

THE PANDEMIC CENTER

Annual Report

2023



School of
Public Health
BROWN UNIVERSITY



“We want to make sure that pandemic threats never upend our lives again.”

- Jennifer Nuzzo, Professor of Epidemiology,
Founding Director of the Pandemic Center



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Letter from the Director

Dear Friends,

We are in an age of pandemic threats. COVID-19, the most consequential pandemic in a century, is the latest but absolutely not the last the world will face. COVID-19 exposed fatal weaknesses in public health here and around the globe. Millions of lives were lost and the impacts stretched across societies — and inequitably across communities and countries. But there were important lessons in all that loss that must be translated into future action.

We know another pandemic is coming. And building resilience requires independent, credible experts generating evidence and action to develop the tools, policies, and practices to equitably reduce vulnerabilities and bolster responses around the globe. That is the work of the Pandemic Center at the Brown University School of Public Health.

The Pandemic Center is about impact — generating and analyzing data, translating that data to effective policy and practice, educating and inspiring the next generation of diverse public health leaders and educating and engaging the public.

The Pandemic Center works to reduce vulnerabilities and increase resilience to pandemics, other biological emergencies and the harms they pose to health, peace, security and prosperity and to develop the tools, policies, practices and leaders to prepare for and respond effectively. We are eager to share our story with you — of how we started, where we have advanced and what we plan to achieve in the future. And we welcome your support and engagement.

Jennifer Nuzzo



Establishing and Growing the Pandemic Center

The official opening of the Pandemic Center in October 2022 marked the evolution of a powerful idea into an even more powerful reality. The COVID-19 pandemic had shaken — and was still impacting — the very foundations of our society: health care, for certain, but also our economy, our educational systems and our democracy. The idea, advanced by Dr. Ashish K. Jha, the dean of the Brown University School of Public Health, was to create a center focused on one of the most urgent public health and national security challenges of our time.

The goals of this new Pandemic Center demanded the recruitment of leaders who could advance the work of pandemic preparedness and strengthen Brown's ability to positively impact one of the most urgent public health and national security challenges of our time. Brown brought those renowned leaders to campus.



(L-R) Brown University School of Public Health Dean Ashish K. Jha, Pandemic Center Senior Adviser Beth Cameron, Pandemic Center Director Jennifer Nuzzo and Pandemic Center Senior Adviser Wilmot James.



Jennifer Nuzzo sounded the alarm on COVID-19 more than three months before the World Health Organization characterized it as a pandemic. As an epidemiologist who now leads the Pandemic Center, she knows the importance of outbreak communications to help ensure public understanding of the threat from infectious diseases.



Beth Cameron joined as senior adviser, bringing the insight gained at the front lines of our national policymaking, including at the White House, and recognition of the importance of translating pandemic risk into public action.



Wilmot James, who has decades of leadership experience in helping Africa confront one urgent health crisis after another including HIV and AIDs, also joined as senior adviser, bringing into focus the importance of a global perspective.



Dr. Seth F. Berkley, one of the most influential figures in global health this century, has made life-changing and life-saving differences around the world and brings his years of leadership in global immunization and vaccination to the Pandemic Center.





Building Bridges

COVID-19 showed us that some of our biggest pandemic challenges weren't necessarily related to medical treatments or public health — they were social, economic and political. At the Pandemic Center, we believe it is critical to ensure that efforts to address pandemic threats involve a diverse set of expertise.

To inform this work and to better contribute to and advance smart policies to prepare for and prevent pandemics, we are intentionally building a team of affiliated Brown faculty from diverse disciplines to apply the University's interdisciplinary strengths to systematically untangle our most vexing pandemic questions.

Nuzzo is bringing together affiliated faculty from across the University to create a team where none had existed. Their work aligns strategically with and advances the Pandemic Center's mission to stop pandemics and biological emergencies, and to prevent the harms they pose to health, peace, security and prosperity. Each member of our team brings a unique perspective gained from decades on the front lines of pandemic research, policy, preparedness and response, with experience in local, community-based efforts and/or at the highest levels of government and global health.

