Nominations for Appointment to the Grants Working Group (GWG)

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Renato J. Aguilera, PhD
Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Texas at El Paso

Referral: Dr. Aguilera was identified through his role as a Program Director for the Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement (RISE) program aimed at fostering scientific potential.

Expertise Relevance to CIRM GWG: Dr. Aguilera's experience as a research scientist in California and his well-known commitment to the training and development of underrepresented undergraduate and graduate students would be invaluable to assessing the quality and impact of Education program awards.

Prior Service in CIRM Reviews: N/A

Bio:
Dr. Renato J. Aguilera is Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). He is also Director of the Biology Graduate Program, Director of the Research Infrastructure Core Facility of the Border Biomedical Research Center (BRCC), and Research Deputy Director of the BBRC, and Director of the Cellular Characterization and Biorepository Facility of the BBRC (overseeing the biomedical research facilities that provide support to over 200 faculty, staff and students). He has extensive experience in immunology, cancer research, molecular and cell biology, and drug screening. His research group has developed high-throughput assays for screening of chemical libraries on a variety of human cancer cells and pathogens. The recent screening of >20,000 compounds on a human triple-negative breast cancer cell line resulted in the detection of novel lead compounds with potent anti-cancer activity. His research has also focused on the effects of repurposed drugs with potential anticancer activities. His group is currently establishing human cancer cell lines and they are in the process of characterizing their phenotype and genotype. These Hispanic cell lines will be used to determine the anti-cancer efficacy of known and novel drugs. This research has led to over 70 research publications and involves the participation and training of several underrepresented minority undergraduates and graduate students.

Dr. Aguilera earned his BS and MS degrees in Microbiology at the University of Texas at El Paso and his PhD from the University of California at Berkeley (1987). Prior to returning to UTEP, he served as an Assistant and Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology at the University of California at Los Angeles, during which time he was a mentor of the university's Minority Biomedical Research Support and Director of the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC) Program. His quality teaching at UCLA was recognized by his department with the conferring of the Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award. At UTEP, he increased the number of PhD students in biological sciences and he brought in major funding from National Institutes of Health programs that promote minority education and research in bioscience. These include a National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) Research Initiatives for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) grant for undergraduate and graduate students and a Support of Competitive Research (SCORE) grant for faculty research at minority serving institutions. Dr. Aguilera has been the director of the Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) Scholars training program since 2003 and will continue to direct this program until 2022. The RISE program will train 25 undergraduates and 12 graduate students from underrepresented minority groups. For his long-standing commitment to student training and mentorship, he received the prestigious American Society for Microbiology William A. Hinton Research Training Award in 2010, the SACNAS Distinguished Research Mentor Award in 2013 and the SACNAS Distinguished Scientist Award in 2019. He previously served as the chair of the Minority Affairs Committee of the American Society for Cell Biology from 2010-2016. In addition, he has served on the Board of Scientific Councilor's of the NIEHS, on the Committee of Visitors of NSF, and on several NIH grant review panels.

Ruby Broadway, PhD
Professor at Dillard University

Referral: Dr. Broadway was identified through her role as a Program Director for the National Institutes of Health Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) program.

Expertise Relevance to CIRM GWG: Dr. Broadway's experience in youth outreach programs, undergraduate STEM research training programs, and HBCU would be invaluable in assessing whether CIRM Education program proposals would significantly enhance the technical skills, knowledge and experience of students, whether proposals would promote efficient transition to careers in the life sciences, and whether proposals would foster a sense of commitment among its trainees.

