The 2012 CAPS Visiting Professor Summer Training Program for Scientists Conducting Research to Reduce HIV/STI Health Disparities Program Participants

First-Year Visiting Professors

Marlon M. Bailey, PhD, MFA
Dr. Bailey is an Assistant Professor of Gender Studies and American Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington. He was awarded his PhD in African American Studies from the University of California-Berkeley in 2005. Dr. Bailey also holds an MFA in Theatre Performance from West Virginia University. His areas of expertise are race, gender, and sexuality studies (particularly Black LGBT communities), transnational and diaspora gender and sexuality studies, queer and feminist theories, performance and critical ethnography and HIV/AIDS. His current research focuses on "raw sex" practices among Black gay men in this moment of high HIV prevalence in Black gay/MSM communities. His pilot study will be "examine Black gay men's raw sex practices with the aim to develop risk reductive, efficacious and culturally appropriate HIV/AIDS prevention strategies that do not require Black gay men to undermine or refract sexual pleasure for safe sex.

Naomi M. Hall-Byers, PhD, MPH
Dr. Hall-Byers is an Assistant Professor of Psychology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Social Work at Winston-Salem State University. Dr. Hall-Byers was awarded her PhD in the field of Applied Social Psychology from Claremont Graduate University in 2007. Her area of expertise is in the identification of important psychosocial and sociocultural factors that contribute to sexual decision-making, and subsequent HIV-related risky sexual behavior of African Americans. Her current research is an NIH-funded project focusing on exploring a culturally grounded, multi-dimensional model of sexual decision-making and behavior among African American college students at an HBCU. Her CAPS pilot study will utilize three theories (social cognitive theory, ecological systems theory, and activation theory of information exposure) to assess the types of HIV prevention messages that are most/least stimulating to African American college students. Additionally, she is interested in understanding how technology can help transform and disseminate culturally appropriate HIV prevention interventions to African American college students attending HBCUs.

Carolette Norwood, PhD
Dr. Norwood is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Africana Studies at the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Norwood was awarded her PhD in the field of Sociology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in December 2004. Her area of expertise is women’s sexual and reproductive health/rights and development initiatives in Africa. Her current research focuses on HIV/AIDS prevention in US Black communities. Her CAPS pilot study focuses on factors that improve and undermine HIV prevention for African-American women in urban communities. Guided by Black Feminist thought, this research is focused on the wide cross-section of Black women affected by the AIDS crisis. Using a mixed-method approach, this study assesses conventional predictors (such as knowledge of HIV, self-efficacy, and perception of risk) in addition to HIV conspiracy beliefs and racial-identity salience on African-American women’s HIV prevention behaviors.

T. Alex Washington, PhD, MSSW, MA
Dr. Washington is an Associate Professor of Social Work at California State University, Long Beach. Dr. Washington was awarded his Ph.D. in the field of Social Work from The University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2002. His area of expertise is Health Disparities and HIV prevention. His current research focuses on barriers to HIV testing uptake among Black men who have sex with men (BMSM), and the feasibility of using social networking media to deliver HIV prevention and testing interventions. His CAPS pilot study focuses on HIV testing uptake among young BMSM. More specifically, findings from a recently completed formative research study will be used to inform the development of an HIV testing video intervention. The HIV testing intervention will be delivered using social networking media.
Second-Year Visiting Professors

**Sheldon Applewhite, PhD**
Dr. Applewhite is an Assistant Professor at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. Dr. Applewhite was awarded his PhD in the field of Sociology from Howard University in 2006. His area of expertise includes medical sociology with a focus on health disparities, gender, and urban sociology with a focus on education. His current research focuses on examining the relationship between health disparities within disadvantaged communities, the influence of race, class, and gender on health outcomes, as well as the various ways hetero-normative models of male gender roles influence Black men’s health decisions. His CAPS pilot study will examine the factors that influence the formation and maintenance of Black same gay loving (SGL) long-term relationships and the factors that promote resiliency among these relationships as a strategy in the prevention of HIV infection.

**Jason Bird, PhD, MSW**
Dr. Bird is Assistant Professor at Rutgers University–Newark. He was awarded his PhD in the School of Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago in 2009. His area of expertise is in the examination of health disparities for racial and sexual minorities, including the impact of HIV/AIDS on minority communities. His current research interests include national and international HIV prevention with racial and sexual minority populations, issues of sexual communication, the role of community violence on HIV risk behaviors, and cognitive behavioral-based and community-level HIV-prevention interventions. He is particularly interested in how stigma, marginalization, and the construction of gender and sexual identity influence sexual decision-making and HIV-related risk outcomes. His CAPS pilot study will explore beliefs and attitudes about HIV-positive, African American men who have sex with men (MSM), and issues of HIV disclosure, HIV-related stigma, and sexual risk among a sub-sample of African American, HIV-negative MSM. This study will build on insights from a recently conducted qualitative study that explored the issue of disclosure and stigma among a sample of African American, HIV-positive MSM and will help to inform culturally appropriate interventions that encourage dialogue between HIV-positive and HIV-negative individuals to break down stereotypes and the use of assumptions in negotiating safer sex.