And we are providing an intellectual home for people with deep experiences and insights, with varied skills that allow for a holistic approach working across disciplines and sectors to generate and analyze evidence, educate a new generation of leaders and ensure this work is translated to effective policy and practice.



“To restore confidence in public health, we must continue to practice good science, and communicate our findings effectively and honestly, in ways that are fit for purpose in our rapidly evolving information environment. We must also continue to reach out to and work with communities: meeting them where they are, listening and learning from them and serving their health needs and priorities.”

— Ashish K. Jha, M.D., MPH

Dean, Brown University School of Public Health



“Watching how the U.S. dealt with the pandemic was earthshaking. It was a recognition that we need to get out in front of pandemic threats and translate pandemic risk into public action.”

— Beth Cameron, Ph.D.

Senior Adviser to the Pandemic Center, Professor of the Practice of Health Services, Policy and Practice at the Brown University School of Public Health



“Pandemics always bring surprises and, therefore, there is no such thing as perfect preparedness. But when we do not use experts, science and systems to stop or mitigate the spread of novel pathogens, our failure is not technical but moral. Human lives are at stake. These deaths can be prevented.”

— Wilmot James, Ph.D.

Senior Adviser to the Pandemic Center, Professor of the Practice of Health Services, Policy and Practice at the Brown University School of Public Health



Initiatives and Strategic Outcomes

The Pandemic Center works to prepare for and respond to future pandemics by reducing vulnerabilities and increasing resilience to pandemic threats. To achieve these goals, the Pandemic Center focuses on five critical areas:

- Generating and analyzing evidence
- Translating evidence into effective tools, policies and practices
- Educating and engaging the public
- Instigating global change
- Training the next generation of pandemic decision-makers



We Generate and Analyze Evidence to Support Decisions

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated that the world was truly unprepared for widespread biological threats. Yet experts predict more and more frequent pandemic-level disease outbreaks in the future. The Pandemic Center is generating, analyzing and sharing interdisciplinary evidence to examine and understand the most pressing issues around pandemic preparedness and response. Pandemic Center leaders are using research and data to engage with policymakers, businesses and nongovernmental organizations to translate that evidence into effective policies, practices, tools and resources.

Pandemics are not just health crises. COVID-19 showed us that some of our biggest pandemic response challenges involved jobs, schools, religious observances and the role of government in protecting the public. It is critical to ensure that efforts to address these wide-ranging pandemic threats engage a diverse set of experts working across disciplines. Building on Brown University's unique ability to combine cutting-edge research and interdisciplinary inquiry, the Pandemic Center provides multi sectoral, evidence-based

responses leaders can institute when a new threat arises. Many of the Pandemic Center's current projects focus on identifying and amplifying effective community solutions to preparedness, enhancing diagnostic testing during disease emergencies and helping countries prepare for the next threat. What became clear during the COVID-19 pandemic is that many of these solutions and strategies on the community level were the product of ad hoc collaborations between local officials, organizations, departments, etc. from all ends of the political spectrum who were solely focused on supporting their neighbors and had very little to do with the polarized debates occurring on the national stage. The Pandemic Center has a particular focus on studying these strategies and sharing them with leaders around the country and globally.



Director Jennifer Nuzzo with affiliate faculty members Rachel Baker, Ph.D., and Craig Spencer, M.D., M.P.H., at a School of Public Health Climate and Health Seminar Series event, February 6, 2023.



We Translate Evidence to Effective Practices

The Pandemic Center builds on Brown University's hallmark — a unique ability to combine cutting-edge research and interdisciplinary inquiry to make a positive impact in confronting the world's great challenges. Like the University, the Pandemic Center is uniquely positioned in this field to work across disciplines and sectors, recognizing that this boundary breaking is critical to the innovative research, education and training that lead to policy and impact.

We are intentionally building a team of affiliated Brown faculty from diverse disciplines to inform our work and better advance smart policies to prevent, prepare for and respond to pandemics. For example, engaging with oncologists from the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and experts from the Center for Gerontology and Healthcare Research, we've identified important lessons for how to protect vulnerable patients, which we are sharing with policymakers. By engaging with life scientists, we are able to advise on how to build genomic-based surveillance programs for tracking the spread of infections.

