UC LEAF

Biographies

Section 5
UC LEAF Biographies

Leadership Team

Santa Ono  President, University of Cincinnati UC LEAF Principal Investigator. University of Cincinnati President Santa J. Ono, PhD, is an accomplished researcher in eye disease and a member of several national and international honorific societies as well as a sought-after public speaker, frequent opinion leader on higher education issues, and a recognized trailblazer in the use of social media. His tenure at UC has been marked by increasing accolades for the university, among them its 27-spot rise in the U.S. News &World Report rankings over the past five years as well as the largest enrollment in UC history at over 43,600 students. Dr. Ono also holds appointments as professor of pediatrics and professor of biological sciences, and he maintains an active research lab. While still provost, he instituted UC’s first Veteran’s Center designed to serve military veterans at UC. Earlier in his career, Dr. Ono served in a variety of teaching, research and administrative positions at Emory, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Harvard Medical School and the Schepens Eye Research Institute, University College London (UCL) and Moorfields Eye Hospital in London. Dr. Ono’s service in the community includes membership on the boards of Ohio’s Third Frontier, Cintrifuse, CincyTech, UC Health and more. He chairs the UC Research Institute board. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the National Academy of Inventors.

Valerie Gray Hardcastle  Professor of Philosophy, Psychology, and Psychiatry & Behavioral Neuroscience; Scholar-in-Residence, Weaver Institute for Law and Psychiatry; Director, Program in Medicine, Health, and Society; Executive Director and Co-PI, UC LEAF. An internationally recognized scholar, Valerie is the author of five books and over 130 essays. She studies the nature and structure of interdisciplinary theories in the cognitive sciences and has focused primarily on developing a philosophical framework for understanding conscious phenomena responsive to neuroscientific, psychiatric, and psychological data. Currently, she is investigating the neuroscience of violence and its implications for both our understanding of human nature and the criminal justice system. She is also trying to figure out whether notions of embodied cognition help or hinder theorizing about consciousness. She received a bachelor’s degree with a double major in philosophy and political science from the University of California, Berkeley, a master’s degree in philosophy from the University of Houston, and an interdisciplinary PhD in cognitive science and philosophy from the University of California, San Diego. Valerie has previously served as Dean of the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Cincinnati and Associate Dean for Diversity and Faculty Affairs in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences at Virginia Tech. She has also served as a department head, graduate program director, and center director. This is the third ADVANCE grant with which she has been affiliated.

Urmila Ghia  Professor, Mechanical & Materials Engineering: UC LEAF Co-PI and External Advisory Board Chair & Campus Programs Liaison. Professor Urmila Ghia has been at UC for 42 years, and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses and does research in Fluid Mechanics and Heat Transfer as well as Computational Fluid Dynamics. Dr. Ghia has served as Acting Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, and as Head of the Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Nuclear Engineering. She is a Fellow of the Graduate School, a member of the YWCA Academy of Achievement, and has received the Sigma Xi Research Recognition Award, UC’s Outstanding Woman Award, the YWCA’s Career Woman of Achievement Award, the George Rieveschl Award for Distinguished Scientific Research, the BP Faculty Excellence Award, the George Barbour Award for Faculty-Student Relations, the Just Community Award, a Master Engineering Educator
Monica Mitchell, PhD, received her doctorate from Vanderbilt University in 1998, and completed her residency and postdoctoral fellowship at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center in 1998 and 2001 respectively. Dr. Mitchell is the Co-Director of the Community Engagement Core of Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training Grant, a 5-year grant funded by the NIH to advance translational science. Dr. Mitchell has published more than 40 articles, including in the Journal of Pediatric Psychology, Headache, Diabetes Care and Pediatrics. Dr. Mitchell has served on the Journal of Pediatric Psychology’s Editorial Board since 2005, and is past Chair of the Diversity Committee of the Society of Pediatric Psychology (Division 54 of the American Psychological Association). She was appointed to a three-year term to the Committee on Youth, Children and Families for APA in 2010. Dr. Mitchell serves on local advisory committees and boards, including the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Gabriel’s Place, ACDC, YMCA of Greater Cincinnati, and the Youth Commission of Cincinnati (YCC). Dr. Mitchell has received several awards and honors, including being a Rising Star, YWCA (2003), Herbert Nickens Fellowship Award, American Academy of Medical Colleges (AAMC; 2003), 40 Under 40 by the Business Courier (2008), Career Year Award, Cincinnati Children’s (2009), YWCA Career Woman of Achievement (2014), and the Links Inc Health and Human Service Award (2014).
Karen Faaborg  **Professor Emerita, College-Conservatory of Music, UC LEAF AAC Chair.** Karen Faaborg served at several administrative posts at the University of Cincinnati. She was an Associate Dean from 1987 – 1992, Director of Graduate Program in Arts Administration from 1992 – 2001, Vice Provost for Academic Personnel from 2001 – 2009, Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer from 2009 – 2011, and Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff to the President from 2011 – 2012.

