergraduate women using a Critical Pedagogy framework that emphasized a safe space outside of traditional mainstream education through providing empowerment, love, and support for the African American women. Through the Presidential Doctoral Health Disparities Fellowship, Ms. Kalu believes that she will become a more proficient researcher, social justice advocate, and contribute to the growing health disparities research that examines social and behavioral determinants of health through the lens of schooling and academics.

*Welcome Simone and Ola from everyone at CEMHD, UAlbany,
and all the Health Disparities Fellows!*



*Our 2016 and 2017 cohorts; the new
2018 cohort is featured in this issue!*

*Pictured from left to right 1st row:
Yajaira Cabrera-Tineo, Erica Tyler
and Wayne Lawrence. Second row
left to right: Dr. Lawrence Schell,
Director of CEMHD, our recent
graduate Dr. Kaydian Reid, Melissa
Noel, Hnin Myo, and Katheryn
Roberson.*



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