Prior Service in CIRM Reviews: N/A

Bio:
Dr. Ruby Broadway is a Professor at Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana. During her 35-year tenure at Dillard, she has served as a mentor and chair of the biology department. She has also served as a Program Director for the university's Minority Access to Research Careers and Minority Biomedical Research Science Program (an undergraduate honors training program funded by NIH's National Institute of General Medical Sciences that provides advanced curriculum, academic and professional development, and year-round lab-based research training in order to increase the pool of well-prepared minority undergraduate students who can successfully compete for positions in top biomedical and behavioral graduate research programs). She is the Program Director for the Undergraduate Research Improvement Science Education U_RISE program. She currently serves as Program Director of the Deeper Student Learning Phase I and II Program funded by the Department of Education; the Saturday Science Academy (an enrichment program for students in grades 3-8 who have taken an interest in science, technology, engineering, and math); the Young Scholars Environmental Camp (a program designed to meet the unique needs and interests of children and youth in which young campers participate in their favorite sports promoting health and the development of important social skills; explore environmental interests that could lead to rewarding careers; get an early taste of college life and the value of academic achievement; engage in dynamic, hands-on learning experiences that enable growth and success; be involved with environmental demonstrations by guest speakers; participate in environmental science field trips; meet peers with similar interests and build new friendships and have fun and create memories to last a lifetime); and the Pre-Freshman Engineering Program (a program for middle and high school students geared towards strengthening skills in the sciences, mathematics, computer science, engineering, individual communication, and critical thinking). She is the principal investigator for the Interdisciplinary Urban Environmental Institute funded by National Science Foundation, the Young Scholars Environmental Institute, and the Integration of Technology and Virtual Laboratories into the Biology Curriculum—Impact on Attitude on Learning Biology for Majors and Non-Majors—funded by the Louisiana Board of Regents.

Dr. Broadway earned her BS degree from Livingstone College (1976), and her MS degree in molecular biology (1979), and Ph.D. in developmental biochemistry (1983) from Atlanta University. Her research interest lies in the identification and localization of contractile proteins in pre-implanted and implanted rabbit embryos. Dr. Broadway has received honors and recognition from the American Association for Advancement of Science, the Society of Developmental Biology, and the National Society of Black Engineers. She received the First Bearer's Torch Award for Science from the New Orleans chapter of 100 Black Women, the first Presidential All-Star team award, the United States Department of Agriculture Partnership Award, the City of New Orleans Mayor's Certificate of Merit Award, and the Smithsonian Institute Award. She was also the first recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award, and the Dillard University Award for Strength, Courage, and Perseverance during Hurricane Katrina and its Aftermath, at the 63rd Joint Meeting of the National Institute of Science/Beta Kappa Chi Meetings, respectively.

Kareen L.K. Coulombe, PhD
Assistant Professor of Engineering and Medical Science at Brown University

Referral: Dr. Coulombe was recommended by Dr. Glenn Gaudette, a GWG member who has served on Education program reviews.

Expertise Relevance to CIRM GWG: Dr. Coulombe's commitment to promoting a love of learning towards science and engineering at elementary, middle, high school, undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate levels would be valuable for assessing the inclusivity and impact of Education awards.

Prior Service in CIRM Reviews: N/A

Bio:
Dr. Kareen Coulombe is an Assistant Professor of Engineering and Medical Science, Director of Graduate Studies in Biomedical Engineering, and Assistant Professor of Medical Science, Division of Biology and Medicine at Brown University. She is also affiliated with the Cardiovascular Research Center at Rhode Island Hospital/Lifespan and the Center to Advance Predictive Biology at Brown University. She specializes in cardiovascular regenerative engineering to address global needs to develop novel therapies for heart attack and technologies for cardiotoxicity assessment. A major focus of her research is to re-engineer contractility in the heart after myocardial infarction (heart attack) using engineered human myocardium with cardiomyocytes derived from human induced pluripotent stem cells. The long-term goal of her lab is to develop functional human myocardium to evaluate toxicity of pharmaceutical drugs and environmental toxicants, to study human disease processes, and regenerate the injured heart.