Steven R. Howe  **Professor Emeritus, Psychology; UC LEAF Internal Evaluator.** Steven R. Howe is Emeritus Professor of Psychology in the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences, and former head of the department (2005-2012). He is a fellow of the American Psychological Association, the Midwestern Psychological Association, and the Society for Community Research and Action. His research focuses on organizational effectiveness. He is especially interested in using organizational data for evaluating operations and outcomes, planning interventions, and conducting policy research.

**Accountability & Advocacy Council Members**

Fred Beyette  **Professor, Electronic & Computing Systems.** Fred R. Beyette Jr. is an experienced educator, research and academic administrator. His current research is focused on the design and implementation of Mixed Technology Embedded Systems with a particular focus on the development of point-of-care medical technologies with applications in many clinical and non-clinical health monitoring situations. His primary accomplishment over recent years has been to establish the Point-of-Care Center for Emerging Neurotechnologies (POC-CENT) which focuses on identification of unmet clinical needs in the area of acute neurologic care, provides support for technology developers who are working to build novel medical technologies for acute neurologic care and develop educational/training materials that help clinicians, scientists, engineers, designers understand the issues associated with commercialization of point-of-care technologies. As a well-established medical device researcher, he has significant expertise in the development of technologies that connect clinical practice with engineering development for clinical device technologies.

Melanie T. Cushion  **Senior Associate Dean for Research, College of Medicine.** Dr. Cushion is a prominent investigator in the basic biology of P. carinii. Her research interests include in vitro cultivation, life cycle, drug susceptibility testing, transmission of the organism and genomics. She recently received a Research Career Scientist Award from the Veterans Administration in recognition of her research and service. Dr. Cushion was recently appointed as the Associate Chair for Research for the Department of Internal Medicine. Her published works include over 100 original publications and over 100 abstracts and presented papers. She currently serves as an associate editor for The Journal of Eukaryotic Microbiology and as ad hoc reviewer for Journal of Clinical Microbiology, Infection and Immunity, and the Journal of Infectious Diseases. Dr. Cushion has been elected to membership in the Genetics Society of America, Society of Protistology, and the American Society for Microbiology. She also directs the Pneumocystis Genome Project.

Margaret Hanson  **Associate University Dean, UC Graduate School; Professor, Physics.** Prior to joining the Graduate School as associate university dean in November 2011, Dr. Hanson, an astrophysicist, served as professor and director of undergraduate studies in the Department of Physics. She has been continually funded by the NSF, beginning in 1999 with a NSF POWRE grant the first year of her faculty appointment at UC, followed by a NSF CAREER Award two years later. Her research emphasizes the use of near-infrared spectroscopy to study and analyze massive stars and massive star systems. Beginning in late 2004 through 2012, she served as the associate editor-in-chief of “The Astronomical Journal.” In 2010 she was recipient of the prestigious Sigma Xi Young Investigator Award. Aside from teaching and research, Dr. Hanson is involved in a number of initiatives designed to increase diversity in science, math and technology fields.

Erin Haynes  **Associate Professor, Environmental Health.** Dr. Haynes’ primary research interest is to examine the effect of low-level toxicant exposures on neurobehavioral outcomes by working with affected to communities. Specific research interests include evaluating biological and health outcomes in
children resulting from exposure to multiple metals, such as lead and manganese, evaluating gene-environment interactions that may influence the neurobehavioral effect of metal exposure, and increasing public knowledge of environmental toxicants that threaten public health. Dr. Haynes is also the Director of the Director of the Community Outreach and Engagement Core within the NIEHS funded Center for Environmental Genetics, and Director of the Clinical and Translational Research training program.

