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Dr. Delia Olufokunbi Sam named Director of the Division of Neuroscience, Development and Aging



CSR Director Dr. Noni Byrnes announced the selection of Dr. Delia Olufokunbi Sam as Division Director for the Division of Neuroscience, Development and Aging (DNDA). Dr. Olufokunbi Sam joined CSR in 2009 as a scientific review officer. She has served as Chief of both the Population Sciences and Epidemiology Integrated Review Group (IRG) and the Healthcare Delivery and Methodologies IRG. In 2020, she became the Acting Division Director of DNDA. In addition to these leadership positions, she served as the CSR SRO Training Workshop Coordinator and was the CSR Patient Centered

Outcome Research Institute Coordinator, assisting the congressionally-authorized PCORI Institute in developing infrastructure and internal review capacity for PCORI peer reviews. Beyond this, she has managed the review of trans-NIH initiatives such as the Common Fund Building Infrastructure Leading to Diversity (BUILD) program and the Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K) training initiative.

She brings to the position a strong combination of NIH policy knowledge, scientific breadth, significant management experience and stellar communication skills that are well-suited to lead DNDA as it expands to accommodate rapid growth in emerging areas of neuroscience and aging research.

Dr. Olufokunbi Sam earned a Ph.D. in clinical and health psychology from the University of Florida and did postdoctoral work in the Department of Mental Health Law and Policy at the University of South Florida. Prior to joining CSR, Dr. Olufokunbi Sam was the Deputy Director of the Center for Integrated Behavioral Health Policy and the Chief Operating Officer of the Ensuring Solutions to Alcohol Problems initiative at the George Washington University Medical Center. In that capacity, she led a research program focused on the prevalence and impact of alcohol abuse in communities and led communications efforts, policy development, and strategic planning to transition the program from a foundation-funded initiative to a fully chartered academic center.