Dr. Coulombe earned a BS in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Rochester summa cum laude (2001) and was a Whitaker Predoctoral Fellow, earning a PhD in Bioengineering at the University of Washington (2007). She was an NIH Ruth L. Kirschstein post-doctoral fellow in Pathology at the University of Washington where she won an NIH Pathway to Independence K99/R00 award in 2012. She was recruited as an Assistant Professor of Engineering and Medical Science to Brown University and started her lab in January 2014. She was conferred the Dean's Award for Excellence in Mentoring in Engineering at Brown University's Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning (2019), was recognized with the Rising Start Award by the Cellular and Molecular Bioengineering Group of the Biomedical Engineering Society(2017), was recognized for Outstanding Contribution to Cardiovascular Engineering by the Biomedical Engineering Society (2014).

Dr. Coulombe is strongly committed to empowering the next generation of leaders in science and engineering. She serves as a Voluntary Faculty Participant for the STEM TEAM Program (which serves STEM teachers, students out-of-school, leadership personnel, and students in rural middle school), serves on the Faculty Advisory Committee for Graduate Women in Science and Engineering, volunteers to serve on panels to advise trainees on professional development issues like applying for fellowships and negotiating a job offer, and teaches a module on "Demystifying the PhD" with leaders of the NIH-funded Initiative to Maximize Student Development grant to serve underrepresented groups on campus. Her lab engages in the broader community through multiple outreach activities for K-12, undergraduate & graduate research and professional development, and public education. Her lab mentors undergraduates in independent summer research projects through multiple programs, including the Leadership Alliance (a national consortium of major U.S. higher education institutions, and private industry united by a shared mission— to develop underrepresented students into outstanding leaders and role models in academia, the public, and the private sector) and Brown's partnership with Tougaloo College in Jackson, Mississippi. Those working within her lab are offered individualized mentoring and professional development that emphasizes creativity, collaboration, scholarship, and inclusivity.

Checo J. Rorie, PhD
Associate Professor at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

Referral: Dr. Rorie was identified through his role as a Program Director for the National Institutes of Health Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) program.

Expertise Relevance to CIRM GWG: Dr. Rorie's experience at an HBCU and his commitment to mentoring and training high school, undergraduate and graduate students would be invaluable to assessing Education program awards, in assessing the quality of career development activities or internships at host laboratories, in assessing the impact of health community outreach and education activities and impact ion increasing awareness of socio-economic issues and disparities around health care and access, and in assessing how programs incorporate diverse and inclusive perspectives.

Prior Service in CIRM Reviews: N/A

Dr. Checo J. Rorie is an Associate Professor and Interim Chair of the Biology Department at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. He joined the Department of Biology at NCA&T as an Adjunct Professor in 2008 and was offered a tenure track position in Genetics in 2010. He was promoted to Associate Professor of Genetics in 2016. His research interests lie in cancer cell biology and triple negative breast cancer. He currently has a Cancer Genetics and Cancer Cell Biology lab where he trains and mentors high school, undergraduate, master, and doctoral students. In addition to collaborating with peers to identify transformative approaches to advising STEM students at HBCUs, he participates in CTE workshops in order to find ways to enhance student learning and engagement. He also participates in activities exploring the role of race, class, and socioeconomics in underserved and underrepresented communities, in particular presenting on ways that cancer disparities are being addressed through research, community outreach, and diversifying the healthcare field.

Dr. Rorie earned his B.S. in Biology from Clark Atlanta University (1998) and his PhD in Toxicology at UNC Chapel Hill (2004). He completed a postdoc at New York University in the Department of Biochemistry (2004-2005) and a postdoc in the SPIRE Program and Radiation Oncology Department at UNC Chapel Hill (2005-2008). He was inducted into the Honor Society Phi Kappa Phi in 2021.

REAPPOINTMENTS

CIRM is seeking the reappointment of the individuals listed in the table below. Their updated biographies follow.