Matia Solomon  
**Assistant Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience.** Matia B. Solomon received her PhD in 2006 in Behavioral Neuroscience from Georgia State University. Dr. Solomon started her postdoctoral research fellowship in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience at the University of Cincinnati in 2006 to gain a better understanding of sex differences in the neurobiology of depression and anxiety. In 2012 she joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor jointly appointed in Psychology and Psychiatry and Behavioral Neuroscience. Her current research program is focused on understanding sex differences in depression and cognitive dysfunction using rodents as a model species. She has published nearly 30 peer-reviewed manuscripts, written two book chapters, and has more than 50 scientific presentations. She is currently the recipient of a K12 Research Grant, a pharmaceutical grant from Concept Therapeutics, and a collaborative research award with Oregon Health Science University geared towards understanding the role of obesity in antidepressant efficacy in women and rodents. Dr. Solomon has won several awards including a The Elizabeth Young New Investigator Award from the Organization of the Study of Sex Differences, Young Investigator Award from The Neurobiology of Stress, and most recently was nominated to represent the University of Cincinnati as an Emerging Minority Faculty Scholar.

Arnie Miller  
**Professor, Geology.** Miller’s research and teaching focus on themes related to macroevolution, biodiversity, and extinction throughout Earth history and in the present day. His work has been funded by NASA, NSF, NOAA, and the Petroleum Research Fund of the American Chemical Society. He co-edited *Paleobiology* for three years and is currently associate editor of three other peer-reviewed journals. Miller is a Fellow of the Paleontological Society and of AAAS, and is President-Elect of the Paleontological Society. At UC, he has served as Head of the Department of Geology, Director of the Environmental Studies Program, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research in the McMicken College of Arts & Sciences, and Chair of Fellows of the Graduate School.

External Evaluation Team

Sarah B. Woodruff  
**Director, Ohio’s Evaluation & Assessment Center; UC LEAF External Evaluator.** Sarah Woodruff provides leadership in research design, data analysis, instrument development, and all aspects of evaluation and assessment for large-scale, externally funded education programs and projects across the nation. Dr. Woodruff has a broad understanding of education, having served as a P-12 teacher and an administrator and a State Education Official. She holds appointments in the Departments of Teacher Education and Educational Leadership at Miami University, where she teaches doctoral courses in educational policy. She brings to her work expertise in quantitative methods, instrument design, and observational fieldwork, as well as extensive experience working in educational settings with teachers, faculty, and P-20+ students. Her primary research interests include gender and equity issues in STEM education, science teacher preparation and licensing policy, and teacher professional development related to inquiry teaching and learning. She currently serves as Principal Investigator for the evaluation of 12 NSF-funded projects with current external funding in excess of $5 million. She routinely produces refereed presentations, invited chapters, journal articles, and recently has co-authored five chapters and more than 60 high quality evaluation reports.

Yue Li  
**Senior Statistician & Project Manager, Ohio’s Evaluation & Assessment Center; UC LEAF External Evaluator.** Yue Li is the Senior Statistician and Project Manager of the Ohio E&A Center, which focuses on the evaluation of K-20+ mathematics, science, engineering and technology programs and projects. She has worked on more than 20 externally funded projects across the nation funded by NSF, NIH, and Ohio’s Department of Education. Her expertise includes developing evaluation instruments, leading data collection, developing and maintaining multiple large databases, conducting sophisticated statistical analyses (including using Item Response Theory Modeling and other modeling methods), and collaborating in the preparation of proposals and research/evaluation reports. She has extensive
experience with quantitative research methods on large-scale educational data and proficiency with standard statistical software (SAS, SPSS, and R) as well as other database management systems. She received her Master of Science in Statistics in 2004 from Michigan State University and her Master of Education in Educational Psychology in 2006 from Miami University.

Kristen Morio  
**Research Associate, Ohio’s Evaluation & Assessment Center; UC LEAF External Evaluator.** Kristen Morio is a Research Associate at the Ohio E&A Center, which focuses on the evaluation of K-20+ mathematics, science, engineering and technology programs and projects. She is the project director for several large-scale research projects, coordinates the collection and analysis of project data. Her duties also include analyzing qualitative data and the preparation of evaluation reports, compiling all sources of data, analysis, and findings.

**External Advisory Committee**

**Stephanie Goodwin Research Assistant Professor, Psychology; Director for Faculty Development and Leadership, Office of the Provost; Program Director, LEADER Consortium, Wright State University.** Stephanie Goodwin is the Director for Faculty Development and Leadership at Wright State University (WSU). In this role, she works directly with faculty, administrators and relevant campus offices to assess, develop, and implement campus-wide faculty development and leadership initiatives. For three years prior to accepting this role, she was the Program Director for the LEADER Consortium, an NSF ADVANCE program that supports gender equity and success in STEM at four institutions in the Dayton, OH region. As Director for Faculty Development and Leadership at WSU, a portion of her role is dedicated to sustaining the LEADER Consortium partnerships in continued support of STEM faculty equity.

