About the Contributors

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Doctoral candidate in cancer sciences in the Roswell Park Graduate Division of the State University of New York at Buffalo. Ms Evans has a master’s degree in pharmaceutical sciences and is certified as a Clinical Research Professional by the Society of Clinical Research Associates. She is a clinical research associate in the Early Phase Clinical Trial Program at Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

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Neurochemist. Full professor and senior researcher at Cuba’s Neurology and Neurosurgery Institute, where she was Deputy Director for Research in 1995–2010. Her main research areas have been demyelinating diseases and blood–brain barrier systems. Dr González Quevedo is currently investigating blood-based biomarkers of brain damage in asymptomatic arterial hypertension and cerebrovascular diseases.

Sergio Jorge-Pastrana
Historian. Executive director of the Cuban Academy of Sciences (ACC), Mr Jorge-Pastrana has published widely on topics to do with science diplomacy and has served as a consultant with several UN agencies. In 2014, he was ACC’s signatory for a historic memorandum of understanding on scientific cooperation with the American Academy for the Advancement of Science.

Joan O’Connell MHSc PhD
Health economist with a background in engineering and applied mathematics. Associate professor in the Department of Community and Behavioral Health at the Colorado School of Public Health, University of Colorado, Dr O’Connell’s research addresses economic issues related to chronic disease prevention and treatment (particularly among American Indian and Alaska Native populations) and assessment of policies and programs to improve health service access and delivery.

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Physician specializing in clinical pharmacology. Consulting professor and senior researcher in Havana’s Pedro Kourí Tropical Medicine Institute (IPK) Dr Pérez-Ávila is internationally known for his HIV/AIDS research and treatment. He established Cuba’s national reference center for treatment and diagnosis of HIV/AIDS at IPK.

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