School of Community Health Sciences

Academic and Research Faculty
2010-2011
Table of Contents

Department of Environmental and Occupational Health .......................................................... 2
  Research Units ......................................................................................................................... 2
  Faculty Research, Publications and Funding ................................................................. 3

Department of Health Care Administration and Policy ..................................................... 20
  Faculty Research, Publications and Funding ................................................................. 20

Health Promotion Program, (effective March, 2010) ..................................................... 26
  Faculty Research, Publications and Funding ................................................................. 26

American Indian Research and Educational Center ....................................................... 27

Center for Health Disparities Research ........................................................................... 28

Center for Health Information Analysis (CHIA) ............................................................... 30

Nevada Institute for Children’s Research and Policy (NICRP) ........................................... 32

SCHS Faculty Contact Information .................................................................................. 35
  Office of the Dean .............................................................................................................. 35
  Department of Environmental and Occupational Health ........................................... 35
  Epidemiology and Biostatistics Program ...................................................................... 36
  Department of Health Care Administration and Policy ............................................ 36
  Health Promotion Program ............................................................................................ 37
  SCHS Graduate Coordinators Contact Information ...................................................... 37
  American Indian Research and Education Center (AIREC) ......................................... 38
  Center for Health Disparities Research (CHDR) ............................................................ 38
  Center for Health Information Analysis (CHIA) ............................................................ 38
  Nevada Institute for Children’s Research and Policy (NICRP) .................................... 39
Department of Environmental and Occupational Health
http://publichealth.unlv.edu/dept_contacts.html#EOH

Academic Faculty
Shawn Gerstenberger, Ph.D., Chair and Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Executive Associate Dean of the School of Community Health Sciences

Mark Buttner, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Michelle Chino, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Patricia Cruz, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Carolee Dodge Francis, Ed.D., Assistant Professor and Executive Director of AIREC
Linda Stetzenbach, Ph.D., Emerita Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Melva Thompson-Robinson, Dr.PH, Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Epidemiology and Biostatistics Program:
Tim Bungum, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Epidemiology
Chad Cross, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biostatistics (resigned 6/30/11)
Sheniz Moonie, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Paulo Pinheiro, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Epidemiology
Brian Labus, MPH, Associate Graduate Faculty in Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Part- Time Instructor (PTI) of Epidemiology

Research Faculty
Scott Abella, Ph.D., Associate Research Professor
Jennifer Berger, MPH, Healthy Homes Specialist (effective 2012)
Lindsay Chiquoine, Research Assistant
Elizabeth Engel, Research Associate
Erika Marquez, MPH, Project Coordinator, Healthy Homes
David Wong, Ph.D., Associate Research Professor

Research Units

Environmental Health Laboratory: The Environmental Health Laboratory (EHL) capabilities include analysis of inorganic and organic compounds, including a range of analytes from lead and mercury to PCBs and pesticides. The laboratory also handles a variety of substrates and environmental media, such as water, liquids, soils, air, paint, and organic tissues. Laboratory equipment includes a Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS) instrument, a Graphite Furnace (atomic absorption spectrometry), two Mercury Analyzers (cold vapor and gold amalgamation), UV-VIS Spectrophotometer, two X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) instruments (multi-element and lead), a Microwave Digester, air monitoring equipment, and a YSI meter for water quality parameters.

Emerging Diseases Laboratory: The Emerging Diseases Laboratory opened in the Spring of 2010. In addition to traditional laboratory equipment of incubators, autoclaves, microscopes, and an ultra freezer, sophisticated instrumentation includes a Vitek II compact for identification of bacteria and susceptibility profiling, and the DiversiLab for bacterial strain typing using molecular biology. Laboratory capabilities include analysis of bacterial contaminants from human, wildlife, and environmental sources that impact
the health of Nevadans including bacterial isolates such as methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). The laboratory is also used for the identification of a variety of fungal and parasitic contaminants.

**Faculty Research, Publications and Funding:**

**Shawn Gerstenberger**, Professor, Executive Associate Dean, Chair of Environmental and Occupational Health; Ph.D., University of Illinois.

Dr. Gerstenberger is the director of the Environmental Health Laboratory. He teaches courses in Environmental Toxicology and Environmental Health. His expertise in environmental toxicology and reclamation offers opportunities for students to further their knowledge in the areas of environmental transport and fate, human and wildlife health effects, endocrine disruption, and behavioral toxicology. His current research focuses on compounds such as PCBs, perchlorate, lead and mercury.

