



Stephanie Waite, MSLOC
Director of Leadership & Organizational Development
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago
Faculty

As the Director of Leadership & Organizational Development, Stephanie is responsible for setting and implementing the strategy for leadership and organizational development, developing and optimizing leadership programming to support the human

resources and organizational strategic objectives. Additionally, she serves as an internal consultant and trusted adviser for implementation of large scale behavioral, strategic, operational and change initiatives to over 500 leaders and ~7,000 employees and physicians. Prior to moving internally with Lurie Children’s Hospital, Stephanie was solicited to develop their leadership competencies and behaviors, in addition to building a philosophy and strategy to benchmark leadership growth and development throughout the organization – what is now the foundation for all leadership programming and development. Additionally, Stephanie works with physicians of all levels from emerging career and junior faculty to Chief and Chair level, supporting the growth of the organization through coaching and leadership development.

Currently, Stephanie serves as the Vice President for the Association for Change Management Professionals (ACMP) Midwest Chapter, the largest chapter in the world, setting the pace for the practice of change management in the greater Midwest area. She is an instructor at Northwestern University in the MSLOC, Designing Organizational Effectiveness Certificate program, mentoring students during their year-long program. Stephanie has a passion to learn and share knowledge, and is so honored to speak and interact across the country with a variety of industries and audiences and was recently published for her work on designing effective leadership development to influence engagement of staff.



David Willis
Vice President, The Advisory Board
Faculty

David Willis has more than 25 years of experience as an executive and a management consultant, including 15 years in health care advising some of the nation’s largest health systems on strategy development and execution. Additionally, he has worked with more than half of the Fortune 100, advising global leadership teams on best practices in strategy, leadership, and organizational change.

As Vice President, Health System Strategy, Dave serves as a strategic partner to leading health care organizations across the globe, and as a thought leader on many of the most pressing issues facing executives today. His work spans such areas as growth strategy, margin enhancement, M&A, systemness, change management, consumerism, and population health. As a parent of two children with special needs, he is also extremely passionate about the issues of care coordination and patient experience.

Across his two decades with The Advisory Board, Dave has been a featured speaker at many national and international conferences on health care leadership and strategy. He is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, has an MBA from Yale University School of Management and has done post-graduate work at The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Dave's passions include traveling, craft beer, crossword puzzles, and baseball history. Originally from the Boston area, he currently resides in Northern Virginia, but remains a diehard Red Sox fan (though he has learned to pronounce the letter "r.").



Don Klitgaard, MD
Chief Medical Officer, Ascent
Physician Peer Group Facilitator

Dr. Don Klitgaard is a graduate of the University of Iowa College of Medicine and completed his residency at the Lincoln Family Medicine Program in Lincoln, Nebraska. For 15 years, he practiced full scope Family Medicine and served as Medical Director of the

Myrtue Medical Center clinics in Harlan, Iowa. During this time, he served as the physician champion as Myrtue participated in the TransforMED National Demonstration Project and led their subsequent Patient-Centered Medical Home transformation efforts, which substantially changed the practice's approach to providing comprehensive, high-quality, patient-centered healthcare. Dr. Klitgaard served as the President and Board Chair of the Iowa Academy of Family Physicians. He is currently President of the IAFP Foundation. He has also served as a member of the AMA Committee of Innovators, a multispecialty group tasked with providing insight and practical guidance to AMA leadership and policy staff on the rapid and complex changes occurring in healthcare delivery and payment systems, including collaboration on four whitepapers on these topics.

Since 2012, Dr. Klitgaard has been passionately devoted to the creation and growth of Heartland Rural Physician Alliance, a statewide IPA dedicated to helping independent practices in Iowa thrive in the rapidly-changing world of value-based purchasing and healthcare delivery transformation. He currently serves as Board President and ACO Medical Director for both Medicare Shared Savings and Wellmark BC/BS ACOs. In 2014, Dr. Klitgaard transitioned from 15 years of full-scope, rural clinical practice to a new role as Vice President, then Chief Medical Officer, of Accountable Care Associates of Springfield, MA, in addition to serving as the National Medical Director for Healthcare, working with ACCS and PACS, two national Medicare Shared Savings ACOs. In May 2015, he created MedLink Advantage, a healthcare consulting and ACO management company which he leads as CEO. He is also an active member of the AAFP's Commission on Quality and Practice. Dr. Klitgaard served on the Board of Directors at Interstate Postgraduate Medical Association from 2011 – 2017, serving as board chair in 2018 and 2019 until taking a new position as Chief Medical Officer for Ascent Physician Leadership and Director of Leadership Strategy for IPMA.