The Pandemic Center's Washington, D.C. office, officially opened in January 2024, helps connect findings to policymakers to drive policy, action and impact. The office is a hub for interacting with policymakers, providing internships and fellowships for students and serving as a catalyst for bringing solutions incubated at Brown directly to policymakers. It provides students and faculty with opportunities to engage directly with the national leaders directing public policy, and coordinates regular faculty and staff contributions to key policy discussions including those hosted by the White House, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Nuclear Threat Initiative and other renowned policy institutions.



(L-R) Brown University School of Public Health Dean Ashish K. Jha, Pandemic Center Senior Adviser Beth Cameron, Pandemic Center Director Jennifer Nuzzo and Pandemic Center Senior Adviser Wilmot James at the opening of the Pandemic Center's Washington, D.C. office.



We Train the Next Generation of Pandemic Decision-Makers

The Pandemic Center faculty are providing mentorship to serve the next generation of health security leaders and are creating innovative new coursework for Brown undergraduate and graduate students. A new Pandemic Game Changers course, first offered in the fall 2023 semester, is bringing top governmental and nongovernmental leaders from the United States and around the world into the classroom to cross-train the next generation of leaders in public health and national security, and to give insight into how to act decisively in the face of uncertainty. New for fall 2024, the Pandemic Game Changers course will be available to students in the University's Washington, D.C. program (Brown in Washington) via the Pandemic Center's new Washington office, as well as those in Providence.

In addition to creating novel opportunities for future leaders, the Pandemic Center also provides mentorship and oversees independent studies for several Brown University undergraduates. To meet student demand for "real world" experiences, the Pandemic Center is maintaining a list of internships and other opportunities with global and Washington-based organizations working to combat pandemics. The Pandemic Center is providing mentorship for

a number of Brown undergraduates, including students serving in placements within the Pandemic Center, at the Nuclear Threat Initiative, the White House and with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. We are also creating research assistantships to provide more of these robust learning opportunities in Providence and Washington, D.C.

An essential pillar of our training initiative is to improve diversity in the pandemic preparedness and broader public health space to ensure that our future decision-makers also represent those communities that have historically been hardest hit in a pandemic. We plan to partner with diverse organizations as part of our effort to train the next generation of pandemic leaders.

As a key part of this work, we are launching a new Game Changers initiative, which will grow the next generation of biosecurity and pandemic decision-makers at Brown and globally. Brown Pandemic Center is developing a replicable biosecurity-focused program including courses and fellowships for early and mid career biosecurity leaders — beginning in the United States and Africa.



Pandemic Center leaders Jennifer Nuzzo and Wilmot James at a Washington D.C. workshop the Center co-hosted with the Horizon Institute for Public Service, April 2023.

