

# GEAR-UP

*Get Experience in Aging Research –  
Undergraduate Program*

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# Special thanks:

- School Support:
  - Dean Fluharty & Dean Jamison, Penn First Plus, CURF
- Advisory Board:
  - Adriana Perez, Atheen Venkataramani, Marc Lo, Robert Ghrist, Tukufu Zuberi
- Joanne Levy; Claudio Luccarelli; George Demiris, 47 potential mentors; PARC staff; and MEHP Business office

# GEAR-UP

- Build on the 20+ years of success in SUMR
  - 322 undergraduate students have participated in SUMR and 85% have gone on to have careers in health care.
- Add a Hybrid Academic year program
  - “Experience Aging” series – George Demiris’ Lab, access to clinical settings, financial simulations, caregiving simulations
  - Speaker events, panels, information sessions
- Include 2<sup>nd</sup> summer of mentored research
  - Potential for international field work

# Learning Objectives

## **(1) Career Socialization, Leadership and Networking**

- Exposure to diversity, inclusion and equity in academia
- Regular interactions with academic leaders, researchers, and experts
- Attending national conferences with the opportunity to meet others in related fields
- Strong peer networks through academic and social activities
- Leadership-building through experiential learning

## **(2) Research and Academic Skills Development**

- Two summers of targeted training and hands-on experience in research with Penn faculty aligned with GEAR UP themes
- Statistical programming sessions on an as needed basis, e.g., Stata, R, and statistics
- Exposure to presenting scientific results in oral presentations and written manuscripts
- 6-month on-line GRE prep course

## **(3) Presentation and Writing Skills Development**

- Presentation of self, resumes, and cover letters
- Coaching in presentation skills
- Opportunity to present mentored research at campus-wide and national conferences
- Receive training to write blogs and Op Eds via the Penn Critical Writing Program and LDI's team

# Student Eligibility

- 10 undergraduates per year
- *Not* limiting to Penn Undergrads
- NIH's definition of URM for undergraduates:
  - US Citizens
  - Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.
  - Individuals with disabilities
  - Individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds

# First Cohort (so far)

- **Augustine Cassis Boateng**, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, May 2022
  - Ari Friedman
- **David Wilborn**, University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, May 2024
  - Steve Joffe
- **Ana Glassman**, University of Pennsylvania, May 2024
  - Meghan Lane-Fall
- **Taussia Boadi**, University of Pennsylvania, May 2024
  - Julia Lynch & Yehoda Marte
- **Nino Owens**, University of Louisville, May 2024
  - Julia Lynch
- **Ashley Duchey**, University of Pennsylvania, May 2024
  - Adriana Perez
- **Jovan Mann**, University of Pennsylvania, May 2024
  - Hans-Peter Kohler and Iliana Kohler

# Let's work together!

- Advertising/Recruiting
- Mentoring
- Lectures, Skill-building
- Programmatic synergies and cohort building