

ELEVATING TALENT IN OBESITY RESEARCH



OBESITY HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH



UH Population Health
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

OHD PRIDE helps create biomedical research leaders.

Overview

The University of Houston Obesity Health Disparities (OHD) Program is designed to train, mentor, and sustain early career investigators from backgrounds underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences to become highly talented, independent investigators in obesity and obesity health disparities research.

Fellows will receive:

- **Training** in the interdisciplinary research skills needed to develop successful careers in obesity health disparities research.
- **Mentoring** from faculty who have extensive experience in obesity and obesity health disparities research.
- **Support** for research project development through critical review of early proposal drafts, mock study sections, and acquisition of pilot data and funds through small research projects.
- **Networking** opportunities to build professional relationships with a diverse group of researchers, scholars, and NIH program officials at scientific meeting, including an annual conference in Bethesda, Maryland hosted by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and the PRIDE program.
- **Ongoing support** through the OHD PRIDE Alumni Network that provides additional research support, online training sessions, and continuous monitoring of career objectives.

About PRIDE

The Programs for Inclusion and Diversity Among Individuals Engaged in Health Related Research, collectively referred to as PRIDE, were established to mentor early-career faculty and transitioning postdoctoral fellows whose backgrounds are currently underrepresented in biomedical research. PRIDE helps these early career investigators gain the knowledge and behavioral tools they need to carry out independent and meaningful research and advance their careers. This initiative is funded by NHLBI.

Principal Investigators



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Contact PI, OHD PRIDE

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Marino A. Bruce, PhD, MSRC, MDiv (Mentor)

Multiple PI, OHD PRIDE

Associate Dean for Research
Clinical Professor, Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine



Roland J. Thorpe, Jr., PhD (Mentor)

Multiple PI, OHD PRIDE

Professor, Department of Health, Behavior, and Society
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Diversity
Johns Hopkins University

Program Components

Summer Institute I

Participate in a 10-day Summer Institute in Year 1 delivered in a phased, hybrid format, and a 5-day Summer Institute in Year 2.

Mid-year Meeting

A two-day, in-person meeting in which fellows receive critical feedback on analysis, manuscript drafts, and conference abstracts to be presented at the PRIDE Annual Meeting.

PRIDE Annual Meeting

A three-day, scientific conference in Bethesda Maryland where fellows will present results from their small research projects, meet NHLBI program officers, and network with fellows from other PRIDE sites.

Summer Institute II

A five-day, interactive program in Houston, Texas where fellows will participate intensive writing accountability groups, receive critical reviews of manuscripts, and finalize plans for future federal grant applications.

The OHD PRIDE Alumni Network

Professional development seminars focusing on topics including participating in mock study sections, developments in obesity research, grants management, and promotion and tenure.

Participant Details

Each year OHD PRIDE seeks to accept eight (8) research-oriented individuals from backgrounds underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Education/Degree (clinical or research doctoral degrees such as PhD, MD, MBBS, DO, DrPH, EdD or equivalent)
- Full-Time Faculty Appointment (or Transitioning Post-doctoral fellow)
- An early stage investigator
- Demonstrated primary commitment/interest to heart, lung, blood disorders research or relevant cross-cutting areas.
- Citizen of the United States OR a permanent resident of the U.S.

Individuals from groups identified by the National Science Foundation (NSF) as underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, and social sciences (see NIH Notice NOT OD-20-031) are encouraged to apply.

Application Process

The application process for the OHD PRIDE program will be managed through the Coordination Core of the NHLBI-sponsored PRIDE programs.

Applicants should complete and submit a PRIDE pre-application form (and a full application, if invited) through the PRIDE Coordination Core website.

To submit a pre-application form, please visit

[PRIDE Coordination Core \(wustl.edu\) application page.](#)

The target for application submission is May 1, 2024 with a rolling deadline until all positions are filled.

OHD Pride Faculty and Mentors

Paul C. Archibald, DrPH, LCSW-C
Associate Professor of Social Work
College of Staten Island, City University of New York

Jamy D. Ard, MD
Professor
Wake Forest School of Medicine
Wake Forest Baptist Health

Sara Bleich, PhD
Vice Provost for Special Projects, Harvard University
Professor of Public Health Policy, Harvard Chan School of Public Health
Director of Social Sciences and Carol K. Pforzheimer Professor, Harvard Radcliffe Institute

Arleen F. Brown, MD, PhD
Professor, Department of Medicine
General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research
Co-Director, UCLA Clinical & Translational Science Institute (CTSI)
Co-Lead, UCLA CTSI Community Engagement and Research Program
University of California at Los Angeles

Lecretia A. Buckley, PhD
Associate Professor of Population Health Science
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Katrina R. Ellis, PhD, MPH, MSW
Assistant Professor
University of Michigan, School of Social Work
University of Michigan, School of Public Health
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Assistant Professor
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Division of General Internal Medicine & Health Services Research
Department of Medicine
University of California at Los Angeles

Elizabeth Heitman, PhD (Mentor)
Professor, Program in Ethics in Science and Medicine
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Director, Institute for Health Disparities
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Robert Newton, PhD
Associate Professor
Director, Physical Activity and Ethnic Minority Health Laboratory
Pennington Biomedical Research Center

Keith C. Norris, MD, PhD (Mentor)
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Angela Odoms-Young, PhD
Associate Professor
Director, Food and Nutrition Education in Communities Program

Contact Us

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