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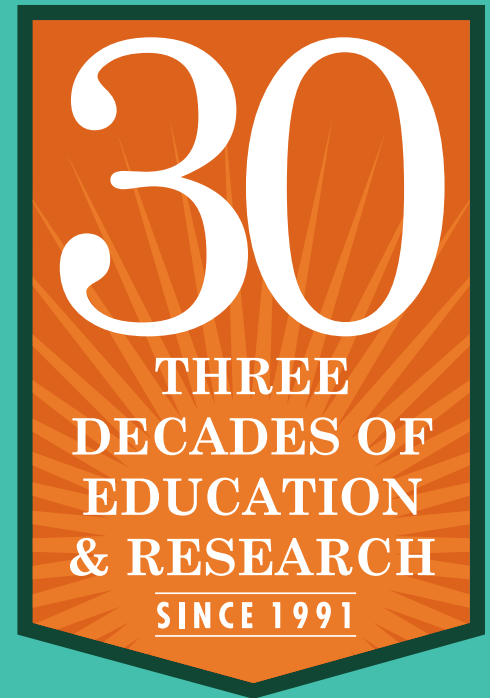
INSTITUTE for BIOETHICS  
& HEALTH POLICY



# Florida Ethics: Debates, Decisions, Solutions

Featuring Sessions on

- Palliative Care in Florida: Progress and Potential
- Artificial Intelligence: Computing, Health Care, and Interprofessional Practice
- Disability and Public Policy



29TH ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
SPRING 2021

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE  
APRIL 9, 2021

**FBN** Florida  
Bioethics  
Network

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# Acknowledgments

The University of Miami Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy and the Florida Bioethics Network gratefully acknowledge the following organizations for their generous support of this conference. *The conference would not be possible without this support.* Organizations and individuals interested in supporting bioethics education should contact UM Bioethics Institute at [ethics@miami.edu](mailto:ethics@miami.edu) or [FBN@med.miami.edu](mailto:FBN@med.miami.edu) for opportunities to support ethics education in Florida.

- **Arsht Ethics Initiatives**
- **Health Council of South Florida, Inc.**

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- **UHealth-University of Miami Health System: UTower, University of Miami Hospitals and Clinics, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute/Ann Bates Leach Eye Hospital**
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## Program and Schedule

[3] Palliative Care in Florida: Progress and Potential	[09:15am]
[4] Artificial Intelligence: Computing, Healthcare and Interprofessional Practice	[10:15am]
[5] Public Policy and the Difference of Disability	[11:15am]

## Program

8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. | **Registration, Sign-in,  
and Audio-Video Preparation**

9:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m. | **Welcome and Introduction**

***Kenneth W. Goodman, PhD, FACMI, FACE***

Director, Florida Bioethics Network; Professor and Director,  
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Institute for  
Bioethics and Health Policy, Miami

## Session I

9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m. | **Palliative Care in Florida:  
Progress and Potential**

***G. Patricia Cantwell, MD***

Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, and Chief, Division of  
Pediatric Critical Care Medicine; Medical Director, Pediatric  
Palliative Medicine, UM Miller School of Medicine –  
Holtz Children’s Hospital, Jackson Health System, Miami

***Mariana Khawand-Azoulai, MD***

Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine and Medical  
Director, Palliative Care, UHealth and UM Miller School of  
Medicine, Miami

***Sheri Kittelson, MD, FAAFP***

Associate Professor of Medicine and Chief, Palliative Care,  
University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville

***Susan Ponder-Stansel, LCSW***

President and CEO, Alivia Care, Inc., and Director, Florida  
Palliative Care Coalition, Tallahassee, *(Panel Chair)*

## Session II

10:15 a.m.-11:15 a.m. | **Artificial Intelligence: Computing,  
Health Care, and Interprofessional Practice**

***Liz Stokes, JD, MA, RN***

Director, Center for Ethics and Human Rights, American  
Nurses Association, Silver Spring, Maryland

### Session III

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. | **Public Policy and the Difference of Disability**

***Jeffrey P. Brosco, MD, PhD***

Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami

***Damian Gregory***

Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Nothing About Us, Without Us, Miami

***Andy Imparato***

Executive Director, Disability Rights, California

***Rylin Rodgers***

Director of Public Policy, Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD), Silver Spring, Maryland

12:15 p.m.-1:45 p.m. | **Florida Pediatric Bioethics Consortium**

***Jeffrey P. Brosco, MD, PhD (Chair)***

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## 1.1 About FBN

The Florida Bioethics Network (FBN) is dedicated to the understanding and resolution of ethical and legal problems arising in health care and research in Florida's hospitals, hospices, nursing homes, managed care organizations and teaching institutions. The FBN can help with a variety of health care organization ethics education needs.

