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Education & Training

1992 **PhD, Case Western Reserve University**, Cleveland, OH, Medical Anthropology
1987 **MA, Case Western Reserve University**, Cleveland, OH, Medical Anthropology
1985 **BA, Kent State University**, Kent, OH, Anthropology
1972 **Diploma, Idabelle Firestone School of Nursing**, Akron, OH, Nursing

Research Focus

Dr. Laston's research efforts have been focused on oversight of large-scale genetic studies conducted with human populations. With specialized expertise in medical anthropology and nursing, Dr. Laston has directed the fieldwork for studies of a number of minority populations including Alaska Natives, the Jirel population of eastern Nepal, Zuni Indians and other American Indian tribes. Dr. Laston currently works as Co-Leader of the Community Engagement Core in the Diversity Center for Genome Research in the Division of Human Genetics. At the national level she serves on the Steering Committee for the NHGRI Diversity Centers for Genome Research Consortium and is a member of the Community Engagement Working Group for the NHGRI Diversity Centers of Genome Research Consortium. She was a member of the UTRGV IRB for six years and served as Vice Chair for the final five years. Dr. Laston has strong interests in the design of human subjects research projects and cross-cultural research.

Publications

1. Siddique AK, Salam A, Islam MS, Akram K, Majumdar RN, Zaman K, Fronczak N, **Laston SL**. Why treatment centers failed to prevent cholera deaths among Rwandan refugees in Goma, Zaire. *Lancet*. 1995;345:359-61.
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3. Ross JL, **Laston SL**, Nahar K, Muna L, Nahar P, Pelto PJ. Women's health priorities: Cultural perspectives on illness in rural Bangladesh. *Health: An Interdisciplinary Journal for the Social Study of Health, Illness and Medicine*. 1998;2(1):91-110.
4. Ross JL, **Laston SL**, Pelto PJ, Muna L. Exploring explanatory models of women's reproductive health in rural Bangladesh. *Culture, Health and Sexuality*. 2002;4(2):173-190.
5. Howard BV, Devereux RB, Cole SA, Davidson M, Dyke B, Ebbesson SOE, Epstein SE, Robinson DR, Jarvis B, Kaufman DJ, **Laston S**, MacCluer JW, Okin PM, Roman M, Romenesko T, Ruotolo G, Swenson M, Wenger CR, Williams-Blangero S, Zhu J, Saccheus C, Fabsitz RR, Robbins DC. A genetic and epidemiologic study of cardiovascular disease in Alaska Natives (GOCADAN): Design and methods. *Int. J. Circumpolar Health*. 2005;64;3:206-21.
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9. Ebbesson SOE, **Laston S**, Wenger CR, Dyke B, Romenesko T, Swenson M, Fabsitz R, MacCluer JW, Devereux R, Roman M, Robbins D, Howard BV. Recruitment and community interactions in the GOCADAN Study. *Int. J. Circumpolar Health*. 2006;65:55-64.
10. Franceschini N, MacCluer JW, Göring HH, Cole SA, Rose KM, Almasy L, Diego V, **Laston S**, Lee ET, Howard BV, Best LG, Fabsitz RR, Roman MJ, North KE. A quantitative trait loci-specific genotype-by-sex interaction on systolic blood pressure among American Indians: The Strong Heart Family Study.

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11. North KE, Goring HG, Cole SA, Diego VP, Almasy L, **Laston S**, Cantu T, Howard BV, Lee ET, Best LG, Fabsitz RR, MacCluer JW. Linkage analysis of LDL cholesterol in American Indian populations: The Strong Heart Family Study. *J Lipid Res* 2006;47:59-66.
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