A Transdisciplinary Symposium of the
Harvard Catalyst Disparities Research Program

and the
Harvard/MGH Center on Genomics,
Vulnerable Populations, and Health Disparities

with generous support from
The John Templeton Foundation

Thursday, December 4, 2014
Joseph B. Martin Conference Center
(Rotunda Room, Third Floor, 77 Avenue Lois Pasteur, Boston, MA)
7:30 – 8:00am
Networking Breakfast

8:00 – 8:15am
Welcome and Opening Remarks

_Alexandra E. Shields, PhD_
Director, Harvard/MGH Center on Genomics, Vulnerable Populations, and Health Disparities; Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital; Co-Director, Harvard Catalyst Health Disparities Research Program Associate Member, Broad Institute

8:15 – 9:15am
PANEL I: Defining Spiritual Experience: What is the Transformative Experience we are Trying to Measure?

_Diana Eck, PhD_ (Moderator)
Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies; Frederic Wertham Professor of Law and Psychiatry in Society, Harvard University

_A Presence that Disturbs_
_Sr. Marie Chin, RSM_
Coordinator/Administrator, Jamaica Region of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas; Director of Formation, Jamaica Region of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas; Vicar for Religious, Archdiocese of Kingston, Jamaica

_From a Career in Medicine to a Ministry of Healing: Lessons Learned Along the Way_
_Rev. Gloria White-Hammond, MD_
Co-Pastor of Bethel AME Church, Boston, MA; Executive Director of My Sister’s Keeper; Retired Pediatrician from the South End Community Health Center

_Healing & Wellbeing: A Buddhist Perspective_
_Ven. Tenzin Priyadarshi, PhD_
Founding Director of The Dalai Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Founding Director and President of the Prajnopaya Institute and Foundation

9:15 – 10:15am
PANEL II: What are the Greatest Challenges in Trying to Capture that Transformative Experience in Self-Reported Survey Questions?

_Kenneth I. Pargament, PhD_ (Moderator)
Professor of Psychology, Bowling Green State University; Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry, Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Baylor College of Medicine

_Measuring Spiritual Constructs in Studies of Health: Exploring the Role of God-Mediated Control_
_Neal Krause, PhD_
Marshall H. Becker Collegiate Professor, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, School of Public Health, University of Michigan
Measuring Religiosity
Harold G. Koenig, MD, MHSc
Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences and Associate Professor of Medicine, Duke University Medical Center

Measuring Ordinary Spiritual Experience in Diverse Populations using the Daily Spiritual Experience Scale (DSES)
Lynn Underwood, PhD
President, Research Integration; Honorary Fellow, University of Liverpool; Former Vice President, Fetzer Institute

10:15 - 10:35am
Discussion with Panels 1 and 2
Diana Eck & Alexandra E. Shields (Moderators)

10:35 - 10:45am
Coffee Break

10:45am – 12:15pm
PANEL III: Spirituality and Measurable Disease Risk
Michelle A. Williams, ScD (Moderator)
Stephen B. Kay Family Professor of Public Health & Chair, Department of Epidemiology, Harvard School of Public Health; Director, Harvard Catalyst Health Disparities Research Program

Spirituality in the Age of Epigenomics
Andrea Baccarelli, MD, PhD, MPH
Mark and Catherine Winkler Associate Professor of Environmental Epigenetics, Harvard School of Public Health

Gene Expression in the Inflammatory Pathway Elicited by Mindfulness Interventions
Towia Libermann, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School; Director, Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Cancer Proteomics Core; Director, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Genomics, Proteomics, Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Center

Spiritual Well-being, Religious Activity, and Cardiometabolic Risk: Results from the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos Sociocultural Ancillary Study
Carrie Brintz
Fifth-year doctoral student, Clinical Health Psychology, University of Miami

Mechanisms Linking Religion and Health: Exploring the Social Side of Religious Life
Neal Krause, PhD
Marshall H. Becker Collegiate Professor, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, School of Public Health, University of Michigan

10:45am – 12:15pm
PANEL III: Spirituality and Measurable Disease Risk
Michelle A. Williams, ScD (Moderator)
Stephen B. Kay Family Professor of Public Health & Chair, Department of Epidemiology, Harvard School of Public Health; Director, Harvard Catalyst Health Disparities Research Program

Spirituality in the Age of Epigenomics
Andrea Baccarelli, MD, PhD, MPH
Mark and Catherine Winkler Associate Professor of Environmental Epigenetics, Harvard School of Public Health

Gene Expression in the Inflammatory Pathway Elicited by Mindfulness Interventions
Towia Libermann, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School; Director, Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Cancer Proteomics Core; Director, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Genomics, Proteomics, Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Center

Spiritual Well-being, Religious Activity, and Cardiometabolic Risk: Results from the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos Sociocultural Ancillary Study
Carrie Brintz
Fifth-year doctoral student, Clinical Health Psychology, University of Miami

Mechanisms Linking Religion and Health: Exploring the Social Side of Religious Life
Neal Krause, PhD
Marshall H. Becker Collegiate Professor, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, School of Public Health, University of Michigan

12:15 – 1:00pm
Networking Lunch
1:00 – 1:45pm

**PANEL IV: Judging the Value of Spirituality Measures: Principal Investigators’ Perspectives**

*Sylvia Wassertheil-Smoller, PhD* (Moderator)
Distinguished University Professor Emerita, Department of Epidemiology & Population Health, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Yeshiva University; Dorothy and William Manealoff Foundation and Molly Rosen Chair in Social Medicine Emerita; Principal Investigator, Women's Health Initiative

**Southern Community Cohort Study (SCCS)**
*Lisa B. Signorello, ScD*
Senior Biomedical Scientist, Deputy Director, Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program, National Cancer Institute, National Institute of Health

**Black Women’s Health Study (BWHS)**
*Lynn Rosenberg, ScD*
Professor of Epidemiology, Boston University School of Public Health; Associate Director of the Slone Epidemiology Center at Boston University

**Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos (HCHS/SOL)**
*Frank Penedo, PhD*
Roswell Park Professor, Department of Medical Social Sciences, Northwestern University; Psychosocial Investigator, HCHS/SOL; MPI, SOL Sociocultural Ancillary Study; Leader, Cancer Control and Survivorship Research Program; Director, Cancer Survivorship Institute, Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center

**Jackson Heart Study (JHS)**
*Herman Taylor, MD*
Professor of Medicine, Morehouse School of Medicine; Director and Endowed Professor, Cardiovascular Research Institute, Morehouse School of Medicine

1:45 – 3:15pm

**PANEL V: Religion, Spirituality, and Patients’ Healthcare Decision-Making**

*David Williams, PhD, MPH* (Moderator)
Florence Sprague Norman and Laura Smart Norman Professor of Public Health, Harvard School of Public Health

**Adolescent Substance Use: Equal Opportunity Disorders with Spiritual Solutions**
*John Knight, MD*
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School; Associate Director for Medical Education, Harvard Medical School Division on Addiction; Director and founder, Center for Adolescent Substance Abuse Research, Boston Children's Hospital

**Narratives of Spirituality among African American Smokers: Implications for Pharmacotherapy Use**
*Alexandra E. Shields, PhD*
Director, Harvard/MGH Center on Genomics, Vulnerable Populations, and Health Disparities; Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital; Co-Director, Harvard Catalyst Health Disparities Research Program
Religious Beliefs and Stage at Presentation in a Bi-Racial Sample of Patients Newly Diagnosed with Colon Cancer

**George Fitchett, DMin, PhD**
Professor and Director of Research, Department of Religion, Health, and Human Values, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois; Certified chaplain and pastoral supervisor

Spirituality and Disparities in End of Life Medical Decision-Making and Care

**Tracy Balboni, MD, MPH**
Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, Harvard Medical School; Associate Physician, Radiation Oncology, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

3:15 – 4:30pm
Developing a Future Research Agenda (Break-Out Groups and Report Back)

4:30 – 5:00pm
Building Research on Spirituality, Health, and Health Disparities Across Cohorts: Demonstration of R-S Atlas Database & Announcement of Pilot Program

**Alexandra E. Shields**