**Alice Hogan Founder of NSF ADVANCE Program and first NSF ADVANCE Director.** Alice Hogan is currently an independent higher education consultant who works with academic institutions on programs and policies to advance the participation of women in academic science and engineering. Past and current clients include Harvard University, Georgia Tech, University of North Texas, Skidmore College, Union College, Iowa State University, and the Rochester Institute of Technology. She served as Chief Administrative Officer for the Asian University for Women Support Foundation, a not-for-profit support and fundraising office for development and establishment of the Asian University for Women, Chittagong, Bangladesh following her retirement from the National Science Foundation in 2007. At NSF, she was the inaugural Program Director of the National Science Foundation’s ADVANCE program. Hogan received the NSF Director’s Award for Superior Accomplishment for work on the ADVANCE Program.

**Peggy Layne AdvanceVT Program Director.** Peggy Layne joined Virginia Tech in 2003 as director of AdvanceVT, a National Science Foundation sponsored program to increase the number and success of women faculty in science and engineering. She is currently Assistant Provost reporting to the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, where her responsibilities include faculty recruitment, development, and reporting. Prior to accepting her current position, Ms. Layne worked as a diversity consultant for the American Association of Engineering Societies and as director of the program on diversity in the engineering workforce at the National Academy of Engineering. She also spent a year as an AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow in the office of Senator Bob Graham.

**Laura Schweitzer President, Union Graduate College.** Laura Schweitzer became president of Union Graduate College in 2009. She is believed to be the first female PhD to ever lead a medical school. She received a PhD from Washington University in St. Louis in 1979 and went on to complete a neuroscience post-doctoral fellowship at Duke University where she was named Research Faculty in 1985. The 2009 recipient of the AAMC National Women in Medicine Award, she has published more than 50 scholarly articles and accumulated grant and contract funding primarily from federal sources including the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (EPSCOR) and HRSA (Health Resources and Services Administration). She was known for her contributions to the understanding of the relationship between structural and functional development in the auditory brainstem and deafness.

**Jan Schilling Former Advanced Products Chief Engineer, General Electric Aviation.** Mr. Schilling joined GE Aviation in 1969 as part of the Technical Development Program after graduating with a BS degree in
Nora Zorich  

**Vice President Research & Development, Procter & Gamble (retired).** Nora Zorich MD, PhD is currently an independent pharmaceutical, OTC drugs, and dietary supplement consultant. Dr. Zorich retired in 2012 from the Procter & Gamble Company, a global leader across a broad range of consumer products, where she was Vice President of Research and Development. Through her career Dr. Zorich led numerous successful prescription drug approvals in North America, Europe and Asia. She has extensive experience with development and marketing of OTC drugs including new indications and claims development for some of the top OTC brands (Metamucil, Vicks, Pepto Bismol) including the OTC switch of Prilosec, as well as experience with food additives and dietary supplements including the approval of olestra and marketing of Align and Prostera (proprietary probiotics for humans and dogs respectively). She has led a broad range of scientific capability: regulatory affairs, global clinical development, statistics, microbiology, human safety, global post-market surveillance and biotechnology. Her scientific expertise extends across metabolic bone disease, cardiology, inflammatory bowel disease, women's health, manipulation of the human and animal microbiome, nutrition, metabolism and biochemistry. She received her MD/PhD from the University of Illinois and is a licensed physician in Ohio.

Virginia Valian  

**Program Director, Gender Equity Project – NSF ADVANCE CUNY.** Virginia Valian is Distinguished Professor of Psychology at Hunter College and is a member of the doctoral faculties of Psychology, Linguistics, and Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences at the CUNY Graduate Center. She is co-founder and co-director of Hunter’s Gender Equity Project, which has been funded by NSF and NIH. She is also director of the Language Acquisition Research Center. Dr. Valian works in two domains: the psychology of language and gender equity. In gender equity Dr. Valian performs research on the reasons behind women’s slow advancement in the professions and proposes remedies for individuals and institutions. She is currently particularly interested what determines who receives awards and prizes and the role of letters of recommendation in search committee decisions, an NIH-funded project she is working on with colleagues at Rice University and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Mr. Schilling served as Chief Engineer and General Manager for GE Aviation from 2003 to 2011 where he was responsible for ensuring the safety of all GE Aviation products, leading the technical integrity of the Engineering division and defining and driving Engineering process initiatives. He was Advanced Products Chief Engineer of GE Aviation until retirement in 2014. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineers.