

LESLIE M. BEITSCH, M.D., J.D.

Leslie M. Beitsch, M.D., J.D. joined the faculty at the Florida State University College of Medicine in November 2003 as Professor of Health Policy and Director of the Center for Medicine and Public Health.

From June 2001 until November 2003, Dr. Beitsch was the Commissioner of the Oklahoma State Department of Health. In that role he provided oversight for 2500 employees and a budget of \$260,000,000. Dr. Beitsch served as Deputy Secretary and Assistant State Health Officer for the Florida Department of Health from 1997-2001. He provided guidance and direction for public health programs, the county health departments, the state laboratory and pharmacy. Prior to this appointment, Dr. Beitsch served as Assistant State Health Officer and Division Director for Family Health Services from 1991 through 1997, focusing on maternal and child health. From 1989 through 1991, Dr. Beitsch was Medical Director of the Broward County Health Department in Ft. Lauderdale.

Dr. Beitsch has been an active member in several organizations including the American Public Health Association, the Florida Public Health Association, the Florida Association of County Health Officials, the Florida Medical Association, Capital Medical Society (Indigent Care Committee), the Oklahoma Public Health Association, the Oklahoma State Medical Association, and the Florida Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies Coalition. He has been an active member of committees representing the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and committees advising the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Currently, he is chair of the Board of Directors for the Public Health Foundation and the immediate past chair of the Public Health Leadership Society. Until his move to Oklahoma, Dr. Beitsch volunteered and served on the Board of Directors for the Neighborhood Health Services clinic in Tallahassee, providing health services to the uninsured. In addition to his faculty duties at Florida State, he is Adjunct Professor at the College of Public Health, University of South Florida and the Faye Boozeman College of Public Health at the University of Arkansas for the Medical Sciences.

Dr. Beitsch received his medical degree in 1980 from Georgetown University and his law degree in 1988 from Harvard Law School. He is board certified in preventive medicine.

BOBBIE BERKOWITZ, PH.D., R.N., C.N.A.A., F.A.A.N.

Bobbie Berkowitz, Ph.D., R.N., C.N.A.A., F.A.A.N. is currently the Alumni Endowed Professor of Nursing at the University of Washington School of Nursing and Adjunct Professor in the School of Public Health and Community Medicine. Dr. Berkowitz also directs the NIH/NINR funded Center for the Advancement of Health Disparities Research at the UW School of Nursing.

From 1998 through 2006 she directed the National Program Office for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded Turning Point Initiative. She was Chair of the Department of Psychosocial and Community Health at the UW School of Nursing from 1998 through 2004. She joined the faculty at the University of Washington in July 1996 after having served as Deputy Secretary for the Washington State Department of Health and Chief of Nursing Services for the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health.

Dr. Berkowitz has served on the Washington State Board of Health and the Washington Health Care Commission. She serves on the Editorial Boards for Public Health Nursing and the American Journal of Public Health; as Senior Associate Editor of Policy, Politics, and Nursing Practice; and as Associate Editor of Nursing Outlook. She serves on the boards of the American Academy of Nursing and the Washington Center on Nursing, and is the Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of QualisHealth and Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees for Group Health Cooperative. Dr. Berkowitz is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and a member of the Institute of Medicine.

She holds a Ph.D. in Nursing Science from Case Western Reserve University and Master of Nursing and Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Washington.

RICHARD J. JACKSON, M.D., M.P.H.

Richard Joseph Jackson, M.D., M.P.H. is Adjunct Professor of Environmental Health and of City and Regional Planning at the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Jackson has served in many leadership positions with the California Health Department, including the highest: the State Health Officer. For nine years he was Director of the National Center for Environmental Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta. In 2005 he was recognized with the highest civilian award for U.S. government service, the Presidential Distinguished Executive Award.

While in California his work led to the establishment of the California Birth Defects Monitoring Program and state and national laws that eliminated a series of dangerous pesticides. While at CDC he established the national asthma epidemiology and control program, and oversaw the childhood lead poisoning prevention program. He instituted the current federal effort to “biomonitor” chemical levels in the US population. He was the U.S. lead under several U.S. government efforts around health and environment in Russia, including radiation threats. In the late 1990s he was the CDC leader in establishing the U.S. National Pharmaceutical Stockpile to prepare for terrorism and other disasters—which was activated on September 11, 2001.

Dr. Jackson co-authored *Urban Sprawl and Public Health*, a 2004 book from Island Press. He has served on many medical and health boards, and in September 2005 he was selected to serve on the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Architects. His strongest public health interest is in developing the next generation of leaders in Public Health.

Dr. Jackson received his medical degree in 1973 from University of California, San Francisco and in 1979 received his Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from University of California, Berkeley.

POKI STEWART NAMKUNG, M.D., M.P.H.

Poki Stewart Namkung, M.D., M.P.H. became Health Officer of Santa Cruz County in June 2005 and in July 2006 was elected President of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). Dr. Namkung is the Bioterrorism Sentinel Monitor for California and has served on many NACCHO committees and work groups, including: Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Participation (MAPP), the Workforce and Leadership Development Advisory Committee, and the Operational Definition Task Force.

Prior to working as the Health Officer of Santa Cruz County, Dr. Namkung was Health Officer and Director of Public Health for the City of Berkeley Public Health Department. In 1996, she was selected as a State Scholar for the Public Health Leadership Institute. She was elected to the Board of Directors of the Health Officers' Association of California in 1997 and to the Board of the California Conference of Local Health Officers in 1998. In November of 2001, Dr. Namkung was elected as President of the California Conference of Local Health Officers and re-elected for another term in November of 2002. The California Public Health Association-North honored her in 2003 with their Public Health Leadership Award.

Dr. Namkung is a first generation immigrant who came to medicine after many years of political activism. After medical school at University of California, Davis, she trained in Obstetrics and Gynecology for one year, also at UC Davis and then took a hiatus from career to raise a family. During this period, she maintained her commitment to women's health by working for reproductive choice as well as involving herself in the life of her community by serving on many boards and commissions, including chairing the PTA and the Parks and Recreation Commission for the City of Berkeley. Her volunteer activities reflect her long-standing and abiding interest in the health of her community with a particular interest in the well being of women and children. In 1993, Dr. Namkung returned to training, first receiving an M.P.H. in Epidemiology from the School of Public Health at University of California, Berkeley. She completed a Preventive Medicine Residency at UC Berkeley in 1995. She is Board Certified in Preventive Medicine and Public Health Administration.

JEFFREY WASSERMAN, PH.D.

Jeffrey Wasserman, Ph.D., is a Senior Policy Researcher at RAND. Dr. Wasserman has over 25 years of experience directing large and complex health services research projects in the areas of public health preparedness, health care financing, and health promotion and disease prevention. He currently serves as Principal Investigator or co-Principal Investigator on projects related to evaluating the public health system's ability to prepare for, and respond to, infectious disease outbreaks (including bioterrorist attacks); measuring the health impact in developing countries of additional investments in diagnostic technologies; and assessing the impact of health reform options in the United States. Recently, Dr. Wasserman led projects on financing the health services safety net and on how the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs could modify its budget allocation mechanism to better serve the health care needs of veterans.

He has published numerous papers and technical reports, as well as co-authored three books (*The Costs of Poor Health Habits*, Harvard University Press; *Tobacco Control Laws: Implementation and Enforcement*, RAND; and *Combating Teen Smoking: Research and Policy Findings*, University of Michigan Press).

Dr. Wasserman received his doctorate in public policy analysis from the RAND Graduate School for Policy Studies, where he was a Pew Health Policy Fellow.