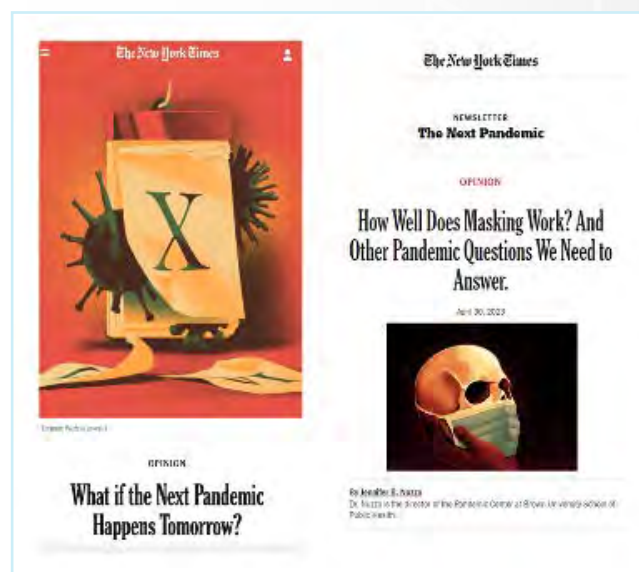


The effort will prioritize preventing and preparing for worst-case biological scenarios and projects at the intersection of public health, biosecurity, pandemic preparedness and international security. To inform this effort, the Pandemic Center, in collaboration with the Horizon Institute for Public Service, offered a workshop in April 2023 aimed at professionals considering careers in biosecurity and pandemic preparedness, which also included Brown undergraduates. The goal of this training was to ensure rising leaders in health and national security are equipped with the skills necessary to respond early and effectively to save lives and mitigate other pandemic harms. The success of this workshop and feedback from participants provided an important blueprint for how this initiative can continue to grow.

We Educate and Engage the Public

The COVID-19 pandemic also demonstrated the importance of educating and engaging the public, particularly as misinformation and disinformation hampered responses to the pandemic. Pandemic Center faculty and staff regularly engage with news media, social media and other organizations to help inform key stakeholders and educate the general public about pandemics and rising health risks. Our faculty are regularly quoted in top news outlets (e.g., *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *NPR*, *The Atlantic*, *the Associated Press*, *Axios*, *Politico*, etc.). Pandemic Center affiliated faculty have authored op-eds which have been published in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *STAT News*, and the *Daily Mail*.

The Pandemic Center’s monthly “Pandemics and Society” webinar series —free and open to the public— examines key issues for improving our resilience to pandemics. The webinars feature high-level subject matter experts, and topics have included America democracy and pandemic security, climate chaos and its tolls on health systems, the urgency of protecting older Americans and nursing homes against COVID-19, and vaccine manufacturing in Africa.



Above: Examples of opinion pieces that Pandemic Center faculty have contributed to.



Left: Our monthly Pandemics and Society webinar series offered hundreds of attendees in-depth discussions and timely updates in the field of pandemic preparedness.

In October 2023 the Pandemic Center welcomed a Filmmaker-in-Residence, Jennifer Galvin MPH, Sc.D., a public health and environmental scientist turned prized filmmaker. Together with Galvin, the team launched a film and media screening and workshop series titled “Our Storied Health,” creating and providing a yearlong integrated media experience that illuminates the importance of our collective health and what can be done to enhance it. Through film screenings, campus conversations and how-to workshops, this series showcases the power of storytelling as a public health intervention. “Our Storied Health” is part of Brown Arts IGNITE, a multi year series of creative activations, interventions and investigations produced by communities across Brown, Providence, Rhode Island and beyond. The Pandemic Center will continue to feature a diverse array of thought-provoking media and engagement opportunities in 2024.



Left: Poster for the first event in the “Our Storied Health Film and Media Series”.

Below: A screening of the film “Shot in the Arm” and a panel discussion that featured Jennifer Nuzzo, Jennifer Galvin, and journalist Maggie Fox.



