

The 23rd Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference
Tuesday, November 15, 2016

Anabella Aspiras, MPA, RN, BSN

Anabella Aspiras is the Director for Patient Engagement on the Vice President's Cancer Moonshot, and works to ensure that the efforts of the Task Force are anchored to the patient-care experience. Anabella comes to the White House from New York-Presbyterian Hospital where she worked as a Hospital Administrator in Oncology. Prior to that, Anabella was a Registered Nurse working in critical care, emergency medicine, and vascular access. Anabella's clinical work took her to Haiti twice following the 2010 Earthquake, and most recently to Sierra Leone in 2015 to assist with Ebola containment efforts. Anabella received a B.A. in Government & Politics at the University of Maryland, a B.S. in Nursing from Johns Hopkins University, and a M.P.A. with a focus on healthcare administration from New York University.

Stephen Cattaneo, MD

Stephen M. Cattaneo, M.D., is the Medical Director of Thoracic Oncology and the Division Director of Surgical Oncology at Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis, Maryland. After graduating from Duke University, he attended the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore. Following this, he completed his general surgical residency at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, and his cardiothoracic fellowship training at Johns Hopkins and the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. He joined the faculty of Anne Arundel Medical in 2008 and maintains his appointment as an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Johns Hopkins.

Dr. Cattaneo is board certified in cardiothoracic and general surgery. His clinical focus is on lung and esophageal oncology, lung cancer screening, chest wall tumors, and hiatal hernia repairs. He is skilled in minimally-invasive surgery, including video-assisted thoracoscopic (VATS) and robot-assisted lobectomy.

Kevin Cullen, MD

Kevin J. Cullen, M.D., is Director of the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Cullen, who specializes in head and neck cancer, is a professor of medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and is head of its Program in Oncology. He came to the University of Maryland in January 2004.

A graduate of Dartmouth College and Harvard Medical School, Dr. Cullen completed his internship and residency at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston and received additional training at the National Cancer Institute. He served as interim director of the Lombardi Cancer Center at Georgetown University from October 2000 to September 2002 and was professor of medicine, oncology and otolaryngology at Georgetown University School of Medicine.

Dr. Cullen's research interests include cellular factors that promote the growth of cancer and molecular mechanisms that make some cancers resistant to treatment with chemotherapy. He is the author of numerous journal publications and has served on review panels for the National Cancer Institute, the Veterans Administration Research Program, and other organizations. His honors include a special achievement award from the National Cancer Institute. Outside of the University of Maryland, Dr. Cullen serves on the external advisory boards of several NCI designated cancer centers. He has chaired two working groups for the NCI and is a member of the national board of directors of the American Cancer Society and will be the chair of the board in 2018. In 2011 he was appointed by President Barack Obama to the National Cancer Advisory Board.

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Ron Goetzel, PhD

Ron Goetzel is Senior Scientist and Director of the Institute for Health and Productivity Studies (IHPS) at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and Vice President of Consulting and Applied Research for Truven Health Analytics. The mission of the IHPS is to bridge the gap between academia, the business community, and the healthcare policy world – bringing academic resources into policy debates and day-to-day business decisions, and bringing health and productivity management issues into academia. Before moving to Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Goetzel was on the faculty at Emory and Cornell Universities. Dr. Goetzel is responsible for leading innovative projects for healthcare purchaser, managed care, government, and pharmaceutical clients interested in conducting cutting-edge research focused on the relationship between health and well-being, medical costs, and work-related productivity. He is an internationally recognized and widely published expert in health and productivity management (HPM), return-on-investment (ROI), program evaluation, and outcomes research. Dr. Goetzel has published well over 200 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and frequently presents at international business and scientific forums.

Dr. Goetzel is a Task Force Member of the Guide to Community Preventive Services housed at the CDC, and President and CEO of The Health Project, which annually awards organizations the prestigious C. Everett Koop prize for demonstrable health improvement and cost savings from health promotion and disease prevention programs. He is also a member of several committees organized by the Institute of Medicine (IOM).

Dr. Goetzel earned his doctorate in Organizational and Administrative Studies and his M.A. in Applied Social Psychology from New York University (NYU), and his B.S. degree in Psychology from the City College of New York (CCNY).

Clarence Lam, MD, MPH

Clarence Lam, M.D., M.P.H., is a state delegate representing District 12 (Howard and Baltimore Counties) in the Maryland General Assembly. He currently serves on the Environment and Transportation Committee of the Maryland House of Delegates. Dr. Lam also serves on faculty and as the program director of the preventive medicine residency program at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Case Western Reserve University where he completed his Bachelor of Arts in political science and biology. He earned his medical degree from the University of Maryland and his Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins University. He completed his residency training at Johns Hopkins, where he also served as chief resident, and is board-certified in preventive medicine.