## FBN Assistance

The FBN can assist you with an educational activity tailored to your institution's particular needs. These activities may include lectures for your staff or the community, workshops for your ethics committee, CME and CNE programs, and conferences.

- Some of the more popular topics include:
- Developing and Running a Hospital Ethics Committee
- Taking Patient Rights Seriously: The Value of a Comprehensive Patient's Rights Program
- Effective Clinical Committee Consultations: Avoiding the Common Mistakes
- Reviving the Non-Functioning Ethics Committee
- Advance Directives: Avoiding the Problems
- Privacy and Confidentiality – Making Practical Sense of HIPAA
- Using Social Worker Proxies for Medical Decisions
- The Recurring Ethical Problems Surrounding Withdrawal of Life-sustaining Treatment
- Effectively Addressing Gender and Ethnicity Issues in the Healthcare Setting
- Medical Futility: When Patients and Families insist on Medical Procedures that Do Not Work
- Stem Cell Research
- Lessons from the Schiavo Case

For assistance with conferences, workshops or presentations and for more information about possible topics, advice on developing an educational program, speaker availability and costs of educational activities please call or e-mail:

**In South Florida, Ken Goodman at 305-243-5723 or [FBN@med.miami.edu](mailto:FBN@med.miami.edu)**

**In North Florida (Orlando and north), Ray Moseley at 352-258-6945 or [rmoseley@ufl.edu](mailto:rmoseley@ufl.edu)**

The Florida Bioethics Network is dedicated to the understanding and resolution of ethical and legal problems arising in health care and medical research in Florida's hospitals, hospices, nursing homes, managed care organizations and teaching institutions.

**JOIN OR RENEW at <http://fbn.med.miami.edu/become-a-member>**

Individual Memberships			
Membership Level	Student	Regular	Professional
Annual Dues ( <i>Note: Memberships run 12 months from the date of your payment.</i> )	\$10	\$55	\$100
20% discount on registration at FBN co-sponsored conferences			
Online Access to the FBN Guidelines for Ethics Committees			
Invitation Only events at annual FBN conference			
Bound, hard-copy of the FBN Guidelines for Ethics Committees			1 Copy
FBN Listserv access			

For further information please contact Ken Goodman at 305-243-5723 or [FBN@med.miami.edu](mailto:FBN@med.miami.edu).





**Mission:**

The Florida Bioethics Network is dedicated to the understanding and resolution of ethical and legal problems arising in health care and medical research in Florida’s hospitals, hospices, nursing homes, managed care organizations and teaching institutions.

## Institutional Memberships

**How to join:**

To purchase an Institutional Membership, please contact [FBN@med.miami.edu](mailto:FBN@med.miami.edu).

For further information please contact Ken Goodman at 305-243-5723 or [FBN@med.miami.edu](mailto:FBN@med.miami.edu).

Membership Level	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum
Annual Sponsorship	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$10,000 and up
Institution logo and link to your website on our "Institutional Sponsors" page	✓	✓	✓	✓
Acknowledgment of your Institution on an FBN Conference Program and Syllabus	name and logo	name and logo	name and logo	name and logo
Complimentary registrations at FBN co-sponsored conferences	3 free registrations	8 free registrations	20 free registrations	40 free registrations
Discount on additional registrations at FBN co-sponsored conferences	20% discount	20% discount	20% discount	20% discount
Complimentary Bound Copies of the FBN Guidelines for Ethics Committees	1 Copy	3 Copies	5 Copies	10 Copies
Discount on purchase of 10 or more FBN Guidelines for Ethics Committees	20% discount	20% discount	20% discount	20% discount
Access to the "Members Only" section of the FBN website	✓	✓	✓	✓
FBN Listserv access	✓	✓	✓	✓

***An essential resource for ethics committees.***



# **FBN ETHICS GUIDELINES**

**The Florida Bioethics Network's Guidelines for Ethics Committees** is a must-have resource for institutions and individuals with a serious commitment to bioethics. The current edition includes a glossary and a section on bioethics and the law.