We Instigate Global Change

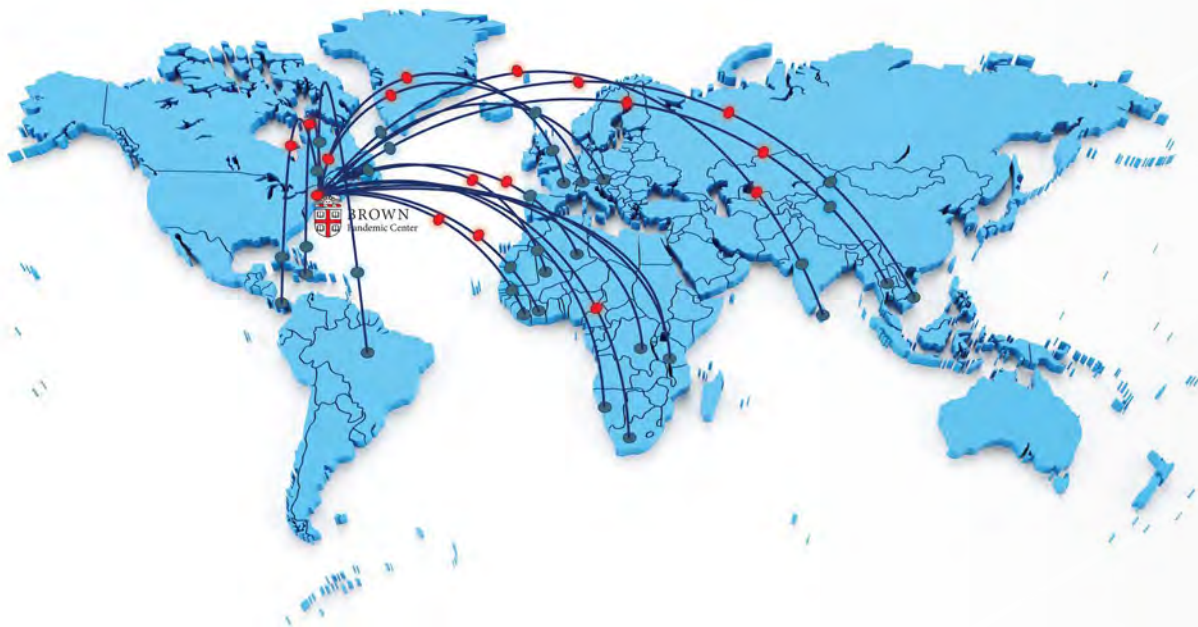
The Pandemic Center is catalyzing and amplifying collaborations among researchers and educators across the school and the broader Brown community by being a point of connection and communication regarding pandemic-related research and education. Our goal is to increase and accelerate pandemic-related research at Brown and ensure that our discoveries are connected to the levers of change in the world.

The Brown University School of Public Health has established and continues to strengthen its national leadership on pandemics and related issues, enhancing Brown's ability to become an international leader in addressing pandemic threats. The recruitment of multiple Brown faculty to serve in positions in the White House is a clear testament to the University's thought leadership on pandemic-related matters.

Brown also is leading several grants that address key COVID-19 response questions: a national effort to coordinate states on matters related to COVID-19 testing, vaccinations and school operations; a National Science Foundation research program to improve behavioral components of infectious disease models; and an effort to study the epidemiology and impacts of long COVID. These grants represent new areas of work and funding for the school that will catalyze funding for future pandemic-related research.

The work of the Pandemic Center extends far beyond the United States. With the increasing establishment of in-country research partnerships and new and ongoing projects — including with the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, WHO Pandemic Hub, Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Pasteur Institute, Makerere University, World Economic Forum and others — the Pandemic Center is primed for making a historically global impact in the areas of pandemic preparedness and biosecurity. Through the establishment of the associate director of global engagement position at the Pandemic Center, we will be able to increase our outreach and establish new global partnerships and initiatives in 2024.

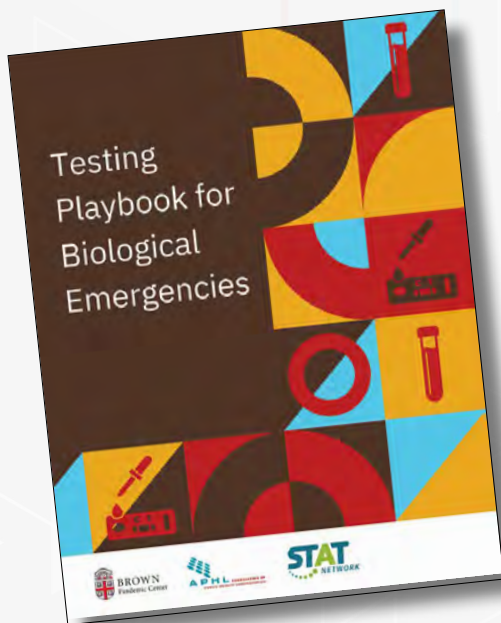
Our faculty and research teams frequently contribute their expertise at conferences and events around the world including the International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA), the United Nations General Assembly, the Global Health Security Conference and others.





