

Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellows 1998 Biographical Sketches



Daniel Barkley (1998, TRB /TRB Studies) is the founder and Executive Director of [Economics On The Move](#) (EOTM), a nonprofit organization that uses tours to teach economics. EOTM classes have toured Procter & Gamble (Cincinnati, Ohio), Sony Pictures (Los Angeles, Calif.), Toyota Manufacturing (Georgetown, Ky.), Federal Reserve Bank (Los Angeles, Calif.), and Qualcomm (San Diego, Calif.) among others. Through the use of grant funding, EOTM is able to enroll youths in under-served communities into courses in economics, statistics, and financial literacy at some of the leading colleges and universities in the nation. In the summer of 2011, former EOTM students will be teaching pre-college classes in "International Economics Development" and "Prices, Profits + Providing" at Yale University; "Creating a Business" at Wellesley College, "Statistics" at the University of California, San Diego; and "Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders" at the University of Cincinnati. Also in the summer of 2011, EOTM will be partnering with the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) to offer a graduate-level course that uses the experiences of Mexico, Bolivia and Brazil to teach development economics. Dr. Barkley will be teaching the course which includes 10 trips to three countries where students will learn about the development process first-hand.

(Updated 2/2011)



Merrie Cartwright (1998, DELS/OSB) received her B.S. in biological sciences from the Florida Institute of Technology and her M.S. and Ph.D. in zoology from the University of Maine. After participating in the Mirzayan Fellowship she decided to focus her career on public service. She has worked as a program coordinator for a nonprofit granting organization, taught environmental science at a university and served as a biologist and natural resources manager for the federal government. Merrie currently resides in New Mexico with her husband, daughter and two dogs. (Updated 02/2016)

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Angela Chuang (1998, NRC/CPSMA) serves as senior technical leader at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), where she leads collaborative research, development, and demonstration projects for enabling widespread integration of demand response (DR) in electric power and market systems. Previously she served as product manager at a software company in the electric power industry. She studied electrical engineering and computer science at the University of California, Berkeley, where she completed three degrees. She also received business certificates from Berkeley's Haas School of Business and Stanford's Graduate School of Business. (Updated 2/2016)



Kara Drolet (1998, NASEO/ONPI) is currently the associate director of the Research Integrity Office at Oregon Health & Science University, with responsibility for compliance oversight for human subjects research, recombinant DNA/infectious agent research (biosafety), and conflicts of interest. She also serves as co-chair of the Oregon State Advisory Committee on Genetic Privacy and Research. (Updated 03/2010)



Austin Frakt (1998, NAS/OCGA) is a health economist and researcher; creator, co-manager, and a primary author of [TheIncidentalEconomist.com](http://theincidentaleconomist.com); and a regular contributor to The New York Times' The Upshot. He has educational background in physics and engineering. After receiving his PhD in statistical and applied mathematics he spent four years at a research and consulting firm conducting policy evaluations for federal health agencies. He now has appointments with Health Care Financing & Economics (HCFE) at the Boston VA Healthcare System, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; the Department of Psychiatry at Boston University's School of Medicine; and the Department of Health Policy and Management at Boston University's School of Public Health. He is also a visiting associate professor with the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and an adjunct senior fellow at The Leonard Davis Institute, University of Pennsylvania. Since 1999, Austin has studied economic issues pertaining to U.S. health care policy. He is currently the co-Principal Investigator of the Partnered Evidence-Based Resource Center, funded by the VA's Quality Enhancement Research Initiative. His research interests include program evaluation, the quality and efficiency of traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage, and health care technology innovation. Dr. Frakt can be contacted at <http://theincidentaleconomist.com>. (Updated 2/2016)



Sekou Franklin (1998, DBASSE and PGA) received his doctorate in political science from Howard University. (Updated 2/2011)

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Eileen Gebbie (1998, NAS/RRC) After her graduate work and teaching at University of Illinois Eileen worked in relational community organizing and non-profit administration. Ms. Gebbie is now at Chicago Theological Seminary, preparing for ordained ministry in the United Church of Christ. (Updated 12/2010)



Amanda Greene (1998, IOM) is the lead for science program evaluation at the National Institutes of Health, Office of Strategic Coordination/the NIH Common Fund. She received her Ph.D. in nursing and health services research from the University of Maryland. She then completed an M.P.H. with a focus in epidemiology at Johns Hopkins University as part of her post-doctoral fellowship in the NCI Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program. Since completing her doctorate, Dr. Greene has focused on using program evaluation to plan, monitor, and measure the value and effectiveness of biomedical science and health care services. (Updated 2/2016)



Erin Hannan (1998, NAS/OPUS) has been working towards a master's degree in marine policy from the University of Delaware. She received her bachelor's degree in biology from University of California, Santa Cruz. Most recently she worked on an NSF-funded research project entitled Identity and Environmental Action. Her research goals are to find a bridge between policy and science and to effectively communicate her research to people at all levels. Her future plans include pursuing a PhD in marine conservation biology or natural resource management, with the goal of teaching at the university level.