Proposed Reappointments to GWG

Last	First	Term	Years	Expertise
Bhatia	Mick	3rd	6	Somatic & Pluripotent Stem Cell Development; Hematopoiesis
Eaton	Douglas	3rd	6	Cellular Signaling Mechanisms
Hollander	Anthony	3rd	6	Chondrogenesis; Osteoarthritis; Tissue Engineering; Trachea Engineering
Mayer-Proschel	Margot	2nd	6	Neural Stem Cells; Glial Progenitors; CNS Injury and Repair
Ross	Theodora	3rd	6	Hematopoiesis; Leukemia; Breast Cancer; Genetics
Wright	Robin	3rd	6	Cell Biology; Organelle Biogenesis in Yeast

Mick Bhatia, PhD
Dr. Mick Bhatia is a Senior Scientist of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Professor of Biochemistry & Biomedical Sciences at McMaster University. He is the Principal investigator and Director of Experimental Therapeutics of Human Leukemias Program, the Michael G. DeGroote Chair in Stem Cell and Cancer Biology, and the Canada Research Chair in Human Stem Cell Biology. Dr. Bhatia also serves as an advisor to provincial and federal ministries in both biomedical research and innovation technologies. In addition, he consults with pharmaceutical and small biotechnology companies, was the founder of two biotechnology companies, Regenerative Inducing Therapeutics Inc and Actium Inc, and is currently developing the new enterprise to serve as a receptor for technologies from his program.

Dr. Bhatia is a recognized leader in the field of human hematopoietic stem cell biology and pluripotent stem cells. As a senior scientist, he developed a broad programmatic approach to address his interests in the molecular processes that govern somatic and pluripotent human stem cell fate decisions from the survival, growth and differentiation of these rare cells. He approaches this topic from numerous angles using a variety of human specific model systems including induced pluripotent stem cells derived from patient skin and blood donated samples, use of cord blood stem cells, and engagement with academics and the private sector developing new single cell imaging and molecular technologies involving high throughput, and automated processing for compound screening in chemical genomics approaches. Output from this work continues to translate directly to patients, and he has led and been part of several Phase I clinical trials ranging from testing new anti-leukemic compounds to stem cell expansion to improving stem cell transplants via adjuvant drugs identified and discovered by his group.

Dr. Bhatia received his BSc (Honours) in Molecular Biology at McMaster University (1992) and his Ph.D. in Human Biology at the University of Guelph (1995). He completed his translational clinical research fellowship at the National Cancer Institute of Canada with studies at the Sick Children's Hospital in the Department of Genetics, Toronto, Canada. His first appointment was at the University of Western Ontario and London Health Sciences in 1998, where he developed a new program and then became the director of Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine at the Robarts Research Institute. This role included faculty recruitment, private and industrial collaborations, and represented the first Canadian lab to work with human pluripotent stem cells.

Dr. Bhatia has served as a GWG member for 8 years, serving a 6-year and then 2-year appointment. He has reviewed for Discovery programs and tissue collection, derivation and banking initiatives.

Douglas Eaton, PhD
Dr. Douglas Eaton is a Distinguished Professor, Division of Nephrology, at Emory University School of Medicine. The goal of Dr. Eaton's research is to examine the cellular signaling mechanisms which control all aspects of cellular function including cell growth, division, and responses to external stimuli, but with particular emphasis on the role of membrane ion channels in these processes. To examine these signaling mechanisms, he used contemporary methods of cellular and molecular biology including patch voltage clamp methods, expression of cloned signaling molecules in several mammalian expression systems, examination of genetically modified animals. He has been particularly interested in the cellular responses which involve steroid hormones and other lipid molecules. More recently, he has examined defects in cellular signaling which may be responsible for some types of hypertension and electrolyte disorders in the kidney and fluid edema in the lungs. In addition to advising in Biochemistry and Cell and Developmental Biology graduate programs, Dr. Eaton has directed the Fellowships in Research and Science Teaching (FIRST) Program, which provides postdoctoral fellows with mentored research experiences at Emory University, as well as mentored teaching experiences at Atlanta University Center institutions.