Dr. Lam is involved in many community organizations, including the Board of Directors of the Community Action Council of Howard County, Healthy Howard, and the Unified Community Connections of Maryland, as well as having served as an appointee to the Governor's Commission for Asian Pacific American Affairs and Howard County's Spending Affordability Committee.

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Van Mitchell

Van Mitchell serves as the Secretary for the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), appointed by Governor Larry Hogan on January 21, 2015. Van previously served as a Government Relations Specialist from 2007 – 2015 for Manis Canning & Associates. He was appointed Principal Deputy Secretary of the DHMH from 2004-2007 where he was a member of the Interagency Disabilities Board, Homeland Senior Policy Group and the Maryland Commission on Disabilities. Van served as a member of the Maryland House of Delegates for three terms from 1995 – 2004. During his tenure in the legislature he sat on both the Economic Matters and Appropriations Committees. During this time he was a member of the Unemployment Insurance Subcommittee; Real Property Subcommittee; House Chair of the Workers' Compensation Subcommittee; House Chair Workers' Compensation Benefit and Insurance Oversight Committee; Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review; member Capital Budget Subcommittee; Oversight Committee on Pensions; Chair of the Health and Human Resources Subcommittee; House Chair Joint Audit Committee; and Chaired both the Charles County and Southern Maryland Delegations.

Since 1985, Van has served as President/CEO of MSI, Inc., a building supply company which operated in Charles County, MD for forty-nine years. He has also served on many boards such as the University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center (formerly Civista Medical Center), College of Southern Maryland Board of Trustees and is a Co-Founder & Board Member of County First Bank. Van attended Campbell University.

William G. Nelson, MD, PhD

Dr. Nelson is the Marion I. Knott Professor of Oncology and Director of the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins. He currently holds Professorships in Oncology, Medicine, Pharmacology, Pathology, Radiation Oncology, Urology, and Environmental Health Sciences. A trained medical oncologist, he directs a research laboratory focused on discovering new strategies for prostate cancer treatment and prevention. Outside of Johns Hopkins, Dr. Nelson has also become a recognized leader in cancer research, organizing national and international meetings in cancer health disparities, cancer prevention, and prostate cancer, serving on the Scientific Advisory Boards for Stand Up 2 Cancer and the Prostate Cancer Foundation, co-chairing the National Cancer Institute Translational Research Working Group, and working as Executive Editor of Cancer Today and a Senior Editor of Cancer Research. Owner of seven issued patents, he is a co-founder of Digital Harmonics, a Board Member of CHD Biosciences, and an Advisory Board Member of Abbvie and of Proquest Investments.

Krystle Pierce, MPP

Ms. Pierce is the project director for the Maryland Quitting Use and Initiation of Tobacco Use (MDQuit) Resource Center within the Department of Psychology at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). MDQuit works to build collaborative relationships between healthcare systems, providers, and community organizations to disseminate best practices to advance state tobacco control initiatives. Ms. Pierce manages activities for several initiatives within MDQuit to understand and effectively address the needs of providers and professionals in Maryland who deliver tobacco prevention and cessation services to clients. Within this role, she supports many initiatives of the MDQuit Resource Center, including those that focus on state-wide and community-level efforts to promote policy, systems and environmental efforts for tobacco-free living. Ms. Pierce earned a Masters Degree in Public Policy from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Baldwin-Wallace College.

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Elizabeth Platz, ScD, MPH

Dr. Elizabeth Platz is an epidemiologist whose research on cancer and benign conditions of the prostate and colorectum sits at the interface between epidemiology and basic science. Within prospective cohorts, Dr. Platz studies the association of genetic and epigenetic factors as well as circulating markers of androgenicity, inflammation, and oxidation with prostate cancer incidence and recurrence. For colorectal neoplasia, her work focuses on the metabolic syndrome, growth factors, and inflammation as sequelae of adiposity. In addition, Dr. Platz directs the NCI-supported T32 Cancer Epidemiology, Prevention, and Control Training Program, Co-Leads the Cancer Prevention and Control Program at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, and Chairs the Maryland Cancer Collaborative, the group responsible for prioritizing and implementing the state's comprehensive cancer control plan.

Wes Sims

Wes Sims is an experienced entrepreneur with exposure to the corporate fitness and wellness space dating back to 2007. Wes is currently Executive Vice President of FX Well, a national leader in performance training, fitness center design, and management and corporate wellness programming and integrated partner of Under Armour Connected Fitness. At FX Well, Wes is responsible for business and product development, strategic partnerships, and growth strategies. Additionally, Wes leads the effort in finding creative ways to use wellness programming and technology to contribute to the fight against cancer and to facilitate better recovery and outcomes. In addition to his work, Mr. Sims gives his time and insight as a member of non-profit Boards and as an advisor to a handful of forward-thinking start-ups in the connected fitness space.