Carolyn Lopez, MD
Physician Peer Group Facilitator

Dr. Carolyn Lopez is a graduate of the University of Illinois College of Medicine and completed her residency with Rush-Christ Family Medicine Residency Program. Dr. Lopez has extensive experience in both the private and public health care sectors. She has held entry level, mid-level and C-Suite leadership positions in managed care organizations in Chicago, serving as the first Chief Medical Officer

for Rush/Prudential Health Plans, a vertically integrated managed care company in Chicago. She served as Medical Director for the Chicago Park District and as Chair of Family and Community Medicine at John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County (formerly Cook County Hospital). Her career in academic medicine included service as Assistant Dean for Pre-Clinical Curriculum and Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at Rush Medical College. Dr. Lopez is a past president of the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians where she was the first woman and first Latino to be elected as president. She is also a past officer of the American Academy of Family Physicians where she was elected as the first woman and Latino Vice Speaker and Speaker of the Congress of Delegates. Dr. Lopez has served as president of the Chicago Board of Health since 2009. Dr. Lopez served on the Board of Directors for Interstate Postgraduate Medical Association from 2007 to 2017, serving as board chair from 2013 to 2017. A past president of the Institute of Medicine of Chicago (IOMC), Dr. Lopez received their Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017.



Donald Lurye, MD
Apollo Advisors
Physician Peer Group Facilitator

Following graduation from Harvard College and the Tufts University School of Medicine, Donald completed a family medicine residency at the University of Maryland Hospital. He has been board certified in family medicine since 1983. He has practiced in settings ranging from a rural solo office to urban multi-specialty practices. Following eight years as Associate Medical Director of Meridian Medical

Group in Atlanta, GA, Donald was Chief Medical Officer at the Welborn Clinic in Evansville, IN until its sale to a local health system. Donald just retired following eleven years as CEO of the Elmhurst Clinic in Chicago's western suburbs. Under his guidance, Elmhurst Clinic grew by nearly 50% and introduced a number of innovations. He has now begun a physician leadership, governance and strategy consulting practice, Apollo Advisors, LLC. Donald is also a past president and board chair of the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians. He renews himself as a clarinetist with the DuPage Symphony and most importantly by spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren.



Laura Nelson, MD, MBA
Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, Prevea Health, Inc.
Physician Peer Group Facilitator

Dr. Nelson graduated with a Bachelor of Science in medical technology from University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. She then went to medical school at University of Wisconsin-School of Public Health and completed her residency in internal medicine at Marshfield Clinic St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield, Wis. Dr. Nelson then went on to complete a master's degree in business (MBA) from the University of St. Thomas in 2001. In addition, she is a certified Executive Coach, and has a passion for leadership development. Dr. Laura Nelson joined Prevea Health as the Vice President and Chief Medical Officer – Northern Region in July of 2015. Dr. Nelson's passion is to provide leadership and assist the organization in the delivery of excellent service and care for patients and communities. Not only is her position responsible for provider recruitment but also for working closely with Prevea's Chief Operating Officer to ensure efficient operations of clinical departments, develop and maintain strategic relationships, and to assist in the implementation of Prevea's strategic goals, tactics and objectives. Prior to Prevea, Dr. Nelson was the Chief Medical Officer of Marshfield Clinic and was responsible for the overall clinical operations of a 600+ physician multispecialty group. Dr. Nelson lives in Green Bay, Wis. with her husband and son and enjoys spending time with her family, gardening and music.



Cheri Olson, MD
Medical Director, IPMA
Physician Peer Group Facilitator

Dr. Cheri Olson is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Medical School and completed her residency in Family Medicine at the Mayo Clinic. She has spent 30 years teaching family medicine residents at the La Crosse-Mayo Family Medicine Residency Program where she retired from in 2019 as the Associate Director. Special interests include global health and geriatric medicine. Olson held various leadership positions in her system including chief of staff, Opioid Stewardship Medical Director, Medical Director of Hospital Quality Outcomes and Medical Director of Patient Safety, where she developed the first patient/family advisory committee at her health system. She is a recognized system expert in quality improvement and has initiated and developed a robust QI program at the residency. A sought after speaker, Olson has developed KSA lectures for the ABFM modules, is an Advisory Faculty for the Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics course, taught QI essentials for Mayo Clinic and is known for her common sense and practical style of presenting. Olson also believes in the value of community and population health and served on the La Crosse County Health Board, sees patients at the St. Clare Health Mission, and founded and leads the Seven Rivers Chapter of the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association. Dr. Olson was the first female member of the board of directors at Interstate Postgraduate Medical Association and served on the board from 2000-2009. She has been Medical Director of IPMA for the past 10 years and loves the creativity and innovation of this mighty, small, but powerful organization.