



October 4, 2018

Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee Nominations
Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion
U.S. Department of Agriculture
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1034
Alexandria, VA 22302

Dear Committee Members,

The Plant Based Foods Association was founded in 2016 to promote the plant-based foods industry by removing obstacles to a fair and competitive marketplace for alternatives to animal ingredients and products. We currently have a roster of 120 members, from small start-ups to large, established consumer brands.

We are pleased to be able to submit nominations for Dr. Martha Clare Morris, Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition, Rush Medical College, Director, Section of Nutrition and Nutritional Epidemiology, Rush University and Dr. Kim Williams Chief, Division of Cardiology, Rush University Medical Center, to serve on the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee. Doctors Morris and Williams are experts in their fields and have agreed to serve on the committee, if selected.

Full Curricula Vitae for Dr. Morris and Dr. Williams are included in this submission, and a summary background for each is below.

Martha Clare Morris, Sc.D.

Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition, Rush Medical College, Director, Section of Nutrition and Nutritional Epidemiology
Rush University, 600 S. Paulina St., Chicago, Illinois 60612
321.942.3223 / [Martha C Morris@rush.edu](mailto:Martha.C.Morris@rush.edu)

Dr. Martha Clare Morris is Professor of Epidemiology, Director of the Section of Nutrition and Nutritional Epidemiology in the Department of Internal Medicine, and Assistant Provost of Community Research at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. Dr. Morris received her doctoral degree in Epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Morris has more than 20 years of experience studying risk factors in the development of Alzheimer's disease and other health problems of older persons, and in particular, how nutrition relates to these conditions. Dr. Morris has published findings on the relations of diet patterns, antioxidant nutrients, dietary fats, and the B-vitamins to these conditions. Dr. Morris is the lead creator of the MIND diet for healthy brain aging. Dr. Morris has a long history of NIH and other funding to examine dietary risk factors of Alzheimer's disease among 10,000 African American and Caucasian participants of the Chicago Health and

Aging Project and the relation of tocopherols and brain metals to neuropathology and neurologic diseases among 1,200 Chicago participants of the Memory and Aging Project. Dr. Morris is also the Principal Investigator of a multi-center randomized trial of the MIND diet to prevent Alzheimer's disease.

Kim Allan Williams, M.D., M.A.C.C., M.A.S.N.C., F.A.H.A., F.E.S.C.

James B. Herrick Professor, Chief, Division of Cardiology
Rush University Medical Center, 1717 W. Congress Parkway, Suite 303 Kellogg,
Chicago, Illinois 60612
321.942.2998 / Kim_A_Williams@rush.edu

Kim Williams serves as the Chief of the Division of Cardiology and is the James B. Herrick Endowed Professor of Medicine and Cardiology at Rush University Medical Center. He has served as the President of the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology (ASNC, 2004-2005), Chairman of the Board of the Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC, 2008-2010), and President of the American College of Cardiology (ACC, 2015-2016).

Prior to coming to Rush University, Dr. Williams was chairman of the division of cardiology at Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit, where he started the Urban Cardiology Initiative. This continued at Rush in Chicago, as he initiated the HEART Program (Helping Everyone Assess Risk Today) to screen churches and community groups for heart disease and stroke risk.

Dr. Williams has published numerous peer-reviewed articles, monographs, book chapters, editorials, and review articles. He has served on many committees and boards for the American Heart Association, the American Medical Association, ASNC, ACC and ABC. Dr. Williams received his medical degree from the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine. He completed his internal medicine residency at Emory University and overlapping fellowships in cardiology at the University of Chicago in clinical pharmacology and nuclear medicine.

Thank you for considering these nominees for the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee. I am happy to provide more resources if required.

Sincerely,



Michele Simon
Executive Director, Plant Based Foods Association