Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable
Virtual Meeting Series
October 14-16, 2020

COVID-19 Healthcare Coalition Speaker Biographies

Jay Schnitzer is vice president, chief technology officer, and chief medical officer at The MITRE Corporation. In this role, he directs the organization's independent research and development (R&D) program and manages development of corporate technology strategy, which spans MITRE's operating centers and sponsor community. He also leads corporate and national initiatives in health and life sciences, building coalitions leveraging the best talent across the nation in these communities.

Previously, as the director of biomedical sciences at MITRE, Schnitzer oversaw the organization's health transformation R&D program. In that capacity, he identified opportunities for MITRE to make important, transformative, and impactful differences in healthcare for our sponsors and the nation. As part of this work, he led the writing and editing of the Integrated Report for the Independent Assessment performed in response to Section 201 of the Veterans Choice Act and organized and facilitated the Blue-Ribbon Panel. To support the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) decision on its electronic health record (EHR) system, he facilitated a special Listening Forum for the VA Secretary in August 2017, at which industry experts on EHR implementation discussed leading practices. In January 2018, he organized a panel of EHR interoperability experts, which produced a report containing recommendations as input for the VA's contract with a commercial EHR vendor.

Before joining MITRE, Schnitzer was the director of the Defense Sciences Office at DARPA, where he led a team of 20 program managers and 70 support staff overseeing R&D across multiple domains. In addition to life sciences, biomedical research, and quantum physics, these R&D areas included materials science, advanced mathematics, and engineering. Formerly, Schnitzer was chief medical officer and senior vice president at Boston Scientific Corporation (BSC). His responsibilities at BSC included medical and clinical oversight of the entire product lifecycle for all medical devices manufactured by four business divisions of the company: endoscopy, urology/women's health, neurovascular, and neuromodulation. Prior to BSC, Schnitzer was on staff at Massachusetts General Hospital as an attending pediatric surgeon, with a joint appointment at the Shriners Hospital for Children burn center and a faculty position at Harvard Medical School.

The Fight Is In Us

Brian Anderson is a Harvard trained physician-scientist, digital health innovator and clinical systems engineer. Brian became a nationally recognized expert on the use of information technology in support of emerging CDS models and the provision of safe, effective, patient-centered care while at athenahealth where he launched a new model of clinical decision support leveraging machine learning and real-world data. He has served on several national health information technology committees in partnership with the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC).

Currently Dr. Anderson is helping to lead the overall strategic efforts for MITRE in the COVID-19 Healthcare Coalition, focusing on convalescent plasma, antibody-based research, real-world data analytics, and digital contact tracing. He also sits on the Executive Steering Committee of The Fight is in Us, a coalition centered around the fair and equitable collection and distribution of COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma to save as many lives possible. He is also the Principal Investigator of MITRE's largest internally funded R&D project, where he is leading the development of a common data model in Oncology based on FHIR, termed mCODE (minimal Common Oncology Data Elements). In leading the mCODE Oncology Moonshot, Dr. Anderson also serves on the Steering Committee for CodeX, helping to oversee the efforts of a FHIR Accelerator Project focused on Cancer Care and real-world evidence.

Katy Warren is a Principal Enterprise Systems Engineer and Deputy Project Lead and Chief Engineer for "The Fight Is In Us." She is experienced in cloud strategy and implementation, systems engineering management and cyber. In addition to leading the technical efforts to maintain and improve the TFIIU website, she participates in multiple coalition summits and committees, and leads the coalition Technology Committee.

Ms. Warren has a B.S. in Computer Science from the College of William and Mary, and an M.S.S.E. in Systems Engineering and Technology Management from Virginia Polytechnic and State University (VA Tech).

John D. Halamka, M.D., M.S., president of the Mayo Clinic Platform, leads a portfolio of platform businesses focused on transforming health care by leveraging artificial intelligence, connected health care devices and a network of trusted partners. Trained in emergency medicine and medical informatics, Dr. Halamka has been developing and implementing health care information strategy and policy for more than 25 years.

Prior to his appointment at Mayo Clinic, Dr. Halamka was executive director of the Health Technology Exploration Center for Beth Israel Lahey Health in Massachusetts, where he oversaw digital health relationships with industry, academia and government worldwide. He had previously served as chief information officer at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center for more than 20 years. He is a practicing emergency medicine physician. As the International Healthcare Innovation Professor at Harvard Medical School, Dr. Halamka helped the George W. Bush administration, the Obama administration and governments around the world plan their health care information strategies.

Public Guidance & Policies – Wastewater Surveillance

Kunal Rambhia, Ph.D., is a Lead Biotechnologist at the MITRE Corporation. He is a laboratory trained biomedical engineer and studies the strategy, practice, and science of responding to pandemics and public health emergencies. As a member of the COVID-19 Healthcare Coalition, he facilitates work related to nonpharmaceutical interventions, wastewater-based epidemiology, and return to campus decision making.

Kunal currently serves as a mentor in the Maryland Tech Council's Venture Mentoring Services program and from 2014-2016 led due diligence of health startups as a member of the Zell Lurie Commercialization Fund, an early stage investment fund. He was Managing Senior Analyst at the Center for Health Security, where he conducted research from 2007-2013 on pandemic influenza, international disease surveillance, medical countermeasure development, and hospital preparedness. Kunal received is PhD in Biomedical Engineering from University of Michigan, his MS in Biotechnology from Johns Hopkins University, and is BS in biology from Yale University.

