April 29-30, 2011
Garden Room, Hilton Albuquerque

Mapping “Race” and Inequality:
Best Practices for Theorizing and Operationalizing “Race”
in Health Policy Research

A Workshop Sponsored by
the Institute for the Study of “Race” and Social Justice,
the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy at UNM
and the National Institutes of Health
National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities

**Friday, April 29, 2011**

7:30am       Continental Breakfast

8am           Welcome by Laura Gómez & Nancy López

8:30-9:30am   Unpacking What We Mean by “Race” in Concept & Method

John Garcia, “Mapping Race and Inequality: Integrating Multi-dimensional Concepts and Operationalization”

Joseph Gone, “Moving Beyond Race in Native American Health Research: Lessons from Indian Country”

Derek Iwamoto, “Exploratory and Confirmatory Factor Analysis of the People of Color Racial Identity Attitude Scale among Asian Americans”

9:45-10:45am  Rac(ing) Statistics in Health Research

Jay Kaufman, “Ethical Dilemmas in Statistical Practice: The Problem of Race in Biomedicine”


Joe Graves, “Looking at the World through “Race” Colored Glasses: the Influence of Ascertainment Bias on Biomedical Research and Practice”

11am-Noon    Using Multiple Measures of “Race” in Existing Data Sets

Aliya Saperstein, “Measuring Multi-Dimensionality in Surveys: Moving Forward”

Kimberly Huyser, “Who are We Talking About? Defining the Population within Race & Ethnicity among American Indians”

Gabriel Sanchez, “The Missing Link in the Social Determinants of Health Literature: The Impact of Political Factors on Health Status and Racial Disparities”
Noon to 1pm  Box lunch with RWJF Doctoral Fellows (Sonia Bettez, Yajaira Pena-Esperanza, Estela Vasquez Guzman, Vickie Ybarra)

1-2pm  Embodying “Race” and Health Inequalities

Clarence Gravlee, “Operationalizing Race in Health Research: from Mantra to Measurement”


Michael Montoya, “Beyond Natures/Cultures: The Promise of Community Knowledge in a Post-Genomic World”

2:15-3:15pm  “Race” and Health Delivery in Practice and Clinical Trials

Camara Jones, “Achieving Health Equity: Frameworks and Tools for Undoing Racism and Other Systems of Inequity”

Maribel Rodriguez-Torres, “Relevance of Ethnicity and Race in patients with CHC: Focus on Latinos”


3:30-4:30pm  “Race,” Genomics, and the Meaning of Justice

Sandra Lee, “Exploring Race in a Genomic Age through the Lens of Anthropology and Bioethics”

Jon Kahn, “Framing Racial Medicine”
Saturday, April 30, 2011

8-8:30am  Continental breakfast and Discussion of Day Two Agenda

8:45-10:15am  Group discussions based on methodological strategy
               (quantitative and qualitative; note that several of you could have
               been in either group); list below.

Guiding questions: What can we do to address the disconnect between the
conceptualization of race as a socially constructed, multi-dimensional, multi-
level phenomenon and data on race and health inequalities that consistently
falls short of these insights? What are best practices for research on racial
health inequalities using existing data sets? If you had unlimited resources, how
would you design new data collection that took into account these best
practices?

Quantitative Group (8:45am)  Qualitative Group (8:45am)
John Garcia  Arline Geronimus
Laura Gomez  Lance Gravlee
Joseph Graves  Joseph Gone
Janet Helms  Jon Kahn
Kimberly Huyser  Sandra Lee
Derek Iwamoto  Simon Lee
Jay Kaufman  Nancy Lopez
Camara Jones  Michael Montoya
Gabriel Sanchez  Maribel Rodriguez-Torres
Aliya Saperstein  Yajaira Pena-Esperanza*
Vickie Ybarra*  Sonia Bettez*
Estela Vasquez Guzman*

10:30-12pm  Small group discussions (see below)

Continue the earlier discussion by focusing on more precise questions,
given the methodological orientation of each small group.

For example, many studies, both quantitative (e.g., surveys) and qualitative (e.g.,
interviews), capture only a single dimension of racial status (typically self-
identified race). How can we move toward operationalizing race as also having
a social dimension (how others classify us) and as varying situationally (e.g., in
a school/work setting versus neighborhood, etc.) and longitudinally (e.g., over
the life-course and in real historical time)? What specific research strategies
would we utilize to get at these facets of race?

How can we think about race and other dimensions of social inequality in more
complex ways? What research strategies would allow us to operationalize
multiple, interacting and reinforcing bases of social and health inequality that
powerfully intersect with race (such as socio-economic status, gender, sexuality,
age, citizenship status, disability status and the like)?

*RWJF Doctoral Fellow invited student observer.
Small Group 1 (10:30am)

Joseph Graves
Janet Helms
Derek Iwamoto
Jay Kaufman
Aliya Saperstein
Laura Gomez
Vickie Ybarra*

Small Group 2 (10:30am)

Joe Gone
Jon Kahn
Sandra Lee
Maribel Rodriguez-Torres
Yajaira Pena-Esperanza*

Small Group 3 (10:30am)

John Garcia
Kimberly Huysers
Camara Jones
Gabriel Sanchez
Estela Vasquez Guzman*

Small Group 4 (10:30am)

Arlene Geronimus
Lance Gravleye
Simon Lee
Nancy Lopez
Michael Montoya
Sonia Bettez*

12:00-12:45 Box lunch, informal conversations
12:45-2:45pm Reconvene in Plenary Format for Four Small Group Reports
3:00-4:00pm Regroup to Develop Guiding Principles—Nancy and Laura
4:15-5:15pm Next Steps (edited volume; future collaborations; continuing the conversation).

Funding for this conference was made possible (in part) by 1R13MD006054-01 from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and the Eunice Kennedy SCHRIVER National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention by trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.