Marianna Footo-Linz, PhD, Chair, Department of Psychology, Marshall University

Marianna Footo-Linz is the Chair of the Department of Psychology at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia. She is an Appalachian native and graduated with a BA and MA from Marshall. She received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and completed a pre-doctoral internship at Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH. She helped build the Psy.D program at Marshall University, which focuses on training doctoral level practitioners to work in rural and underserved areas, particularly those in West Virginia and the surrounding Appalachian region. A three-time grantee of the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Graduate Psychology Education Program and new grantee of the Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program, grant, Dr. Footo-Linz’s most recent grant focuses on enhancing training opportunities for practicum students in integrated primary care settings that serve marginalized populations, including those with Substance Use Disorders, those homeless or at risk for being homeless, and low-income individuals in rural areas.

Juanita Garcia, MEd, RN, PhD (c), Project Coordinator, BEYOND-2, Marquette University College of Nursing

Terrie Garcia has been the Project Coordinator for BEYOND-2 since 2007. It is a federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) funded Nursing Workforce Diversity grant, located at Marquette University College of Nursing in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In her role, she oversees the day-to-day operations of the project, which focus on recruiting, retaining, and graduating Bachelor of Science (BSN) prepared nursing students from underrepresented and disadvantaged backgrounds. Terrie is skilled at networking, and is closely involved with the nursing students, project staff, faculty, administrators, partners, and community, to develop additional support and leadership opportunities that enable project participants to continue to grow into strong, capable, and committed nurses who make a difference.

Ms. Garcia has been a Registered Nurse for more than 20 years and has experience working in hospitals, clinics, and community health. She was the co-founder of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses-Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter in July of 2005 and has served on the Nominating Committee for the National Association of Hispanic Nurses. Ms. Garcia has been an active board member on numerous committees in her home town and organizations, such as the Milwaukee Latino Health Coalition and the Delta Gamma At-Large Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, the nursing honor society. At the state level, Ms. Garcia has served on the
Wisconsin Board of Nursing and is currently serving her third term on the Board of the Wisconsin Center for Nursing.

In addition to her many roles, Ms. Garcia is a PhD candidate, pursuing a doctoral degree in nursing at Marquette University and will graduate in May 2018. Her dissertation work focuses on Latinas’ health issues.

Yalda Jabbarpour, MD, Assistant Professor, Georgetown University

Yalda Jabbarpour is a family physician in the Department of Family Medicine at the Georgetown University School of Medicine. She graduated from the Georgetown University School of Medicine in 2008 and completed her residency at the Georgetown University/Providence Hospital Family Medicine Residency Program, where she served as chief resident from 2010-2011. Upon graduation she worked as a full time family physician for Scripps Health Medical Group in San Diego, California. She returned to Washington, DC in 2015 to serve as the Robert L Phillips Health Policy Fellow at the Robert Graham Center and, upon completion of the program, joined the faculty at Georgetown University School of Medicine. She currently serves as the Director of Ambulatory Care at the school of medicine and as the Larry A Green Visiting Scholar Mentor at the Robert Graham Center. She continues to work clinically as a family physician at the MedStar Spring Valley Family Medicine clinic in Washington, DC.

Karen Fisher, JD Chief Public Policy Officer, Association of American Medical Colleges

Karen Fisher, JD, leads the AAMC’s public policy initiatives on medical education, health care delivery and medical research, providing strategic guidance to advance the association’s legislative and regulatory priorities and developing policy proposals that support the work of academic medicine.

One of the nation’s leading experts, Ms. Fisher has more than 20 years of experience in legislative and regulatory health care policy. Most recently, she served as senior health counsel for the Senate Finance Committee where she played a key role in drafting the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 and the new Medicare physician payment system. She also served as lead adviser on other Medicare issues and health care policies. Before moving to the Senate, Ms. Fisher spent almost a decade as senior director in health care affairs at the AAMC after serving as senior health policy analyst and general counsel for the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission—the precursor to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC).

Ms. Fisher earned both her pharmacy and law degrees from the University of Pittsburgh.