Shelly Hargrave Conner (1998, PGA/OSEP) received her PhD in Psychology at the University of Michigan. She received her B.S. in Psychology from Drexel University. Her OSEP project was an evaluation of different funding options for graduate students. Currently, Shelly is an Assistant Dean for the Rackham Graduate School at the University of Michigan. She leads many core initiatives, including graduate student funding (which directly relates to her NRC internship project) and graduate program improvements. (Updated 8/2010)



Jennifer Harris (1998, DBASSE) has been working towards a joint MD/PhD in medical sociology in the Medical Scholars Program at the University of Illinois. She has a master's degree in international health from the School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. She holds a bachelor's degree in anthropology from the University of North Carolina. She is particularly interested in learning how to apply the sociological and public health skills she has learned to issues related to the health and well-being of women and adolescent girls. Her long-term career goal is to work on adolescent health care issues.

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Michael Hostetler (1998, PGA/GPRA) is a partner at the law firm of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich and Rosati in San Francisco. He provides patent strategy advice for growth enterprises in the life sciences and technology industries. He has a law degree from Duke University, and a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley. His work at the CSTL in the summer of 1998 was instrumental in his approach to science, technology and the law. (Updated 2/2016)



Priscilla Johnson (1998, NAE) has been working towards a PhD at Purdue University specializing in civil infrastructure systems. She has her master's degree in civil engineering from Purdue and a bachelor's degree in communications studies with a specialization in mass media from New York University. She is interested in promoting public awareness and understanding of scientific issues.



Lesley Lydell (1998, PGA/OSEP) is a research and policy analyst with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education, a cabinet-level agency in St. Paul, Minn. Her work focuses on outcomes for postsecondary students, including student learning and employment, and the financial costs associated with pursuing higher education. She is the lead for the state's postsecondary accountability report. (Updated 8/2010)



Micah Milton Bass (1998, IOM) is a health scientist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) where she began her career as a Presidential Management Fellow after obtaining a master's degree in public health from Emory University in 1999. She has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Florida State University. Her expertise is in the behavioral aspects of disease epidemiology and scientific ethics, but her experience spans a spectrum of health topics including tobacco control, birth defects, developmental disabilities, and infectious diseases. She has participated in various emergency responses including Hurricane Katrina in 2005, pandemic influenza in 2009, Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in 2013, and Ebola in 2014 and 2015. (Updated 4/2016)

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Christine Mirzayan (1998, DBASSE/CSMEE) served in the Commission on Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Education (CSMEE). She had recently finished her Ph.D. from the University of California, San Francisco and had been selected as a 1998 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Congressional fellow. At UCSF, her research focused on the development of the vertebrate nervous system. In particular, she analyzed the molecular mechanism by which diffusible cues guide the migration of developing axons. While at UCSF, she found that although she enjoyed basic research, she was increasingly interested in the role that science plays in society and looked forward to a career that would allow her to utilize her scientific knowledge to address the political and social problems facing our nation. Tragically, she was unable to reach that goal when she lost her life during the last week of the fellowship program. The National Academies of Sciences,

Engineering, and Medicine named the fellowship program in her honor.



Cassandra Moore-Crawford (1998, DELS/BANR) received her PhD in animal science from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2005. After being a Mirzayan Fellow in the summer of 1998, she taught science and math courses at a private high school in Silver Spring, Md. for five years. She is currently a biology professor at Prince George's Community College in Largo, Md. (Updated 9/2009)



Kaatrick Ramasubramanian (1998, NRC/CETS) has been working towards his master's degree in telecommunications and computers at George Washington University. His bachelor's degree is in electronics and communications engineering from Bharathiar University in India. He is particularly interested in aerospace programs and technology. He hopes his experience with the Commission on Engineering and Technical Systems (CETS) has expanded his knowledge in telecommunications.



James Sexton (1998, DBASSE) has been working towards a PhD in social psychology with a minor in statistics at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. He has a master's degree in social psychology from UMass as well as a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary studies from Miami University. He is interested in science and technology policy because he has been involved in research for many years. He is interested in exploring practical applications of research to answer vital social issues.

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Katharine Shobe (1998, DBASSE/BOHSI) has been working on her PhD in psychology at Yale. She holds a master's degree in psychology from Yale as well as a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Illinois. Her dissertation looks at illusory memory, and she plans on studying traumatic memory as a post-doc. She plans to pursue a career as a non-academic researcher. After receiving her PhD she would like to have a research position in government or law enforcement.



Lisa Vandemark (1998, NAS/NSRC) is a professional geographer and an advanced practice nurse. She is currently an assistant professor in the College of Health and Human Services, George Mason University. Dr. Vandemark also currently serves as a consultant to the Medical University of South Carolina, College of Nursing, in the application of geographic information systems (GIS) to community health planning. She has also served in this capacity as a consultant for international and national organizations in sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia. From 2008-2009, Dr. Vandemark was a Fulbright Research Scholar in Thailand. Her research interests include health geography, community-based participatory research, and health policy. She currently has funded research focused on obesity and social violence in disadvantaged communities in the Southern U.S. and in Northeastern Thailand. (Updated 2/2011)



Janet Whitley (1998, DELS/CLS) is a project director at Supply Chain Management Systems, a contractor to the U.S. government under PEPFAR. The underlying goal of the project is to expedite access to pediatric HIV/AIDS medicines by way of a novel regulatory mechanism unique to the developing world. She is also an independent regulatory consultant in Washington, D.C. She holds a PhD in pharmacology with a minor in physiology from Indiana University and a bachelor's degree in economics from Temple University. Her research in neuropharmacology increased her interest in policy issues concerning life sciences and medicine such as the treatment of mental illness and drug abuse. Her goal is to articulate scientific information to the non-science community in order for science to achieve its greatest potential and contribution to society. (Updated 10/2011)