Current Pandemic Center Projects

American Democracy and Health Security Initiative: COVID-19 highlighted the threat to our democracy created by political divides, highlighting the importance of community-driven approaches and structures to achieving an effective and equitable response to health crises. Working with leaders from diverse and even opposing perspectives, we are identifying successful, pragmatic, bipartisan and community-driven strategies and structures that state and local communities can use to more effectively and equitably mitigate the risks of health emergencies across workplaces, schools and businesses, whether in rural, urban or tribal contexts. By identifying what strategies worked across a politically, economically and geographically diverse group of states, we seek to present a practical, less divisive path forward for preparing our democracy for future health emergencies. The ultimate goal is to create an inclusive set of evidence-driven tools and playbooks to empower communities and local leaders and improve local resilience to health emergencies. With catalytic funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Foundation, collaborators include the COVID Collaborative, the Center for Strategic and International Studies Global Health Policy Center, and the National Academy for State Health Policy. Actions are informed by bipartisan convening of U.S. leaders from across states.



A playbook to enhance testing during biological emergencies:

Testing is vital to identifying emerging outbreaks, slowing their spread and targeting a rapid and effective response to save lives and reduce harms to societies and economies. Missteps in establishing testing hobbled the U.S. response to COVID-19 and were repeated at the onset of the mpox outbreak. To ensure more effective action in the future, the Pandemic Center has created a playbook — a “living” document to be updated and informed by experience — to provide decision-makers with a guide for swift action to surge testing at the federal, state and local level. This playbook defines actions, timelines, strategies and operations to stand up and effectively deploy clinical, commercial and at-home testing during a biological crisis, and to ensure maximum impact as early as possible. The playbook was made possible by a grant from the Peter G. Peterson Foundation. The statements made and views expressed are solely the responsibility of the authors. Collaborators include the STAT Public Health Network (led by Brown University’s School of Public Health) and the Association of Public Health Laboratories.



Identifying positive outliers: As health systems around the world struggled to meet the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, they were simultaneously crippled by a lack of resources to maintain essential health services, including for people with chronic diseases and for routine immunizations. The Pandemic Center worked with Gates Ventures' Exemplars in Global Health to identify specific, effective practices used by low- and middle-income countries to maintain health services during the pandemic and share those practices with other governments. Partner institutions in Costa Rica, Thailand, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Uganda and Sri Lanka conducted primary research, with the ultimate goal of disseminating their findings publicly through the BMJ Global Health supplement to maximize the impact of those highlighted best practices.

Advance Warning and Response Exemplars (AWARE) project: In the fall of 2023, at the third annual CPHIA in Lusaka, Zambia, the Pandemic Center and its partners launched a novel project to detect and respond to infectious disease threats including those most likely to be induced by climate change. The November 30 event at CPHIA included an introduction of the collaborative project, a look at advanced warning and response in Africa and beyond and a panel discussion on the path forward for early warning systems and pandemic preparedness.

The AWARE project aims to identify positive outliers in successful early detection and response to significant public health events including outbreaks of climate-sensitive infectious diseases and those with pandemic potential. The goal is to examine barriers and facilitators to developing, implementing and sustaining robust early warning systems. To do this, the project team identified four exemplar countries through a rigorous mixed-methods selection process. Starting with a list of 84 potential countries, a short list was finalized and four countries were ultimately selected. These exemplar countries — Brazil, Kenya, South Africa and Vietnam — were identified based on five essential factors: totality of information, regional representation, diversity of countries, consideration of certain geopolitical factors and potential for in-country research partners. In-country research partners will be identified within each of the four countries and will implement the research strategy within their respective country by conducting desk and primary on-the-ground research. A technical advisory group consisting of key experts in pandemic preparedness, infectious disease surveillance, climate-informed early warning systems, climate and meteorological climate-sensitive health interventions and public health governance has been established to provide critical guidance on research design, execution and dissemination.

The project is supported by Gates Ventures, the Wellcome Trust, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.



“No country exists in a vacuum, and it is past time to consider public health in the context of regional and global impact. When a country turns its disease surveillance and response weaknesses into strengths it not only protects itself by being better able to curtail infectious disease spread and impact locally, but it also protects its neighbors.”