**Loida Bonney, MD, MPH**
Dr. Bonney is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Emory University School of Medicine. Dr. Bonney was awarded her MD from Downstate Medical Center in 2001. Her area of expertise is in primary care internal medicine with a focus on HIV/AIDS in women. Her current research interests are in ambulatory care health service utilization among women with HIV/AIDS. She is interested in research that will lead to decreasing or eliminating health disparities in HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. Her CAPS pilot will focus on using qualitative and quantitative interviews with HIV-positive women who are not currently engaged in HIV ambulatory health care to better understand factors that may improve use of services and improve their health.

**Angela Chia-Chen Chen, PhD, RN**
Dr. Chia-Chen Chen is an Associate Professor at the Arizona State University College of Nursing and Health Innovation. Dr. Chen was awarded her PhD in Nursing Science at the University of Washington in 2004. Her area of expertise is in the prevention of HIV/STI, substance use, and depression among immigrant and ethnic minority youth; the examination of physical and mental health issues among disaster survivors from disadvantaged communities and coping mechanisms of new immigrant families; and stress management for families with emotionally distressed or severely mentally ill youth. Her current research focuses on exploring and examining risk and resilience processes that affect mental and behavioral health among disadvantaged groups, in particular ethnic minority and immigrant youth, with the goal of informing culturally sensitive interventions. Her CAPS pilot study will focus on examining the feasibility and usability of a web-based HIV/STI prevention intervention that targets at-risk Latina adolescents and to conduct post-intervention focus groups with participants in both study groups to gain additional insight into curriculum refinement and preferred platforms for intervention delivery, elicit suggestions for improving recruitment and retention, and assess the perception of key determinants of HIV/STI risks and behavioral change.
Maya Corneille, PhD
Dr. Corneille is an Associate Professor at North Carolina A&T State University. Dr. Corneille was awarded her PhD in the field of Social Psychology from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2005. Her area of expertise includes designing and evaluating culturally tailored HIV prevention interventions for adolescent and young adult African Americans. Her current research interests include understanding the ways that stigma, including layered stigma, impacts HIV prevention behaviors for young adult African Americans. Her CAPS pilot study will examine the ways that HIV stigma impacts perception of information about HIV for African American HIV negative or unknown status young adults. The study will also examine if HIV stigma and other types of stigma have potential negative or positive impacts on HIV prevention behaviors and attitudes.

Latrice C. Pichon, PhD, MPH
Dr. Pichon is an Assistant Professor at the University of Memphis. Dr. Pichon was awarded her PhD in the field of Public Health from the joint doctoral program at San Diego State University and the University of California, San Diego in 2008. Her area of expertise is in the application of community-based participatory research approaches to addressing HIV disparities. Her current research interests include examining social, organizational, and environmental factors that contribute to HIV disparities among ethnic/racial minority populations using multi-level frameworks and a community-based participatory research approach. Her current research focuses on faith-based HIV prevention initiatives and the evaluation of community-based public health interventions in urban African American communities. Her CAPS pilot study will be guided by the Diffusion Theory to assess salient factors in developing, adopting, disseminating, and institutionalizing HIV programming in African American faith-based organizations in the Mid-South using a CBPR approach.

Third-Year Visiting Professors

David Pérez-Jiménez, PhD
Dr. Dr. Pérez-Jiménez is a Social-Community Psychologist working as Assistant Research Scientist at the Institute for Psychological Research of the University of Puerto Rico. Dr. Pérez-Jiménez was awarded his PhD in 1995 and a post-doctorate in HIV prevention research in 2003. His area of expertise is in the development, implementation and evaluation of HIV/STIs prevention interventions for heterosexual couples. His current research focuses on HIV/STIs prevention with young heterosexual Latino couples. His pilot study consisted of exploring, through qualitative interviews, the manifestation of intimate partner violence and alcohol use in young adults. The study also identified participant’s recommendations about the content and format of an intervention that include IPV and alcohol use prevention. On May 2012 he will submit an R01 proposal to test the efficacy of an intervention to promote the sexual health of young heterosexual couples. During this summer at CAPS, Dr. Pérez-Jiménez will work on the analysis of the qualitative interviews conducted in the pilot study, in the analysis of quantitative data from his current study with couples, and in writing manuscripts from these data.

Michelle Teti, DrPH, MPH
Dr. Teti is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Sciences and the School of Public Health at the University of Missouri. She was awarded her DrPH in community health from Drexel University in 2008. Her program of research is focused broadly on understanding and addressing sexual risk and sexual health among underserved and marginalized communities at risk for and living with HIV/AIDS. She is particularly interested in applying strategies of photovoice – a participatory action research process in which participants use photography and critical group dialogue to explore their health needs and experiences – as a tool of HIV prevention and health promotion. This summer she will revise a grant proposal to test the efficacy of photovoice as an empowerment and prevention strategy for racial/ethnic minority women living with HIV/AIDS.