

## RU 2019 Speakers



**Walter Dehority, MD** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics, Division of Infectious Diseases at the University Of New Mexico School Of Medicine. He is a chair of the HRRC at the UNM SOM. He graduated from the University of California, School of Medicine, followed by post-graduate training at Johns Hopkins, UNM and the University of California, San Diego and with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



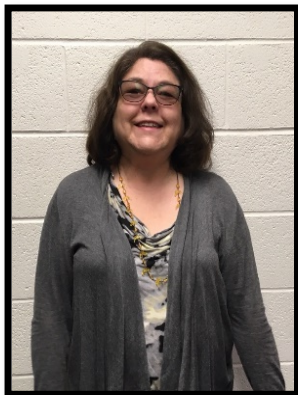
**Mark R. Burge, MD**, is an established clinical and translational investigator in diabetes at the University of New Mexico HSC. His R01-funded studies have thus far focused on the physiology and pathophysiology of hypoglycemia in patients with type 2 diabetes and on improving treatments for individuals with type 1 and type 2 diabetes. He has also participated as a co-investigator at the New Mexico site in landmark diabetes-related clinical trials, including the Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT) and the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP). Dr. Burge's current research is aimed at establishing a comprehensive cohort of prediabetes subjects as a repository for future research studies. This work is supported by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and focuses on New Mexico populations that suffer disproportionately from health disparity. Dr. Burge served as the longstanding Program Director of the UNM General Clinical Research Center (GCRC) and is currently the Deputy Director of UNM's new Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC). He is a recent past-President of the American Federation for Medical Research (AFMR) and current President of the Western Society for Clinical Investigation (WSCCI).



**Susan Kunkel, PharmD**, has served as lead Investigational Drug Services pharmacist at the University of New Mexico main hospital inpatient pharmacy since December, 2014. She first joined the department in 2008 as an informatics pharmacist upon completing a research fellowship at the New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center. She earned a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of New Mexico and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Arizona, making her a sort of hybrid between a lobo and a wildcat. (Go locats?) When not practicing pharmacy, she plays Middle Eastern percussion and the hurdy gurdy at musical events around New Mexico. She thanks you for joining her now for her presentation, entitled "**IDS Pharmacy: Supporting HSC Researchers in Drug Studies**"



**Angela Meisner, MPH**, is an epidemiologist at the New Mexico Tumor Registry. She manages the Registry's research portfolio, and serves as a liaison to public health entities, professional and scientific organizations, and community members. She has 20 years of experience with epidemiologic research, including cancer surveillance. She currently serves as Representative-at-Large for the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries. She holds a Masters in Public Health in Epidemiology from the University of Michigan School of Public Health.



**Sarah Targownik, LMSW, CIP** earned a BS in Psychology from Georgetown University and received a Master's in Social Work from the University of Kansas. She practiced as a medical and psychiatric social worker in inpatient hospital settings for 15 years, specializing in working with patients with dementia and their families. She began her career in research in 2004, at Quintiles, a clinical research organization where she was involved in many tasks that contribute to supporting large sponsored new drug and device trials. Her last two years with Quintiles were spent working as a QA auditor for the Quintiles Phase One Clinical Trails Unit. She moved from Kansas City to Albuquerque June 2015 to be the Outreach and Education Manager for the HRPO at UNM HSC. Sarah became a Certified IRB Professional

in 2017.



**Vanessa Will, PhD, CIP** holds a PhD in Linguistic Anthropology from the University of Michigan. She conducted multiple years of ethnographic field research on the Isle of Lewis in Scotland, working with both children and senior populations. After a nomadic life moving between Germany, the US, Scotland and New Zealand, Vanessa joined the HRPO in 2014, and has recently taken on the role of HRRC Manager. She has also been a Clinical Research Manager in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Vanessa particularly enjoys helping researchers to design their projects with human research regulations in mind, and to 'bridge the gap' between the biomedical focus of the regulations and the aims and methodologies of social-behavioral research. She holds the CIP® certification from PRIM&R, and is also a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician.



**Dr. Kimberly Page, Ph.D., MPH** is an infectious disease epidemiologist with significant experience conducting prospective cohort studies, clinical trials and implementation science research. She is a Professor Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Preventive Medicine, in the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center. She received her Ph.D. from University of California at Berkeley, and was a faculty member at University of California San Francisco for twenty years. Dr. Page's leads nationally and internationally recognized research on HIV and viral hepatitis prevention in underserved and vulnerable populations, including people who inject drugs (PWID), and women engaged in transactional sex. She is co-Protocol Chair of an NIH funded trial testing a prophylactic HCV

vaccine, which in PWID. She has ongoing studies of HCV and opioid prevention and treatment, in PWID in rural and

urban New Mexico, and is actively funded by NIH, U.S. CDC, and PCORI. She collaborates with leading researchers in the U.S and other countries to better understand and deliver global health to improve health in underserved populations.



**Debra A. MacKenzie, Ph.D.** is a Research Assistant Professor at the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at UNM HSC. Dr. MacKenzie's research efforts are centered around understanding mechanisms of metals toxicity and immune dysregulation. Dr. MacKenzie is an investigator on the Navajo Birth Cohort Study, which studies the effects of mixed metal exposure, including arsenic and uranium, on immune dysregulation, birth outcomes and child development on the Navajo Nation. She is co-PI on a research project supporting the Center for Native American Environmental Health Equity, investigating the associations of metals exposure with immune dysregulation and development of biomarkers of autoimmunity within the Navajo, Crow and Cheyenne River Sioux tribes.



**Esther Erdei, PhD, MPH**, is Assistant Professor, College of Pharmacy, Health Sciences Center. Erdei earned a Biology and Human Medicine M. Sc. Hons. (1991) and a Ph.D. in Immunology from the Eotvos Lorand University at Budapest, Hungary (2003). She also has a MPH degree from the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (2010). Esther is particularly interested in combining her immunology, classical epidemiology and molecular epidemiology expertise with community-based participatory research ideas in environmental health problems. She was the first fellow under the CTSC 's Participatory Research Center in 2008 to initiate research with Tribal communities affected by environmental contamination on the Cheyenne River. She worked intensively on developing immunological markers as indicators of toxic environmental exposures in several epidemiological studies in sensitive and underserved populations in the United States (South Dakotan Lakotas), in Bolivia (Tsimani) and in Europe (with Romani in Eastern Europe). Through her research in the last decade in New Mexico, she became familiar with the Navajo Reservation, its assets, with the people and their sovereign oversight and the Navajo Nation Human Research Review Board. She also gained experience previously working with Pueblo Nations as volunteer epidemiology analyst at the Albuquerque Area Tribal Epidemiology Center, which serves 28 tribes around the State of New Mexico.