

Salim Yusuf MD, DPhil, MRCP, McMaster University

Dr. Salim Yusuf currently serves as a Professor at McMaster University's Department of Medicine, as a Joint Member in the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and is the Director of the Population Health Research Institute. He received his Doctor of Medicine from Bangalore University and DPhil from Oxford. Yusuf has published over 800 articles in refereed journals, rising to the second most cited researcher in the world for 2011. Additionally, Yusuf serves as President of the World Heart Federation, where he is initiating an Emerging Leaders program in 100 countries with the aim of halving the CVD burden globally within a generation.

David Harrison MD, Vanderbilt University

Dr. Harrison currently serves as the Betty and Jack Bailey Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He is also the Director of Division of Clinical Pharmacology and Director of the Center for Vascular Biology. Dr. Harrison received his MD degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1974 and obtained his house staff and clinical cardiology training at Duke University. Dr. Harrison has been an Established Investigator of the American Heart Association and has served on numerous committees for the AHA, including the AHA Scientific Sessions Planning Committee, the AHA Research Committee, the Novartis Award committee and the Credentialing committee for the Council on Circulation, which he chaired. He served as the Chairman of the American Heart Association Council on Circulation. Dr. Harrison has served as the Chairman of the National Institutes of Health Experimental Cardiovascular Studies Study Section (ECS). In 2004, Dr. Harrison received the Novartis Award from the American Heart Association Council on High Blood Pressure, which is the highest award given for hypertension research. In December of 2010, Dr. Harrison received the 2010 Distinguished Scientist Award at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association (AHA). This award is the highest honor given to a cardiovascular investigator for extraordinary contributions to the understanding and treatment of cardiovascular disease.

Alan Johnson PhD, University of Iowa, <https://psychology.uiowa.edu/people/alan-kim-johnson>

Dr. Alan Johnson is a F. Wendell Mille Distinguished Professor at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, IA. He received his Ph.D. at the University of Pittsburgh in 1970. His current research interests include Neurobiology of thirst, salt appetite, and body fluid homeostasis; health biopsychology; mechanisms of stress-induced hypertension and heart failure; cardiovascular function and behavior; neuroplasticity and the pathogenesis of hypertension; the comorbidity of heart disease and psychological depression; sex differences and cardiovascular disease; neuroplasticity and the pathogenesis of hypertension. Johnson received the Starling Award in 1999, which is awarded annually to an American Physiological Society member recognized for exceptional contributions and lifelong dedication to Water and Electrolyte Homeostasis research.

Andrew Mente PhD, MA, University of Toronto

Dr. Mente is a Principal Investigator for the Epidemiology program at the Population Health Research Institute. He received his doctoral degree in Epidemiology from the University of Toronto. He completed post-doctoral training in cardiovascular epidemiology at McMaster University, and is currently an Assistant Professor in Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics at McMaster University. Dr. Mente has received a Research Fellowship from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, and a Research Early Career Award from Hamilton Health Sciences. Dr. Mente is currently working in the Population Urban and Rural Epidemiological (PURE) study, and is interested in the role of essential minerals (sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium) and dietary fatty acids in cardiovascular diseases in populations around the world.

Niels Graudal MD, DMsc, Copenhagen University

Dr. Gradual is an attending physician in the Department of Rheumatology at the Copenhagen University Hospital in Rigshospitalet, Denmark. Before this appointment he was a registrar and senior registrar at university departments in the Copenhagen area, including internal medicine, gastroenterology, cardiology, pulmonary medicine, allergic diseases, hepatology, hematology, nephrology, infectious diseases, and rheumatology. Dr. Graudal has conducted and published periodic meta-analyses and reviews of the data on the health effects of dietary sodium intake from clinical trials and epidemiological studies. In addition, his recent research centers on sarcoidosis and the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. He has an M.D. from the University of Aarhus in Denmark.

***Gradual was a member of the 2013 Institute of Medicine Committee.*

Martin O'Donnell PhD, McMaster University

Martin O'Donnell is the Professor of Translational Medicine at NUI Galway and Interim Director of the CRFG. Graduated from University College Cork, he trained in Geriatric and Stroke medicine in Ireland, McMaster University (Canada) and Stanford University (US). He holds a PhD from the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, McMaster University. He is Director of the MSc in Clinical Research at NUIG, being run in collaboration with McMaster University. His main areas of research interests are clinical trials in Vascular medicine and Stroke Epidemiology.

David McCarron MD, University of California, Davis

Dr. McCarron is a Research Associate in the Department of Nutrition, University of California-Davis and former Head of the Nephrology Division at Oregon Health & Science University. He has directed the public/private initiative, Shaping America's Youth, in partnership with the Office of the US Surgeon General and the American Academy of Pediatrics. His research originally identified the effect of the DASH diet on high blood pressure, documented the amelioration of salt sensitivity when mineral intake was increased, reported the first observation that increasing dairy calcium intake was associated with lower BMI and defined the normal range of human sodium intake. He received the International Award for Modern Nutrition 2004, which is given in recognition for outstanding research contributions to our understanding the role of nutrition in hypertension. He is the author of more than 250 scientific publications, over 500 scientific papers at research meetings and serves on the editorial boards of several professional journals. Dr. McCarron is a Fellow in the American College of Physicians and the AHA Council for High Blood Pressure Research. Dr. McCarron is the Chair of the Medical Nutrition Council of the American Society of Nutrition and a member of its Board of Directors. Dr. McCarron received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

Suzanne Oparil MD, FACC, FAHA, FASH, FAPS, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Dr. Suzanne Oparil is a Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Professor of Cell, Developmental and Integrative Biology, Section Chief of Vascular Biology and Hypertension and Director of the Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program of the Division of Cardiovascular Disease in the Department of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). Oparil earned her medical degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. In 1981, she was appointed as Director of the UAB Vascular Biology and Hypertension Program, where she has served with extraordinary distinction for over 30 years. Dr. Oparil has held important advisory positions with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and has served on the Panel on Scientific Boundaries for Review, NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR); Special Emphasis Panel (SEP), NIH Loan Repayment Program; and the NIH Joint National Committee. She has served as expert writing member for: Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes

(KDIGO) Guideline for Blood Pressure Management in Chronic Kidney Disease; various AHA guidelines and consensus documents and various national and international writing committees in hypertension research. Most recently, she served as Co-chair of the Joint National Committee charged with developing U.S. guidelines for the prevention, detection, evaluation and treatment of high blood pressure.