

SPEAKER BIOS

[Listed in alphabetical order by last name]

Dr. Gail C. Christopher, DN

Dr. Christopher is senior advisor and vice president at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. In this role, she leads the foundation's Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation (TRHT) enterprise and serves on the president's cabinet that provides overall direction and leadership for the foundation. Since joining the foundation in 2007, Gail has served as vice president for program strategy with responsibility for multiple areas of programming, including Racial Equity; Food, Health & Well-Being; Community Engagement and Leadership; as well as place-based programming in New Orleans and New Mexico.

Gail is a nationally recognized leader in health policy, with particular expertise and experience in the issues related to social determinants of health, health inequities and public policy issues of concern to our nation's future. Her distinguished career and contributions to public service were honored in 1996 when she was elected as a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration. In 2011 she was awarded the "Change Agent Award" by the Schott Foundation for Public Education; in 2012 she was the recipient of the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs (AMCHP) John C. MacQueen Lecture Award for her innovation and leadership in the field of maternal and child health. Most recently in 2015 she was the recipient of the Terrance Keenan award for Grantmakers in Health. She is chair of the board of the Trust for America's Health.

Brenda Eskenazi, PhD

Dr. Eskenazi directs the Center for Environmental Research and Children's Health (CERCH, cerch.org) at the University of California at Berkeley. She is the Jennifer and Brian Maxwell Professor of Maternal and Child Health and Epidemiology and Chair of Community Health and Human Development at the School of Public Health at UC Berkeley. Dr. Eskenazi is a neuropsychologist and epidemiologist whose long-standing research interest has been the effects of toxicants on human reproduction (both male and female) and child development.

Professor Eskenazi has over 300 publications and is on the scientific advisory boards of Healthy Children, Healthy World and the Children's Environmental Health Coalition. Professor Eskenazi advises the World Health Organization on children's environmental health issues and has advised researchers across the world on investigations including in Israel, Costa Rica, New Zealand, Bangladesh, Chile, Mexico, China, and elsewhere. Professor Eskenazi is currently the Principal Investigator (PI) and Director of an NIH/EPA Center for Excellence in Children's Environmental Health Research and its keystone project "CHAMACOS," which investigates the exposure pathways and health effects of pesticide and other exposures in farmworkers and their children residing in the Salinas Valley in California and develops interventions to prevent future exposure. She is also the Principal Investigator on other NIEHS-funded projects on endocrine disruption including the Seveso Women's Health Study of the health of women and their children exposed to high levels of dioxin as a result of an explosion in 1976 and the VHEMBE study of the health effects of pyrethroids and DDT to children living in areas of South Africa sprayed for malaria control. She is a member of the National Advisory Environmental Health Science Council for the National Institutes of Health and has sat on the Board of Children, Youth and Families for the National Academy of Science. Dr. Eskenazi has recently been awarded the prestigious John R. Goldsmith award for lifetime achievement in environmental epidemiology.

Lia Fernald, PhD, MBA

Dr. Fernald is a Professor in Community Health Sciences at the School of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Fernald's work focuses primarily on how inequalities in socio-economic position contribute to growth and developmental outcomes in mothers, infants and children, and on how interventions can address socio-economic and health disparities. Most of her work for the past decade has centered on looking at the effects of interventions (e.g. conditional cash transfer programs, parenting programs, microcredit interventions, and community-based nutrition interventions) on child development and maternal mental health, particularly focused in low- and middle-income countries. Dr. Fernald has published over 80 academic articles in journals such as the *Lancet*, *Pediatrics*, *International Journal of Epidemiology*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *Social Science and Medicine*, *American Journal of Public Health*, and *Developmental Science*. She currently serves as a member of the National Academy of Sciences Committee entitled Global Health and the Future of the United States.

Camelia E. Hostinar, PhD

Dr. Hostinar is a developmental psychologist who studies how the social environment shapes health, with a focus on the activity of the stress-response and immune systems. She investigates the ways in which childhood poverty and other forms of early-life adversity influence later mental and physical health. She has particular interest in protective factors that may buffer children and adolescents against chronic stress and promote healthier biological profiles. Her work examines developmental processes at multiple levels of analysis, incorporating endocrine and immune biomarkers, electrophysiological data, and behavioral measures.

Arsenio Mataka, JD

Arsenio Mataka was appointed by Governor Edmund G Brown Jr. in December 2011 to serve as Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs at the California Environmental Protection Agency. Prior to joining CalEPA, Arsenio served as directing attorney for California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. from 2010-2012, where he fought for justice alongside some of the most exploited communities in our society.

Arsenio's involvement with environmental justice issues began at home with his parents and later with the Great Valley Center, where he provided extensive outreach and capacity building services to rural and underserved communities. In 2008 he served as an American Bar Association diversity fellow in environmental law in the office of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

Arsenio graduated from Sacramento State University with a Bachelor's degree in History, and went on to receive his Juris Doctor from Humphreys College Laurence Drivon School of Law. Arsenio lives in the Oak Park community of Sacramento with his wife Jessie.

Rachel Morello-Frosch, PhD, MPH

Dr. Morello-Frosch is Professor in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management and the School of Public Health at UC Berkeley. As an environmental health scientist, her research examines race and class determinants of health among diverse communities in the US with a focus on social inequality, psychosocial stress and how these factors interact with environmental chemical exposures to produce health inequalities. Her work has examined this environmental justice question in the context of ambient air pollution, prenatal exposures to environmental chemicals and effects on developmental outcomes, often using community-based participatory research methods for data collection. In collaboration with researchers, regulatory scientists, and community partners, Rachel has developed scientifically valid and transparent tools for assessing the cumulative impacts of chemical and non-chemical stressors to improve regulatory decision-making and advance environmental justice goals.

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Gina M. Solomon, MD, MPH

Dr. Solomon is the Deputy Secretary for Science and Health at the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) and a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF). At CalEPA, Dr. Solomon serves as the science advisor to the Secretary on a wide range of scientific issues related to chemical and pesticide health risk. She also works across the agency and with other agencies on challenging and emerging scientific policy issues.

Prior to coming to CalEPA in 2012, she was a senior scientist at the Natural Resources Defense Council, the director of the occupational and environmental medicine residency program at UCSF, and the co-director of the UCSF Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit. Dr. Solomon's work has spanned a wide array of areas, including children's environmental health, reproductive toxicity, cumulative impacts and evaluating the use of novel data streams to screen chemicals for toxicity. She has also done work in exposure science for air pollutants, pesticides, mold, and metals in soil and on the health effects of climate change. She was involved in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Gulf oil spill, and the Chevron Richmond explosion and fire, and is currently working to improve refinery process safety in California. Dr. Solomon serves on both the U.S. EPA's Science Advisory Board and Board of Scientific Counselors, where she co-chairs the Subcommittee on Chemical Safety for Sustainability and Human Health Risk Assessment. She also serves on the NRC's Board on Environmental Studies in Toxicology and previously served on the Committees on Toxicity Testing in the 21st Century and Exposure Science in the 21st Century, as well as on the National Toxicology Program's Board of Scientific Counselors. Dr. Solomon received her bachelor's degree from Brown University, her M.D. from Yale, and did her M.P.H. and her residency and fellowship training in internal medicine and occupational and environmental medicine at Harvard.

Brian Trainor, PhD

Dr. Trainor is director of the Behavioral Neuroendocrinology Lab at UC Davis. Professor Trainor studies the effects of stress on the brain and behavior using a rodent model that allows his team to examine both males and females. Professor Trainor is a member of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, and the Society for Biological Psychiatry. He was the winner of the 2010 Frank Beach Young Investigator Award in Behavioral Neuroendocrinology.

Rosalind J. Wright, MD, MPH

Dr. Wright is the Horace W. Goldsmith Professor of Children's Health Research at Kravis Children's Hospital, Departments of Pediatrics and Environmental Medicine & Public Health. She also serves as the Dean for Translational Biomedical Sciences and Director of Research in the Parenting Center at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City. Dr. Wright obtained her MD from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. and internship in Internal Medicine at the Harvard Medical School. She

completed her residency including a year as Chief Medical Resident at Northwestern in Chicago, IL. Dr. Wright then completed fellowship training in adult pulmonary and critical care medicine and Masters in Public Health at Harvard.

Dr. Wright is a transdisciplinary lifecourse epidemiologist with a primary interest in prenatal and early childhood predictors of chronic disorders including asthma, obesity, neurobehavioral outcomes, and antecedents of chronic cardiometabolic disorders. Dr. Wright's research considers environmental interactions (e.g., stress, nutritional factors, air pollution, aeroallergens, chemicals, tobacco smoke) as well as gene x environment interactions in disease programming.

She has pioneered longitudinal epidemiological studies demonstrating the role of toxic stress in perinatal programming of chronic disease risk and elucidation of the mechanisms underlying this association. Recent studies in Dr. Wright's group examine the importance of social environments (e.g., the parenting environment) and specific micronutrients in prenatal programming of long-term health and how various social settings and or dietary components may mitigate or enhance the impact of chemical as well as non-chemical stressors during early development.