



Spring
2023

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

The *Disparities in Urology* Speaker Series was well-received by the department and has since sparked greater awareness and interest in addressing various inequities in urology. Thus far, the series has included eight speakers with presentations covering topics such as pay inequalities, the importance of gender equity, transgender care, and more.

Pictured below: Guest Lecturer Dr. Tracy Downs with Emory SOM Associate Dean Dr. Sheryl Heron



The Emory Urology Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee convened for the first time this past fall. The committee is comprised of staff, faculty, and residents. Under the leadership of Dr. Itunu Arojo and Dr. Ashanda Esdaille as Co-Chairs, the committee successfully launched its impactful Disparities in Urology Speaker Series in December 2022.



Guest Lecturers Dr. Tracy Downs and Dr. Michele Sumler pose with Urology DEI Faculty Leaders Dr. Itunu Arojo and Dr. Ashanda Esdaille and Lunch-and-Learn attendees

On February 9th, the committee organized a day of events dedicated to driving Emory Urology's DEI mission in alignment with the committee's goal to increase DEI education and engagement. The day showcased two meaningful lectures, presented by guests Dr. Tracy Downs and Dr. Michele Sumler, addressing foundational matters of DEI work in urology and US healthcare.



Dr. Downs currently serves as the Chief Diversity & Community Engagement Officer at the University of Virginia, and formerly served as the Associate Dean for Diversity and Multicultural Affairs and Professor of Urologic Oncology at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Dr. Michele Sumler is an Associate Professor and serves as the Vice Chair of Diversity Equity and Inclusion for the Department of Anesthesiology at Emory University School of Medicine.

The committee expresses sincere gratitude to the following individuals for their collaborative efforts to support the department's DEI initiatives: Dr. Sheryl Heron (Associate Dean for Community Engagement, Equity, and Inclusion at Emory School of Medicine), Dr. Akanksha Mehta (Residency Program Director and Associate Professor of Urology), Ildemaro Gonzalez (Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer for Emory Healthcare and Winship Cancer Institute), Dr. Tim Cunningham (Co-Chief Well-being Officer for Emory Healthcare), Dr. Chad Ritenour (Vice Chair of Education and Faculty Affairs in Department of Urology; Co-Chief Well-being Officer for Emory Healthcare) and Dr. Martin Sanda (Chair, Department of Urology).



Dr. Tracy Downs pictured with Urology Faculty Dr. Aaron Lay (above), Dr. Viraj Master (below, left), and Dr. Vikram Narayan (below, right).