FBN institutional and individual professional members already receive this important resource. The book is now available publicly for \$65 (including tax, handling and postage charges if applicable).

Regular FBN members, who enjoy online access to the Guidelines, can upgrade their membership for \$45 and receive a hard copy of the volume.

Visit <http://fbn.med.miami.edu> to obtain your copy, or email [fbn@med.miami.edu](mailto:fbn@med.miami.edu).

**FBN** Florida  
Bioethics  
Network

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- Raul E. de Velasco, MD, UM Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy

Director: Kenneth W. Goodman, PhD,  
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine  
Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy



## 1.2 About the UM Bioethics Institute

The University of Miami Miller School of Medicine's Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy is an interdisciplinary entity dedicated to education, research and community service in bioethics and related fields. The Bioethics Institute seeks to foster links between and among university faculty members, researchers, students and community leaders in medicine, nursing, philosophy, law, health care administration, religion, international studies and other disciplines. The UM Bioethics Institute has been designated a World Health Organization Collaborating Center in Ethics and Global Health Policy.

Contributions to the Institute support its educational, research and service projects. A partial listing of these projects follows.

- ❑ *Clinical and Research Ethics.* Projects address end-of-life care; privacy and confidentiality; genetics; clinical research; evidence-based practice; health law; disability; etc.
- ❑ *Ethics and Computing in Health Care.* The increasing use of diagnostic expert systems, computerized outcome predictions, patient monitoring and other kinds of medical computing raises interesting and difficult ethical questions for clinicians and researchers.
- ❑ *International Initiatives.* This Program promotes educational exchanges, supports research on hemispheric and global issues, and undertakes other activities and projects.
- ❑ *Ethics in Epidemiology and Public Health.* Institute faculty and associates have developed the first courses in the nation to address ethical issues in epidemiology, epidemiological research and international health policy. This remains an area of research emphasis.
- ❑ *Community Ethics Consulting Services.* The Institute, in conjunction with the Florida Bioethics Network, has developed a program to provide training and consulting services in bioethics (including to institutional ethics committees and IRBs) and professional ethics. More information about these educational and consulting services is available on request.

# Bioethics Institute Personnel

Jeffrey P. Brosco, MD, PhD, Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, is the Director of Population Health Ethics for the UM Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy and the Chair of Pediatric Bioethics Committee at Holtz Children's Hospital, Jackson Health System. His research includes an analysis of the history of health care for children and the history of U.S. disability policy.

Thomas Champney, PhD, Professor of Cell Biology and Anatomy, teaches gross anatomy, histology and neuroanatomy and coordinates the South Florida Willed Body Program for the State Anatomical Board. He writes about ethical use of human tissues, especially the use of willed bodies for medical education.

Raul de Velasco, MD, Clinical Ethics Director, is Voluntary Associate Professor of Medicine at UM's Miller School of Medicine.

Kenneth W. Goodman, PhD, is professor of Medicine and jointly of Philosophy, and the Institute's director.

Sergio Litewka, MD, MPH, a surgeon by training, is Director of International Initiatives and works on a variety of projects in international research ethics and humanitarian medicine.

Steve Olvey, MD, is an associate professor of clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery. He served as the Director of the Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit at Jackson Memorial Hospital for 25 years.

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## 2. Content, Goals, Syllabus, Continuing Education and Faculty

### 2.1 Content and Goals

Bioethics education is now an essential component of professional development. This program addresses these themes and topics: This program addresses these themes and topics: palliative care in Florida, artificial intelligence, and public policy and the difference of disability. Bioethics education must be assigned the greatest possible role in the daily lives of health professionals and their institutions.

Upon completion of this program participants will be able to:

- Recognize the ways palliative care contributes to high-quality patient management and improves end-of-life situations; and contribute to institutional policies on pain management, interprofessional care and end-of-life care.
- Incorporate health information technology into patient care and institutional policies; and communicate with colleagues about contemporary challenges posed by artificial intelligence.
- Identify bias against people with disabilities and mitigate or eliminate that bias in patient care; and understand and appreciate the ethical foundations of efforts to undertake such mitigation.