— **Wilmot James**, senior adviser to the Pandemic Center



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Global Health Security Index: As countries rebound from the impacts of the last pandemic, there is a critical need to maintain focus on preparing for the next one. Pandemic Center researchers have conducted studies that have shown the best-prepared countries fared better during COVID-19, and have also identified the reasons why the United States, despite being ranked as the best-prepared country in the world, had so many failures. The Pandemic Center is collaborating with the Nuclear Threat Initiative and Economist Impact in the development of the next iteration of the Global Health Security Index, an analysis of preparedness gaps and assets in 195 countries. These data can directly inform policy by identifying which capacities can be improved to bolster a country’s preparedness for a biological emergency. Funding is provided by philanthropic organizations including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation and Open Philanthropy.



Pandemic Center Fundraising

Since its fall 2022 creation, Pandemic Center faculty have raised or received commitments of nearly \$3 million in project funding. In addition to the funders mentioned above, the work of the Pandemic Center is also made possible through generous gifts from organizations including the Scheinberg Fund for Public Health and the Hassenfeld Family Foundation.

We are grateful to our funders for supporting our work.

“When the Pandemic Center was proposed to the Academic Priorities Committee everyone was excited — the life-sciences folks, the bio folks, but also unusual suspects from the history and classics departments who wanted to get involved in some way. It underlines how important this is.”

— Ronald Aubert, Ph.D., MSPH

Senior Associate Dean for Education and Student Services at the Brown University School of Public Health, former Interim Dean of the School of Public Health (serving at the time of the Pandemic Center’s founding)



Leadership for a Safer Future

The threat of future pandemics and other biological crises, including those driven by climate change, jeopardize global stability. We cannot and should not let them upend our lives. Answers fostered and disseminated by the Pandemic Center can provide the resilience and response solutions needed to navigate these potentially life-threatening emergencies. Our dynamic, experienced leadership, harnessing the full interdisciplinary power of Brown University, is providing practical, evidence-based actions that private- and public-sector leaders can adopt to make their communities and the world at large a safer place. The next generation of public health leaders trained by the Pandemic Center will become the game changers of the future. Education and engagement activities will keep the public abreast of new challenges and their role in protecting themselves and their families. COVID-19 taught us the costs of not being prepared. The Pandemic Center can help ensure better outcomes in the future.

We are a team of dynamic, action-focused, global change makers with decades of experience developing evidence and data-driven solutions and driving action for global, enduring impact.





Director Jennifer Nuzzo, DrPH, is a nationally and globally recognized leader on global health security, public health preparedness and response, and health systems resilience. She also is a Senior Fellow for Global Health at the Council on Foreign Relations. Together with colleagues from the Nuclear Threat Initiative and Economist Impact, she co-leads the development of the first-ever Global Health Security Index, which benchmarks 195 countries' public health and health care capacities and capabilities, their commitment to international norms and global health security financing, and socioeconomic, political and environmental risk environments.

In addition to her scholarly work, Nuzzo regularly advises national governments and for-profit and nonprofit organizations on pandemic preparedness and response, including during the COVID-19 pandemic. She is a pandemic adviser for an Impact Assets and the Stop the Spread campaign. She is currently a member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine's Standing Committee for the Centers for Disease Control Center for Preparedness and Response.

Her articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Fox News*, *Politico*, *The Hill* and *The Boston Globe*. She was featured in "Debunking Borat," a television series on Amazon Prime Video, and her work was featured on "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver." She also served as COVID adviser for the "Borat Subsequent Movie film."



Senior Adviser Beth Cameron, Ph.D., is a national expert in health security, pandemic preparedness, biosecurity, bio defense and bioterrorism. Cameron has worked at the highest levels of government, including helping establish and twice serving in the role as the special assistant to the President and senior director for global health security and biodefense for the White House National Security Council, under both President Barack Obama and President Joe Biden. A key member of the pandemic preparedness and response leadership team at the Brown University School of Public Health, she also serves as a senior adviser for global health security in the U.S. Agency for International Development Bureau for Global Health.