Dr. Eaton earned his M.S. degree in Marine Biology from Scripps Institute of Oceanography (1969) and a PhD in Neuroscience from the University of California, San Diego (1971). He completed postdoctoral training in the Department of Physiology at the University of California at Los Angeles and then was appointed to Visiting Research Associate, Division of Biology at California Institute of Technology, Pasadena. He served as Professor and Director in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics Graduate Program at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston until 1986 prior to moving to Emory.

Dr. Eaton has served as a GWG member for 8 years, serving a 6-year and then 2-year appointment. He has reviewed for Discovery and Education programs and Leadership awards.

Anthony Hollander, BSc, PhD
Dr. Anthony Hollander is the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research & Impact and Professor of Stem Cell Biology at the University of Liverpool. He provides strategic leadership for the development of research policy and for ensuring impact of the University's research programs in Liverpool and around the world. He is also responsible for commercialization of research, for developing partnerships with companies and other external stakeholders and for the training of postgraduate research students.

Dr. Hollander's research career has focused on the development of stem cell therapies for treating diseases of the cartilage. He has more than 30 years of research experience in the fields of cartilage biology, osteoarthritis, stem cells and tissue engineering. He currently leads a research group in the Liverpool Department of Biochemistry, developing stem cell therapies for the prevention and treatment of osteoarthritis. He is co-founder and Scientific Director of a University of Bristol spin-out company, Azellon Cell Therapeutics, which ran the world's first clinical trial of a "Cell Bandage" for the treatment of torn knee cartilage. He was part of a team that created the world's first tissue engineered airway. He has served President of the International Cartilage Repair Society and served as Chair of Utrecht University's International Scientific and Societal Advisory Board for Life Sciences.

Dr. Hollander earned his BSc in Pharmacology from the University of Bath (1987) and his PhD in Pathology from the University of Bristol (1990). In his early career, Professor Hollander spent three years at the internationally renowned cartilage laboratory at McGill University in Montreal, then returned to the UK to take up an Arthritis Research UK fellowship and a lectureship at the University of Sheffield. In 2000, he was appointed to the Chair of Rheumatology & Tissue Engineering at the University of Bristol, the first time that a non-clinical scientist had been appointed to a Chair of Rheumatology in the UK. He served as Head of the School of Cellular and Molecular Medicine and then Head of the Institute of Integrative Biology and Professor of Stem Cell Biology at the University of Liverpool. He has more than 100 publications, has secured £7 million of peer-reviewed funding over the past 10 years, has several patents in his name, and in 2010 was ranked among the top 40 scientists in Britain by The Times.

Dr. Hollander has served as a GWG member for 10 years, serving a 6-year and then 4-year appointment. He has reviewed for a wide variety of Clinical, Translational and Discovery programs.

Margot Mayer-Pröschel, PhD
Dr. Margot Mayer-Pröschel is a tenured Professor in the Department of Biomedical Genetics and the Department of Neurosciences at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Her research interest lies in the Identification of different stem and precursor cell pools in CNS that may be critical for cell replacement therapies or are targets of insults that lead to developmental pathologies. She is part of a research team aiming to establish cell therapy

approaches in spinal cord injury, Parkinson's and traumatic brain injury. Her lab's current projects examine genetic insults/ataxia telangiectasia (AT), nutritional insults during gestation/gestational iron deficiency, inflammation and viral insults/infection with human herpes virus 6 (HHV6), exposure to environmental toxicants/environmental lead (Pb) exposure, and glial progenitor populations in the brain. She was the first to pinpoint the critical periods of gestation during which the developing central nervous system is most vulnerable to gestational iron deficiency.