### 2.2 The Syllabus

This syllabus contains abstracts, presenters' biographical sketches, suggestions for further reading, and resources associated with each of the presentations.

### 2.3 Continuing Education Credits

"Florida Ethics: Debates, Decisions, Solutions" is available for continuing education credits in a variety of professional disciplines.

#### **Accreditation**

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine and the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care. The University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

## **Credit Designation**

**CME:** The University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 3.0 **AMA PRA Category 1 Credits**. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**LAW:** This program has been approved by the Florida Bar for Continuing Legal Education for a maximum of 3.5 General CLE Credits including 3.5 Health Law Certification Credits (Reference # 2101660N)

**NURSING:** This program has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Florida Board of Nursing for Continuing Education. Provider #50-2105. Credit Designation: The University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies designates this seminar series for a maximum of 3 CEU credits.

**CHAPLAINS:** This activity may be used for continuing education credit for chaplains certified with the Board of Chaplaincy Certification Inc.

**EVALUATIONS/DOCUMENTATION OF ATTENDANCE FOR CME:** The link to the electronic course evaluation will be e-mailed to all participants at the end of the meeting. Please make sure to complete the electronic survey on-line in order to claim your CME certificate. Upon completion of the evaluation, you will receive the certificate via email within 5-7 business days.

**CLAIMING EDUCATION CREDIT:** Upon completion of the evaluation, you will receive a direct link to enter your attendance hours. Upon submission of the completed evaluation, a CME Certificate will automatically be generated for you to print/save.



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## 2.4 Disclosure, and Conflict of Interest Resolution

### SUMMARY OF DISCLOSURE OF RELEVANT FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

In accordance with the 2004 Updated ACCME Standards for Commercial Support the University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine requires everyone in a position to control the content of a Continuing Medical Education activity – the Course Director(s), Planning Committee Members and all individuals participating as speakers, moderators or authors - to disclose all relevant financial relationships with any commercial interest. All potential conflicts of interest are identified and resolved prior to the education activity being provided to learners. Disclosure of relevant financial relationship(s) will be provided to learners prior to the beginning of the educational activity.

**The following speakers have indicated that they do not have relevant financial relationships with commercial interests:**

Jeffrey P. Brosco, MD, PhD

G. Patricia Cantwell, MD

Damian Gregory

Andy Imparato

Mariana Khawand-Azoulai, MD

Sheri Kittelson, MD, FAAFP

Susan Ponder-Stansel, LCSW

Rylin Rodgers

Liz Stokes, JD, MA, RN

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## **3. Palliative Care in Florida: Progress and Potential**

### **G. Patricia Cantwell, MD**

**Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, and Chief, Division of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine; Medical Director, Pediatric Palliative Medicine, UM Miller School of Medicine – Holtz Children’s Hospital, Jackson Health System**

G. Patricia Cantwell, MD, FCCM is Professor and Chief of the Division of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine at the Holtz Children’s Hospital/University of Miami. She spearheaded the formation of the Holtz Children’s Hospital Pediatric Palliative Care Team in 2008. Dr. Cantwell provides medical oversight of the Holtz Children’s Hospital PediPals Team, an interdisciplinary palliative care initiative.

She received her medical degree at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine/Wake Forest University, completed her pediatric residency at the Portsmouth Naval Hospital; and pursued her Pediatric Critical Care Fellowship at the Jackson Memorial Hospital and remained on the attending staff since 1990. Dr. Cantwell has received multiple awards for teaching.

Dr. Cantwell has been a Medical Manager for the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue South Florida Task Force 2 since 1994. She has deployed with the team numerous times including to the 2001 World Trade Center, multiple hurricane responses and the 2010 Haiti Earthquake.

### **Mariana Khawand-Azoulai, MD**

**Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine and Medical Director, Palliative Care, UHealth and UM Miller School of Medicine**

Mariana Khawand-Azoulai, MD, is a board-certified, fellowship-trained Hospice and Palliative Medicine physician. She is the Director of Palliative Medicine at UHealth and the Associate Program Director for the University of Miami Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship. She has experience in outpatient program development, fellowship education, and use of medical cannabis for cancer related symptoms. Her interests include medical ethics, teaching primary palliative care skills to clinicians, expanding outpatient palliative care, and improving advance care planning for ethnic and racial minorities.