Rolf Halden, Ph.D., P.E., is director of the Center for Environmental Health Engineering at the Biodesign Institute; professor in the Ira A. Fulton School for Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment; and senior sustainability scientist in the Global Institute of Sustainability at Arizona State University. Halden is a noted expert in determining where in the environment mass-produced chemicals wind up, their impact on health, and how to remove them from contaminated water resources, aquifers and agricultural soils. Toxins of interest include dioxins, anti-bacterial products, pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs), organohalides, problematic plastics and their additives, as well as pesticides – all having potential health impacts, including adverse birth outcomes, inflammation and increased risk of cancer. In his research, Halden detected antimicrobial additives of personal care products, used as far back as the 1960s, to persist to this day in estuarine sediments along the East Coast. In 2004, his team first discovered triclocarban as a pollutant of the U.S. environment nationwide. In multiple invited presentations, Halden has provided scientific updates on environmental and human health concerns associated with antimicrobial compounds to the FDA, EPA, the National Academies and U.S. Congress.

Prior to his work at ASU, Halden was at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, MD, where he served as a co-founding member of the Center for Water and Health. He maintains an adjunct faculty appointment at Hopkins in the Department of Environment Health Sciences. Prior to joining academia, Halden was a project engineer at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, where he directed the construction and operation of physical and biological groundwater treatment systems.

PPE and Supply Chain

Taylor Wilkerson is a Principal Health Systems Engineer in the Health System Engineering group at MITRE Corporation. Taylor has over 20 years of experience with public and private sector supply chain improvement and engineering. His experience includes strategy, process design, system architecture and requirements, risk management, sustainability, decision support, and innovation management. He has worked with several public sector clients including HHS, VA, DoD, CDC, DOS, USAID and USDA.

Outside of MITRE, Taylor is the president of the Council for Supply Chain Management Professionals Washington D.C. Roundtable and has served in leadership roles with the

Penn State Center for Supply Chain Research and the Supply Chain Risk Leadership Council. He has an MBA with a concentration in supply chain and information systems from the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland and a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Vanderbilt University.

Neelima Ramaraju is the Senior Director of Global Impact at LLamasoft, Inc., a global leader in supply chain design and decision-making. She is responsible for realizing LLamasoft's mission to utilize technology and expertise to support greater good in the world. In this role she oversees efforts to enhance sustainable supply chains, global development supply chains, and ensure community engagement.

Neelima is leading the efforts to advance LLamasoft's technology, services, and expertise to ensure all global customers achieve and surpass their sustainability goals while maintaining profitability. She also works closely with public and private partner organizations, such as USAID, UNICEF, The Gates Foundation, etc. applying supply chain best practices to global development. For this work, she was awarded the Pros to Know award (2015) and Women in Supply Chain Award (2020) by the Supply and Demand Chain Executive Magazine.
Neelima founded and leads LLamasoft's Women's Leadership group and is the executive sponsor of the internal Green Team and Community Engagement Teams.

SaraAlert

Paul Jarris is the Chief Medical Advisor for MITRE Corporation and has led MITRE's Sara Alert™ initiative since inception. Paul is a national leader in public and population health, health policy, health equity, wellness, and health promotion. Throughout his career, Paul has demonstrated excellence and impact in a number of healthcare and public health positions.

Prior to MITRE, Paul served as the Chief Medical Officer for the March of Dimes Foundation. He also served as the Deputy Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President for Maternal and Child Health and NICU programs. Under his leadership, the March of Dimes expanded its mission to include a public health approach that encompassed social and structural determinants and improving equity in birth outcomes. He organized and led the MOD National Prematurity Collaborative with over 340 leading health organizations. Paul served as the Executive Director of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO). Paul also served as state health commissioner for the Vermont Department of Health with responsibility for public health, mental health, and substance use disorders. While there, he implemented the Vermont Blueprint for Health Chronic Care Initiative and led the establishment of Vermont's first inpatient substance abuse treatment program for adolescent and women's care.

As Medical Director for Community Health Plan for the Vermont Market and Kaiser Permanente Northeast Division, and as CEO of Vermont Permanente Medical group, Jarris oversaw medical affairs including quality improvement, resource management, value-based purchasing, and provider relations for 140,000 members. As a board-certified family physician, he worked with Vermont's underserved populations in a federally qualified health center, inner city school, and homeless shelter for adolescent youth.

Kenneth Tobin is the Vice President of the Research and University Partnerships Office and serves as the Senior Research Officer at Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU). In this role he grows ORAU's research enterprise while expanding partnerships with the 128+ PhD-granting universities that are part of the ORAU consortium, by fostering relationships and business development opportunities with the federal government, national laboratories, and private industry. Prior to this he served in numerous leadership and research positions at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) including Director of the Office of Institutional Planning, Director of the Reactor and Nuclear Systems Division, and Director of the Electrical and Electronics Systems Research Division.

Dr. Tobin earned his BS in Physics and MS in Nuclear Engineering from Virginia Tech and his PhD in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Virginia, where his dissertation contribution was in computational imaging methods for neutron radiography. He has authored and coauthored more than 180 total publications and has 15 issued US patents. He was an ORNL Corporate Research Fellow, and is a Fellow of IEEE and SPIE, and is a member of ANS and AAAS.