



ASHG 2024 Distinguished Speakers Symposium Biographies

Moderators



Gillian Hooker, PhD, ScM

Chief Scientific Officer, Concert and Adjunct Associate Professor, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Gillian Hooker is the Chief Scientific Officer of the Nashville-based Health IT firm, Concert. She is also a past-president of the National Society of Genetic Counselors and an adjunct faculty member with Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where she leads the research arm of the genetic counseling training program. Gillian got her PhD in Molecular, Cell & Developmental Biology at Yale University before training as a genetic counselor with the NHGRI/Johns Hopkins training program. She did her post-doctoral work in Cancer Prevention & Control at Georgetown University in the Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center and then returned to NHGRI where she served as the Associate Director of the Genetic Counseling Training Program and as a researcher within the Social and Behavioral Research Branch of NHGRI. She is a proud Michigander who grew up in Kalamazoo with a strong appreciation for the Great Lakes.

Lizeth Tamayo, PhD Scientist, Tempus AI

Lizeth Tamayo obtained her PhD in genetic epidemiology from the University of Chicago. Her research focused on the interplay between genetic and environmental factors and their impact on complex disease risk in low-resource and understudied populations. She also earned her undergraduate degree in Biochemistry and French from Augustana College and a Master of Public Health with a concentration in Epidemiology from the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health, bringing a diverse educational background to her work. She is currently a scientist at Tempus AI. Her role at Tempus involves applying computational methodologies to interpret and derive insights from large-scale genomic, cancer and clinical datasets, contributing to advancements in pharmaceutical research and development. Outside of her professional endeavors, Lizeth cherishes spending quality time with family, friends, and her dog.



Speakers



Crystal Y. Lumpkins, PhD, MA

Associate Professor, Huntsman Cancer Institute

Dr. Crystal (Yvette) Lumpkins is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Utah and Cancer Disparities Researcher at Huntsman Cancer Institute's Cancer Control and Populations Sciences (CCPS) program in Salt Lake City, Utah. Dr. Lumpkins' primary research focuses on the intersection between evidence-based public health communication, precision public health, health equity and dissemination & implementation science to advance health outcome among minoritized populations in the Mountain West

and Midwest areas. Within this intersection and in these regions, she has explored why current communication gaps exist among Black populations concerning cancer-related genetic counseling and testing and how these deficits have contributed to cancer disparities and health communication inequities. In this work, she takes a community based participatory research approach and has engaged with African American, Black immigrant, Latinx, American Indian and other under-represented populations in Kansas, Missouri, and Utah.

David Goldstein, PhD

CEO, Actio Biosciences, Inc.

Goldstein is a human geneticist focused on precision medicine. Goldstein most recently was the founding Director of the Institute for Genomic Medicine, and Professor of Genetics and Development, at Columbia University, with the mission to integrate genetics and genomics into research, patient care, and education. Previously he directed Duke University's Center for Human Genome Variation. Goldstein discovered more than 30 disease-causing genes and syndromes, in particular in neurological and infectious diseases. Goldstein has had long involvement in industry, including serving as AstraZeneca's chief genomics adviser and leading an integrated initiative focused on the discovery of new targets and biomarkers linked to molecular mechanisms of disease across multiple therapy areas. In 2015 Goldstein co-founded Praxis Precision Medicines, a public clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company translating genetic insights into the development of therapies for patients affected by central nervous system disorders characterized by neuronal imbalance. Currently, Goldstein is Co-founder and CEO of Actio Biosciences, a venture-backed company focused on drug development for genetic diseases with high unmet need.





Heather Hampel, MS, CGC

Associate Director, Division of Clinical Cancer Genomics,
City of Hope National Medical Center

Heather is a Professor in the Department of Medical Oncology and Therapeutics Research and Associate Director of the Division of Cancer Genomics at City of Hope National Cancer Center. She has >200 publications on a variety of cancer genetics topics with an emphasis on Lynch syndrome. She received the Archie Griffin Professional Achievement Award from The Ohio State University Alumni Association in 2021. She was on the Board of Directors for the American Board of Genetic Counseling from 2006-2011

(President, 2009-10). She has been on the Steering Committee of the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable since 2016. She was on the Council of the Collaborative Group of the Americas on Inherited Colorectal Cancer from 2016-2019 (President, 2017-2018). She was the Secretary/Treasurer of the National Society of Genetic Counselors in 2021-2022. In 2023, she received the Natalie Weissberger Paul National Achievement Award from the National Society of Genetic Counselors.

David Altshuler, MD, PhD

EVP, Global Research and Chief Scientific Officer,
Vertex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

David Altshuler, MD, PhD, is Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer at Vertex Pharmaceuticals. David leads research and external innovation, corporate data strategy, technology and data sciences. Before joining as Vertex's Chief Scientific Officer, he served on the company's board of directors from 2012 to 2014. Prior to Vertex, Dr. Altshuler was a Founding Core Member, Deputy Director and Chief Academic Officer at the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, a professor at Harvard Medical School and a physician at Massachusetts General Hospital. He earned his bachelor's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his M.D. and Ph.D. in genetics from Harvard Medical School. He completed his training at the Massachusetts General Hospital in internal medicine and in endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism.