## **Sheri Kittelson, MD, FAAFP**

### **Associate Professor of Medicine and Chief, Palliative Care, University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville**

Sheri Kittelson, MD, FAAFP serves as Division Chief for the UF Health Palliative Care Program in the Department of Medicine. She graduated magna cum laude from the University of Colorado where she completed her undergraduate, medical school, and palliative care fellowship training. She then completed a residency in family medicine at the University of Florida. During her training, Dr. Kittelson served as chief resident and was awarded the “Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Resident Teaching Award for Excellence in Education.” She is board-certified in both family medicine and palliative care through the American Academy of Family Physicians. Her mission at UF Health is to improve the care delivered to patients and families with life limiting illness, provide education for hospital staff, residents and students, and advance research in palliative care to improve practice. Future program goals include JCAHO accreditation and development of a fellowship program.

## **Susan Ponder-Stansel, LCSW**

### **President & CEO, Alivia Care, Inc., and Director, Florida Palliative Care Coalition, Tallahassee, (panel chair)**

Susan began her career with Community Hospice & Palliative Care (then known as Hospice of Northeast Florida) as a volunteer clinical social worker for the non-profit's new St. Augustine office in 1985. She became Executive Director in 1988 and was named president and CEO of Community Hospice of Northeast Florida in April 1991. During her tenure, Community Hospice & Palliative Care has grown from serving 60 patients a day with a staff of 35 to an organization of approximately 850 full- and part-time staff serving approximately 1,200 patients each day, operating five facilities and multiple offices. Susan is a member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers (ACSW), a Qualified Clinical Social Worker (QCSW) and a board-certified Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the State of Florida. She also holds certification as an Advanced Certified Hospice Executive (ACHE). She serves on the Boards of Directors of the Florida Council on Aging, the Northeast Florida Health Planning Council, and the Florida Hospice & Palliative Care association (FHPC). Susan is a member of the Washington-based National Association for Home Care & Hospice's Hospice Association Advisory Board. Susan also participates on several healthcare-related advisory boards in Florida, serves as a consultant in the hospice industry, and writes and contributes to various publications on the topics of hospice care and end-of-life care.

❖ **ABSTRACT**

The evolution of Palliative Care as a health specialty has improved care, empowered patients and shaped public policy. This panel features three leading palliative care specialists who will describe their practice and the ethical issues it raises and addresses for basic patient care and in end-of-life situations – making clear that the benefits of Palliative Care are not limited to the latter. The panel also signals the Florida Palliative Care Coalition’s statewide initiatives and projects.

❖ **SELECTED READINGS**

- Palliative Care What You Should Know (<https://getpalliativecare.org/>)
- Courageous Parents Network  
<https://courageousparentsnetwork.org/>
- Education in Palliative and End-of-Life Care Program (EPEC)  
<https://www.bioethics.northwestern.edu/programs/epec/curricula/pediatrics.html>
- End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium Pediatric Palliative Care Train-The-Trainer (ELNECPPC)  
<https://www.aacnnursing.org/ELNEC/Courses>

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## 4. Artificial Intelligence: Computing, Health Care and Interprofessional Practice

**Liz Stokes, JD, MA, RN**

**Director, Center for Ethics and Human Rights, American Nurses Association, Silver Spring, Maryland**

Liz Stokes is the Director of the American Nurses Association Center for Ethics and Human Rights and demonstrates expertise in writing public policy on ethical issues including assisted death, intellectual disabilities, artificial intelligence, and women's reproductive health. She is an international speaker on the Code of Ethics for Nurses and an Associate Editor for the Journal of Bioethical Inquiry. Liz is a former American Association of Colleges of Nursing Jonas Scholar. Liz's sphere of influence as a nurse-attorney-bioethicist enables a unique contribution to nursing ethics, law and policy. Her expertise and leadership is also demonstrated through various charitable roles in the health and legal communities.

### ❖ ABSTRACT

Artificial Intelligence and other health information technologies are reshaping health care, research and policy. This session highlights those changes and opportunities, and makes clear that, once again, a new technology is changing the ethical landscape. Among the issues to be addressed is that of interprofessional practice and the appropriate use of new computing tools.