**Research Interests:** Environmental toxicants and their effects on human and wildlife health, specifically those related to mercury, lead, PCBs and other compounds that adversely influence children's health and welfare.

**Current Projects:** Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Environmental Health Laboratory, Healthy Homes, and mercury contamination in wildlife.

**Unique Resources:** Analytical analysis by GC-MS (Pesticides, etc), UV-Vis Spectrophotometry (Water quality, etc), Mercury Analysis (cold vapor and combustion), Graphite Furnace (metals analysis), Microwave Digestion Equipment, X-Ray Fluorescence (instant metals analysis for 26 compounds), air monitoring equipment.

**Recent Publications**


**2010-2011 Contract and Grant Awards**


Co-Investigator, Ethnoarchaeological research of the Native Alaskan seal poke storage system. Sponsor: National Science Foundation, $232,000.


Principal Investigator, Weatherization and Energy Efficiencies for Healthy Homes. Sponsor: City of North Las Vegas, $19,000, March 2011.


Co-Principal Investigator, Effectiveness of EarthTec on Killing Invasive Quagga Mussels and Preventing their Colonization in Lake Mead. Sponsor: Earth Sciences Laboratory, Inc, June 2010, $32,305.

Principal Investigator, Potential Impacts of Invasive Quagga Mussels on Diet and Feeding Habitats of Young of the Year (YOO) Striped Bass in Lake Mohave. Sponsor: Nevada Department of Wildlife, $40,000, June 2010.

Principal Investigator, CDC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Year 5. Sponsor: Southern Nevada Health District, $89,263, June 2010.
Mark P. Buttner, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health; Ph.D., University of Nevada, Reno

Dr. Buttner is the co-director of the Emerging Diseases Laboratory. He has been conducting microbiology research at UNLV since 1989. His research is focused on sampling and analysis of airborne microorganisms, with emphasis on enhanced detection methods of airborne and surface-associated microorganisms that are potential human health risks in indoor environments. Dr. Buttner also conducts research involving antibiotic-resistant microorganisms of public health concern. He currently serves as a member of the editorial board of Applied and Environmental Microbiology and as a committee member for the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality.

Research Interests: Bioaerosol sampling and analysis, microorganisms and indoor air quality, antibiotic-resistant microorganisms

Current Projects: Evaluation of an air sampling and analysis protocol; Environmental air sample analysis

Unique Resources: Emerging Diseases Laboratory (EDL), room-sized bioaerosol test chamber

Recent Publications


2010-2011 Contract and Grant Awards


Michelle Chino, Graduate coordinator for the MPH, MED and PhD degree programs; Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health; Ph.D., University of New Mexico.

Dr. Chino is an American Indian researcher and educator with expertise in the social determinants of disease and injury, and the impact of health disparities among diverse populations. She is internationally recognized for her work on health measurement among indigenous populations. Dr. Chino founded and directed two UNLV research centers: the Center for Health Disparities Research and the American Indian Research and Education Center, and has brought in numerous prestigious research grants including the first university-level NIH grant. Along with Dr. Melva Thompson-Robinson, she founded a nationally recognized, peer-reviewed journal entitled *The Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice.*

Dr. Chino brings a unique perspective and many years of experience to the School of Community Health Sciences, to her students, and to the community programs with which she works.

**Current Projects:** Impact of commodity food use among American Indians; injury prevention; health education for minority populations; and access to care for Hispanics.

**Recent Publications**


**2010-2011 Contracts and Grant Awards**


[http://publichealth.unlv.edu/](http://publichealth.unlv.edu/)
Carolee Dodge Francis, Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health and Executive Director of the American Indian Research and Educational Center(AIREC); Ed.D., University of St. Thomas, MN

Dr. Dodge Francis is an American Indian researcher, and nationally recognized for her program development and evaluation work in chronic disease within Tribal communities. She works closely with the CDC Native Diabetes Wellness Program as a researcher, technical support and as an evaluator for their grantees. Dr. Dodge Francis has over 20 years experience in community/public health, education development and community-based participatory research with urban and rural American Indian communities nation-wide. Dr. Dodge Francis is a member of the National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP), American Indian/Alaska Native Workgroup and the Susan G. Komen Native Workgroup.

Research Interests: American Indian/Alaska Native Health and Education issues, Qualitative Research Methods, Community Based Participatory Research Methods, Culturally Based Health Programming and Evaluation.

