

*FDA Tobacco Regulatory Science Fellowship*

2018-2019 Fellows – Biographical Statements

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**Frank Bandiera, PhD, MPH**

Office of Health Communication and Education, FDA/CTP

Frank Bandiera is an epidemiologist whose research has focused on tobacco use among special and vulnerable populations, especially ethnic minorities, people with mental disabilities, and populations with drug addictions. He served as an assistant professor at the University of Texas School of Public Health, where he examined the complex interdisciplinary relationships among tobacco use, substance use, and mental health in diverse populations. Specifically, Bandiera has investigated mortality among persons with substance abuse and mental health challenges, and the difference in tobacco use among special populations.

Bandiera received his BA in psychology from the University of Miami, his MPH from the University of Florida, and his PhD from the University of Miami. He completed his postdoctoral fellowships at the University of California, San Francisco, and the University of California System.



**Megan Hicks, MPH**

Office of the Center Director, FDA/CTP

Megan Hicks most recently served as the executive director of the South Carolina Tobacco-Free Collaborative (SCTFC), where she oversaw several community-level grant programs and supported local tobacco control campaigns. Hicks started at the SCTFC in 2010 as its state program director, working on numerous initiatives and campaigns, including the Communities Putting Prevention to Work grant and the Community Transformation Grant. Hicks began working in tobacco control and prevention at the University of Iowa's Iowa Tobacco Research Center (ITRC) where she assisted with the management, reporting, and development of educational materials for Quitline

callers and supported numerous ITRC research projects. Hicks received her BA in communication studies and certificate in public health from the University of Iowa. She received her MPH from Emory University and is a member of its Delta Omega chapter.



**Catherine Kemp, PhD, MHA**

Office of Science, FDA/CTP

Catherine Kemp is a behavioral and health policy researcher with extensive experience in pharmaceutical product development, nursing, and health care management. She most recently worked as a graduate research fellow at Georgia State University's Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science, researching adults' perceptions of and regulatory policy related to the use of novel and traditional tobacco products. Kemp's dissertation explored adults' perceptions of children's exposure to nicotine through tobacco products and their perceptions of the harms nicotine can cause to children. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, and the American Public Health Association (APHA). She serves as a reviewer for peer-reviewed science journals and the APHA Annual Meeting program. Kemp earned her diploma in nursing from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center; her diploma in occupational health and safety from McMaster University; and her BS in nursing and MHA from Worcester State University. She earned her PhD in public health from the Georgia State University School of Public Health.



**Mauricio Rangel-Gomez, PhD**

Office of Science, FDA/CTP

Mauricio Rangel-Gomez is a neuroscientist with expertise in electrophysiology, brain imaging, and neuropsychopharmacology. His most recent research focused on the understanding of the neural correlates of addiction to nicotine and how reduced nicotine content can alter the addictive potential of tobacco products. Rangel-Gomez held a postdoctoral fellowship at the Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science at the University of Maryland, College Park, where he studied the interactions among dopamine and nicotine and other components in electronic cigarettes. Rangel-Gomez has served as part of the organizing committee for the Tobacco Regulatory Science meeting and is a member of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco, the Society for Neuroscience, and the Cognitive Neuroscience Society. Additionally, he is an ad hoc reviewer for several neuroscience journals. Rangel-Gomez earned bachelor's degrees in psychology (Universidad El Bosque) and engineering (Universidad de los Andes) in Colombia, and a master's degree in neuropsychology (Maastricht University) and doctorate in cognitive neuroscience (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) in the Netherlands.



**Samantha Reilly, PhD**

Office of Science, FDA/CTP

Samantha Reilly is a chemist trained in bioanalytical chemistry. Her research as a postdoctoral fellow at the Penn State Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science (TCORS) focused on the analysis of toxicants produced by tobacco products. Reilly was also a member of the TCORS's Biomarker and Analytic Chemistry Core, where she was involved in the analysis of relevant tobacco biomarkers in support of numerous ongoing clinical trials, including those involving reduced-nicotine cigarettes and electronic cigarettes. She collaborated with an interdisciplinary group of scientists with widespread expertise in areas including toxicology, epidemiology, and addiction science. Reilly is a member of the American Chemical Society and the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco. She received a BS in chemistry from the University of South Alabama and a PhD in chemistry from the University of Mississippi.



**Jamie Tam, PhD, MPH**

Office of Science, FDA/CTP

Jamie Tam is a researcher who studies the effects of tobacco policies, patterns of smoking across populations, and domestic and global tobacco control issues. Her research uses systems science and epidemiological approaches to understand tobacco use among populations with behavioral health comorbidities. Her recent dissertation work examined the implications of the relationship between smoking and depression for mortality outcomes, and used modeling methods to evaluate interventions that address their co-occurrence. Tam was an investigator with the Cancer Intervention and Surveillance Modeling Network Lung Consortium, where she developed computational models that simulate the effects of policies on smoking and population health in the United States and launched a web-based interface that allows users to explore the potential health effects of different tobacco control policies. Tam's other projects have considered the effects of demographic changes on smoking prevalence, longitudinal transitions between tobacco products, and youth exposure to nicotine through electronic cigarettes. Tam completed her MPH and PhD in the Department of Health Management and Policy at the University of Michigan. She received a BS with honors in biology from Stanford University.