



LAY VOLUNTEERS IN SCIENCE

ISSUE 3

SUMMER 2018

YOUR VOICE IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Lay Reviewer Services - Spring 2018

- Merit Awards
- 2018 Collaborative Sciences Award
- Precision Medicine Uncovering New Patterns Grants & Fellowships
- Strategically Focused Research Network on Atrial Fibrillation



Lay Reviewers COLLABORATIVE SCIENCES AWARD

Andrew Buroker, Chandra Fechtelkottter (Left)
Angela McCarty-AHA Staff (Center)
Marcie Wilson Mark Ridder (Right)

2018 RESEARCH LEADERS ACADEMY

The AHA Research Leaders Academy is scheduled to take place August 13 -15, 2018 in Salt Lake City Utah. Selected AHA Awardees and Leadership, and Research Thought Leaders will explore and debate contemporary research issues. The program aims to advance the AHA mission and encourage AHA engagement, along with developing a network for senior and future cardiovascular disease and stroke research leaders.

During the welcome dinner at the Academy, Claire Larson and Macey Wright, both patients from Utah, will relate what the awardees' research means from a survivor's perspective.

Bernie Dennis and Deborah Pitts are representing the Lay Stakeholders on the Academy Planning Committee and will serve as patient speakers during the event.



Bernie Dennis



Deborah Pitts

Welcome Dinner / Patient Perspective - Bernie Dennis
Introducing Mastering Mindfulness - Deborah Pitts

LAY SUMMARIES IN RESEARCH APPLICATIONS

As AHA Lay Reviewers you know how important a well-written and easy to understand lay summary can be to a peer review assignment, discussion and scoring on an application. Research is trying to get the word out.

An outstanding effort happening at the local level is the development of research communication tools, presentations and videos. A video published this year, titled, [How to Share Your AHA-Funded Research](#) by researcher Georgia Papavasiliou, Ph.D. addresses why and how it is important to explain projects to non-scientists in a way that will get them excited – Let us know if you agree.

Click on the link below for more valuable resource information involving the benefits of scientists' efforts in bridging the gap in communicating 'science' outside of their peers. [Explaining Things to Normal People](#)

WRITING GROUPS

The American Heart Association and American Stroke Association publish medical guidelines and scientific statements on various cardiovascular disease and stroke topics. AHA/ASA volunteer scientists and healthcare professionals write the statements. The statements are supported by scientific studies published in recognized journals and have a rigorous review and approval process. Scientific statements generally include a review of

data available on a specific subject, an evaluation on its relationship to overall cardiovascular disease science, and often an AHA/ASA position based on that evaluation.

We would like to acknowledge our lay representatives for their commitment of one to two years into the process as Guideline Writing Committee Members. Responsibilities include;

- Providing input on content regarding patient choices, values, preferences.
- Training on subject matter.
- Understanding of Evidence-based Healthcare.
- Acting as impartial members not permitted financial and nonfinancial conflicts, including personal, intellectual, or organizational relationships to influence their judgment.
- Attending face-to-face kickoff and consensus meetings.
- Participation in bi-weekly writing committee conference calls during document development.

Lay Representative, **Karen Collins**, was recently acknowledged in the AHA Journal Hypertension for her contribution to the Clinical Practice Guidelines [2017 Hypertension Clinical Practice Guidelines](#).

THE NEW FRONTIER in Cardiovascular Medicine is Here



The Institute
for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine™

Cardiovascular medicine is on the verge of a revolutionary shift toward tailored prevention and treatment through precision medicine. Through its groundbreaking initiatives and convening power, the AHA Institute for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine is driving that evolution. Visit the website: [The Institute for Precision Cardiovascular Medicine](#)

RECOGNIZING OUR AMAZING LAY REPRESENTATIVES

FOURTH QUARTER

STRATEGICALLY FOCUSED RESEARCH NETWORK- Atrial Fibrillation PCORI-AHA DECIDE Center Phase I & Phase II

James Bischoff

Shelly Marshall

Ray Rivera

Diana Lee

ACC/AHA CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE WRITING GROUPS

CHEST PAIN

Theresa Conejo RN

BRADYCARDIA

Bernie Dennis

PREVENTION OF CVD

Andrew Buroker

HYPERTENSION

Karen Collins

RECENT RESEARCH AWARDEES

2018 SFRN Atrial Fibrillation Awardees

[Award Recipients](#)

2018 Merit Awardees

[Award Recipients](#)

2018 Collaborative Sciences Awardees (19 Awards Funded)

Institutions Represented in Funding: Brigham & Women's Hospital (3), Duke University Durham (3); The Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, Inc.; The Jackson Laboratory; University of Maine; University of Rochester Medical Center (4); University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center (2); University of Texas, Dallas; Vanderbilt University Medical Center; Weill Medical College of Cornell University (2)



LAY REVIEWERS

Volunteers with a passion for research are welcome to contact Lay Stakeholder Initiative staff Elizabeth.Cooper@heart.org or Angela.McCarty@heart.org for more information on how their personal or community advocacy experience with heart disease or stroke, such as survivorship, a family experience, or being a caregiver, can add a voice to research projects.

The volunteer stakeholder is an individual without formal training as a scientist or health professional but who has a strong interest in advancing the prevention and/or management of heart diseases and stroke.



UPCOMING PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS

MERIT AWARD 2019

COLLABORATIVE SCIENCES AWARD 2019

NEW AWARDS 2018 – 2019 (Coming Soon)



UPCOMING EVENTS/RESOURCES

- Learning Tool [Patient Engagement](#)
- Learn more about [AHA Science](#)