Recent Publications


2010-2011 Contracts and Grant Awards


Patricia Cruz, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health; Ph.D., University of Nevada, Reno

Since 1995, Dr. Cruz has conducted research in microbiology focused on enhanced methods for the detection of environmental fungi that pose a potential risk to human health. Key topics of her research are the development of primers and probes for use in quantitative polymerase chain reaction (QPCR), and the efficacy of strategies for minimizing interference to QPCR. Dr. Cruz is a co-inventor of a patented method for the detection and quantitation of fungi of indoor air quality concern. She has also conducted research involving methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, MRSA, an antibiotic-resistant microorganism; and is the co-director of the Emerging Diseases Laboratory. Dr. Cruz serves on the editorial board of the journal, *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*, and as a member of the UNLV Institutional Biosafety Committee.

**Research Interests:** Enhanced detection of environmental microorganisms, specifically fungi, and their effects on human health.

**Current Projects:** Validation of universal PCR primers and probes for the detection of total fungi; analysis of environmental samples.

**Unique Resources:** 7900HT Fast Real-Time PCR System, electronic particle counter (Coulter Multisizer II), Mini-Beadbeater-96 (cell disrupter), Centrifugal Vacuum Concentrator, Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer (DiversiLab; strain typing), bioMérieux VITEK 2 Compact (microbial identification and antibiotic susceptibility testing), numerous types of bioaerosol sampling equipment.

**Recent Publications**


**2010-2011 Contracts and Grant Awards**

Co-Principal Investigator, Sample Analysis. Sponsor: Clark County, NV. Award Amount: $553,122 July 2011 - June 2012.


Melva Thompson-Robinson, Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health; Dr.P.H., University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Dr. Thompson-Robinson is very active in the Las Vegas community working to address health issues of communities of color. She is currently the Principal Investigator/Project Director for the Southern Nevada Teen Pregnancy Prevention project, which aims to reduce teen pregnancy and HIV/STIs in African American youth through the implementation of an evidence-based intervention through African American faith-based organizations. Dr. Thompson-Robinson has done extensive work examining issues associated with HIV/AIDS among African Americans and building the capacity of community-based organizations in communities most affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Dr. Thompson-Robinson is the founding Co-Editor of Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice, Co-Chair of the Host Committee for the 2012 U.S. Conference on AIDS, and a member of Delta Omega, the public health honor society.

Research Interests: HIV/AIDS prevention, particularly among African Americans; capacity building among community-based organizations involved in HIV/AIDS prevention; sexual health, cultural competence in public health systems; and health disparities.

Current Projects: Southern Nevada Teen Pregnancy Prevention Project

Recent Publications


2010-2011 Contracts and Grant Awards


Linda D. Stetzenbach, Emerita Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health; Ph.D., University of Arizona.

Since 1987, Dr. Stetzenbach has conducted research in environmental microbiology with a focus on bioaerosols and measurement methods for environmental microorganisms that can impact the environment and human health. Her research has involved the development of enhanced methods for the detection, identification, and enumeration of airborne and surface-associated microorganisms.

Epidemiology and Biostatistics Program

Tim Bungum, Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology; Dr.PH, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Dr. Bungum's areas of interest include epidemiology, exercise behavior, psychosocial and environmental determinants of physical activity and pedestrian safety. He has published approximately 25 data-based manuscripts, as well as non-data-based papers and abstracts on these topics. He is an editorial board member of a national health related organization publication Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport. Further, he is the founder and current Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of the Nevada Public Health Association, the first American Public Health Association affiliate to have its own journal.


Recent Publications


2010-2011 Contracts and Grant Awards


Chad Cross, Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology; Ph.D., Old Dominion University. Resignation effective 6/30/2011.

Dr. Cross is trained as a multidisciplinary scientist and holds advanced degrees in the biological sciences, counseling, and statistics. He works primarily as a biostatistician, where he specializes in spatial statistics, GIS applications, sampling & experimental design, and the application of novel techniques to nonstandard data sets. He has been teaching quantitative methods for over a decade, and serves as a statistical consultant/mentor for faculty and students in public health, psychology, counseling, environmental studies, mathematics, statistics, education, and the biological sciences.

Recent Publications


Sheniz Moonie, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology; Ph.D., Saint Louis University, School of Community Health Sciences.

Prior to receiving her first faculty appointment with the UNLV School of Community Health Sciences, Dr. Moonie worked as a statistician and epidemiologist (chronic disease and clinical focus) for 4 years, concurrent with obtaining her doctoral degree in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. She served as a statistical data analyst at Washington University School of Medicine, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine between 2002 and 2004. She has also worked in the Division of Biomathematics and Information Technology as a biomathematician in the private sector. She currently serves as both a biostatistician and epidemiologist, providing statistical guidance and study methodology support for faculty, staff and students in multiple disciplines throughout the university, government health organizations, and non-profit organizations.