Through her leadership positions across the U.S. government, Cameron has been instrumental to the COVID-19 response, reestablishing the National Security Council Directorate on Global Health Security and Biodefense, developing and launching the U.S. government's Global Health Security Agenda. Her work has helped address homeland and international security threats by enhancing pandemic preparedness, biosecurity and biosafety, improving surveillance of emerging infectious disease and countering the development and use of biological weapons. Most recently, she helped formulate and coordinate President Biden's international strategy for fighting COVID-19 and enhancing health security, including the COVID-19 summits, and she has led the administration's efforts to build national and global preparedness and financing for pandemics and other emerging threats.





Senior Adviser Wilmot James, Ph.D., is an internationally recognized thought leader in biosecurity, global health and pandemic preparedness. In addition to his role at the Pandemic Center, he is a professor of the practice of health services, policy, and practice at the Brown University School of Public Health.

James has served as a member of parliament and shadow minister of health in South Africa, and most recently held positions at Columbia University as a senior research scholar at the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, and as chair of the Center for Pandemic Research. He is a highly sought-after consultant for organizations such as the African Society for Laboratory Medicine and the Nuclear Threat Initiative and serves on the advisory board of Resolve to Save Lives, a global organization working to improve cardiovascular health and prevent epidemics. He was recently appointed as the chairman of the Climate Impacts Advisory Committee of the London-based Wellcome Trust. He will use his extensive experience to address public health and national security challenges in his role as senior adviser to the Pandemic Center.



Senior Adviser Seth Berkley, Ph.D., has been a serial entrepreneur and pioneer in global public health for more than 35 years. Berkley is a champion of equitable access to vaccines and of innovation, and a driving force to improve the way the world prevents and responds to infectious diseases. From 2011 to 2023, he served as CEO of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. During his tenure at Gavi, he led a team that worked toward broadening global immunization access, resulting in more than half of the world's children being vaccinated annually. His leadership was equally significant in co-founding and spearheading COVAX, an initiative that facilitated the distribution of over two billion COVID-19 vaccine doses to 146 nations.

As a senior adviser to the Pandemic Center, Berkley joins an interdisciplinary team that takes a holistic approach to pandemic preparedness. His global health leadership experience will bolster the Center's efforts to build resilience to biological threats around the world and help mitigate their impact.



Center Staff and Faculty Affiliates

Faculty Affiliates



Rachel Baker, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and Environment and Society, at the Brown University School of Public Health and the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society



Francesca Beaudoin, MD, MS, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine, Faculty Director of the Long COVID Initiative



Alyssa Bilinski, Ph.D.

Peterson Assistant Professor of Health Policy, Assistant Professor of Health Services, Policy and Practice and Biostatistics at the Brown University School of Public Health



Lisa Di Carlo

Senior Lecturer, Sociology Department at Brown University



Jennifer Galvin, Sc.D., MPH

Filmmaker in Residence



Natalie Kopp

Adviser for Indoor Air Quality to the Brown Pandemic Center, Chief of Staff to the Dean at the Brown University School of Public Health





Mark Lurie, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Epidemiology at the Brown University School of Public Health



Scott Rivkees, M.D.

Professor of the Practice of Health Services, Policy and Practice, Associate Director of the Accelerated Master of Public Health Program, Vice Chair of Health Services, Policy and Practice at the Brown University School of Public Health



Katie Siddle, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology at the Division of Biology and Medicine at Brown University



Craig Spencer, M.D.

Associate Professor of the Practice of Health Services, Policy and Practice at the Brown University School of Public Health



Claire Wardle, Ph.D.

Professor of the Practice of Health Services, Policy and Practice at the Brown University School of Public Health



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Neuroscience, Engaged
Scholarship Certificate



Yuliya Velhan

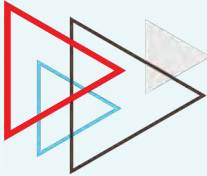
Public Health, International
and Public Affairs, UG/MPH



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