Dr. Mayer-Pröschel received her PhD from the Institute of Virology & Immunology at the University of Wurzburg (1990). She moved to the Department of Developmental Biology at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research in London for post-doctoral training before she established in 1995 her laboratory at the Huntsman Cancer Institute in Salt Lake City, Utah. In 2000, she joined the Department of Biomedical Genetics at the University of Rochester where she is now a full professor with unlimited tenure. She has served as an ad hoc reviewer for over 20 peer reviewed Journals including *Glial, Journal of Neuroscience, Developmental Biology, Brain and the Journal of Comparative Neurology.* She is a senior editor for the American Society of Neurochemistry Journal and serves on the editorial board for Science Reports and Neural Regeneration Research. She is a council elect member for the American Society for Neurochemistry (ASN) and the local Society for Neuroscience chapter. Dr. Mayer-Pröschel has served for over 5 years as chartered member of the NIH Fellowship study sections for Neurodevelopment and Synaptic Plasticity and is now serving as a permanent member on the NIH NCF a study section that reviews research grants focused on neural cell fate and differentiation. She has been independently funded by the NIH, the Multiple Sclerosis Society and other funding agency throughout her career and has published over 70 peer reviewer manuscripts. She has been issued 11 patents and has received multiple awards for her research and her mentorship.

Dr. Margot Mayer-Pröschel has served as a GWG member for almost 6 years. She has reviewed for Discovery, Translational, and Education programs.

Theodora Ross, MD, PhD
Dr. Theodora Ross is a scientist, author, and medical oncologist with a passion for cancer genetics and cancer prevention. She is currently Adjunct Professor of Internal Medicine at UT Southwestern (UTSW) in Dallas and Vice President of Translational Medicine at Merck, Inc., where she helps lead the company's efforts to transform molecules from the laboratory into life-preserving medicines for patients.

Prior to joining Merck, Dr. Ross served for over eight years at UTSW as Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of the Cancer Genetics Program. She held the Jeanne Ann Plitt Professorship in Breast Cancer Research and the H. Ben and Isabelle T. Decherd Chair in Internal Medicine, in Honor of Henry M. Winans, Sr., MD. In addition to her clinical role caring for patients at high risk for cancer, she led her laboratory that investigated the biology of the BRCA1 gene.

Prior to her work at UT Southwestern, Dr. Ross served as a clinician and researcher at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where she cared for patients with breast cancer and her laboratory investigated the basic biology of cancer cells, the role of endocytosis in cancer and how leukemias respond to or resist targeted therapies.

Dr. Ross earned her MD and PhD in 1993 from the Washington University Medical Scientist Training Program in St. Louis. She completed her medical residency in Boston at Harvard University's Brigham and Women's Hospital, followed by a fellowship in oncology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. She has received numerous cancer research related honors including awards from the American Cancer Society, the American Society of Hematology, the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation, the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

In addition to scholarly publications, Dr. Ross has written articles for the lay reader published in the New York Times, Washington Post, and Psychology Today. She authored an award-winning book released in February 2016 by Penguin Random House/Avery, A Cancer in the Family: Take Control of Your Genetic Inheritance. Her book weaves together the genetics and the stories of several families with cancer to help readers learn about the constantly emerging field of cancer genetics. Through these narratives she also encourages all of us to understand our risk for cancer and describes what steps we can take to decrease that risk for ourselves, our families and future families.

Throughout her professional career, Dr. Ross has been a strong advocate for Medical Scientist Training Programs that recruit, train and grow future physician-scientists. She has served on a number of executive, advisory and review boards that support cancer research. She currently serves as president and chief scientific officer of Cancer Prevention Initiative, Inc. (CPI), which supports research related to prevention of inherited cancers.

Dr. Ross has served as a GWG member for 10 years, serving a 6-year and then 4-year appointment. She has reviewed for Discovery and Translational programs.

Robin Wright, PhD
Dr. Robin Wright is the Senior Associate Dean for Undergraduate Initiatives in the College of Biological Sciences, Head of the Department of Biology Teaching and Learning, Director of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Program for Undergraduate Education, and Professor of Genetics, Cell Biology and Development at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul. She also serves as Director for the Division of Undergraduate Education, in the Directorate of Education and Human Resources at the National Science Foundation.