### ❖ SELECTED READINGS

- National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine, [Planning for Long-Term Use of Biomedical Data: Proceedings of a Workshop](#) (2020)
- Nuffield Council on Bioethics, [Artificial Intelligence on Healthcare and Research](#). Ethical Considerations for the use of AI in healthcare and research

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## **5. Public Policy and the Difference of Disability**

**Jeffrey P. Brosco, MD, PhD**

**Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, UM Miller School of Medicine;  
Associate Director, Mailman Center for Child Development (panel  
chair)**

Dr. Brosco completed an M.D. and a Ph.D. at the University of Pennsylvania. He served as chief resident after training in pediatrics at Jackson Memorial Hospital, and he is board-certified in Pediatrics and in Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics. He continues to teach and practice medicine at the University of Miami; his research focuses on ethics and health policy. Dr. Brosco has also served in some capacity in Florida state government for the last 20 years, including as Deputy Secretary of Health, Children's Medical Services. He is currently Florida's Title V Director for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs. Dr. Brosco is active in state and national health policy groups, including the Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children (Department of Health and Human Services) and the National Workgroup on Standards for Systems of Care for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs/National Academy for State Health Policy).

**Damian Gregory**

**Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Nothing About Us, Without Us,  
Miami**

Damian P. Gregory is a journalist and community advocate for people with disabilities. Mr. Gregory is a twin who was born with Cerebral Palsy and uses a wheelchair as a result. He has been a self-advocate his entire life. Damian earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Broadcast Journalism and Political Science from the University of Miami. After graduation, Damian worked as a journalist for several South Florida based publications, including the Chicago Tribune's South Florida Sun-Sentinel and Caribbean Today. For the more than 15 years, he has worked in the disability advocacy arena. His work has included stints as a Medicaid Waiver Support Coordinator, Travel Trainer, and Disability Rights Consultant. The overall mission of Damian's work has been to improve the quality of life and inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life, including in the areas of transportation, education, employment, housing, and political & civic engagement. In 2015 he joined CCDH, Inc.—Miami-Dade's oldest non-profit organization serving those with developmental disabilities—as the Director of Outreach

and Family Engagement. In addition to serving on the ROOF Board of Directors, Damian remains active on several local and statewide boards. Damian is the immediate past chairperson of the Miami-Dade County Commission On Disability Issues (CODI), an official advisory board to the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Gregory currently is the Chairperson of the University of South Florida's Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC) Community Advisory Committee.

## **Andy J. Imparato** **Executive Director, Disability Rights California**

Andy joined DRC as Executive Director after a high impact 26-year career in Washington, DC working inside and outside government in significant leadership positions, including 17 years as the chief executive of two national disability organizations, the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) and the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD). Andy's experience also includes serving as Senior Counsel and Disability Policy Director for Chairman Tom Harkin on the US Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; General Counsel and Director of Policy for the National Council on Disability; and as an attorney at the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. He graduated with distinction from Stanford Law School in 1990 and was a summa cum laude graduate of Yale College. He grew up in Los Angeles, California, is married to historian Elizabeth M. Nix, Ph.D., and has two sons, Gareth and Nicholas, who both live in Southern California. Andy's perspective is informed by his lived experience with bipolar disorder. Andy is committed to "championing and modeling diversity, equity and inclusion and defining a future for disability rights advocacy that extends the reach and impact of the disability rights movement in California, the United States and globally."

## **Rylin Rodgers** **Director of Public Policy, Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD), Silver Spring, Maryland**

Rylin Rodgers is the Director of Public Policy, Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) the nation's leading voice on disability. Before joining AUCD, Rylin served as the Training Director and Family Leadership Coordinator for the Riley Child Development Center (Indiana's LEND), and was a founding board member of Family Voices Indiana. Both as a parent and as a professional, Rylin has extensive expertise on topics including special education regulations, public and private health care financing and family/professional partnerships. Her personal and professional experiences combine to provide a unique perspective on the impact of policy and of systems issues on the "end users."

❖ **ABSTRACT**

The COVID-19 pandemic has taught us much about social determinants of health and disparities embedded in our culture and health care systems. This panel of experts will assess the ways in which people with disabilities have endured marginalization and discrimination and help explore ways to reverse, redress and rectify those disparities.

❖ **SELECTED READINGS**

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Disability and Health Overview  
<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/disability.html>
- FBN/UM resources on COVID and disability  
<https://bioethics.miami.edu/education/public-health-ethics/pandemic-resources/index.html> (under “Special Topics: Disability”)