Her current research interests fall into the general theme of scientific teaching. She has explored the effectiveness of team-based collaborative learning for more than 10 years. She is also very interested in how active learning classrooms support student learning and development of professional identities. Through her work with the Nature of Life program, she has begun to explore when and how students develop identities as a biologist and how that identity impacts retention and graduation, a question which is currently a central component of a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Science Education grant. Through her work with the National Academies Alliance for Scientific Teaching and the new *CourseSource* journal, she is also interested in faculty development and dissemination/adoption of specific teaching strategies. She is dedicated to implementing evidence-based, scholarly strategies in her teaching and curriculum development. She serves as an Editor-in-Chief for *CourseSource*, serves on the Advisory Board of the National Academies Scientific Teaching Alliance, serves on the Advisory Committee of the AAAS & NSF Vision & Change Initiative, is a Founding Member of the Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research, serves as an Education Mentor for the National Academies/HHMI Summer Institute for Biology Education, serves as Director of the NorthStar (Midwest Regional) Summer Institute, and serves on the Genetics Society of America Education Committee.

Dr. Wright earned a PhD in Biological Sciences under the mentorship of Jonathan Jarvik in the Department of Biological Sciences at the Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh (1985). She completed postdoctoral training in biochemistry at University of California at Berkeley prior to an appointment as Assistant Professor of Zoology and Genetics at the University of Washington, Seattle. She subsequently became an Associate Professor at the University of Washington and then accepted an appointment at the University of Minnesota. Her research had focused on laying the foundations for deep exploration of the genetics, molecular and cellular biology, and physiology of cold adaptation in yeast. Their observations led to the foundational hypothesis that ERAD regulates key aspects of sterol metabolism in yeast and this regulation is required for cold adaptation.

Dr. Wright has served as a GWG member for 8 years, serving a 6-year and then 2-year appointment. She has reviewed for Education programs.

APPOINTMENT OF CIRM BOARD PATIENT ADVOCATE OR NURSE MEMBERS

Christine Miaskowski RN, PhD, FAAN
Professor, Physiological Nursing
University of California, San Francisco

Dr. Christine Miaskowski is a Professor and Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Physiological Nursing and Sharon A. Lamb Endowed Chair in Symptom Management Research in the School of Nursing at the University of California in San Francisco (UCSF). In the School of Medicine, she holds an appointment in the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Care. Dr. Miaskowski serves as the Co-Director of the Pain and Addition Research Center at UCSF. In addition, she the first nurse to be awarded an American Cancer Society Clinical Research Professorship.

Dr. Miaskowski received her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from Molloy College in New York. She has a Master's degree in Nursing from Adelphi University and a Master's degree in Biology and a PhD in Physiology from St. John's University in New York. After completing her doctoral degree, Dr. Miaskowski traveled to the West Coast where she completed a postdoctoral fellowship as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Nurse Scholar.

Dr. Miaskowski is active in numerous professional organizations and has served on the Board of Directors of the Oncology Nursing Society, the American Pain Society, and the International Association for the Study of Pain. She was the first nurse elected President of the American Pain Society.

Dr. Miaskowski has received numerous honors and awards including the Distinguished Researcher Award from the Oncology Nursing Society, the Distinguished Merit Award from the International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care, the Wilbert Fordyce Clinical Investigator Award from the American Pain Society, and the Ada Sue Hinshaw Distinguished Research Award. In addition, she received the Distinguished Service Award from the Oncology Nursing Society and the American Pain Society. Dr. Miaskowski is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and a member of Sigma Theta Tau's International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame. Most recently, she was honored by the National Cancer Institute's Division of Cancer Prevention as one of seven scientists (the only nurse) as a champion and change maker of cancer pain control and symptom science.

Dr. Miaskowski is an internationally recognized expert in pain and symptom management research. She is a prolific writer who has authored over 600 peer-reviewed papers and four books. Her program of research focuses on determining which phenotypic and genotypic characteristics predict patients with the most severe symptoms; evaluating the deleterious effects of unrelieved symptoms on patient outcomes; and developing and testing pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions to decrease symptoms in patients with cancer.