Research Interests: Pediatric asthma (surveillance and tracking, clinical management and environmental triggers) and chronic disease health disparities

Current Projects: (1) Working with the Nevada State Health Division, Center for Health Data and Research, to develop data collection for the longitudinal surveillance and tracking of childhood asthma
prevalence; (2) Healthy homes research for the elimination of asthma triggers; (3) Clark County School District asthma data and academic correlates; (4) asthma hospital discharge data; and (5) Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data – tracking chronic disease risk factors and trends for Nevada.

**Unique Resources:** Asthma Data, Chronic Disease Data

**Recent Publications**


**2010-2011 Contract and Grant Awards**

Co-Principal Investigator – Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, September 2011- September 2014, $1,775,091

Paulo Pinheiro, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology; Ph.D., University of Miami

Dr. Pinheiro trained as a resident physician in Portugal, completed his Masters of Science in Holland and his PhD in Miami. He was also a fellow at the Descriptive Epidemiology Department in the International Agency for Research on Cancer in France. His main research interest is the area of cancer epidemiology. Particular interests are cancer among Hispanics/Latinos, population-based Cancer Survival and the study of Second Neoplasms. His recent work has focused on improving the recognition of Hispanic ethnicity among recorded cancer cases as well as subgroup in the Hispanic population of the United States and finally the changes of risk when Hispanics immigrate to the U.S. He has authored several articles, technical reports and professional papers concerning the epidemiology of cancer of different populations both in Europe and the U.S. Dr. Pinheiro teaches epidemiology and cancer epidemiology. He has been an active working member of the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR) Cancer Survival working group as well as of the National Workgroup for Race and Ethnicity in NAACCR. He is currently the Nevada Central Cancer Registry Epidemiologist. Dr. Pinheiro has been a reviewer for many scientific journals including the European Journal of Cancer, Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Prevention and BMC Cancer. His most recent published work has focused on improving cancer indicators for the Latino populations in the US: Cancer Incidence Rates by Hispanic Subgroup (Mexican, Puerto Rican and Cuban) and Cancer Survival Rates by Hispanic Subgroup.

Research Interests: Cancer Epidemiology, Disparities, Hispanics, Acculturation, Migration, Race/Ethnicity, Stomach Cancer


Recent Publications


2010-2011 Contract and Grant Awards


Research Faculty

Scott R. Abella, Associate Research Professor, Environmental and Occupational Health; Ph.D, Northern Arizona University

Dr. Abella's research focuses on providing science support for increasing the effectiveness of natural resources conservation and management in the desert Southwest. This work entails blending basic research in ecology and the environmental sciences with practical, on-the-ground applied research and collaboration with natural resource managers and other stakeholders. Dr. Abella actively involves UNLV undergraduate and graduate students in these projects. His current projects include comparing vegetation management alternatives for the dynamic Lake Mead shoreline with the National Park Service; identifying ecological restoration strategies for burned landscapes in the Mojave Desert; assessing fire effects on desert soils; reconstructing long-term forest change in the Spring Mountains of southern Nevada to assist with the development of forest conservation strategies in the face of altered climates and fire regimes.

Research Interests: applied ecology for supporting land management and natural resource planning, in the areas of plant, restoration, and fire ecology.

Recent Publications


2010-2011 Contract and Grant Awards


David Wong, Associate Research Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health; Ph.D., City University of Hong Kong.

Dr. Wong has conducted research on aquatic ecosystem health with a focus on how human activities, such as agriculture and urban development, can affect natural fishery populations and eutrophication. He is the coordinator of technical assistance, development, implementation, and review of monitoring programs related to limnology, ecology, toxicology, and management issues associated with Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Research Interests: Ecosystem Health; Invasive Biology; Pollution Ecology.

Current Projects: working with multiple agencies on monitoring and managing invasive quagga mussels in the lower Colorado River system.
Recent Publications


2010-2011 Contract and Grant Awards

Principal Investigator, Ability of Dreissena Mussels to Survive High Turbidity Levels. Sponsor: County of Lake, CA, $21,452, September 2011.


Principal Investigator, Effectiveness of EarthTec on Killing Invasive Quagga Mussels and Preventing their Colonization in Lake Mead. Sponsor: Earth Sciences Laboratory, Inc, $102,310, June 2010.

Co-Principal Investigator, Potential Impacts of Invasive Quagga Mussels on Diet and Feeding Habitats of Young of the Year (YOY) Striped Bass in Lake Mohave. Sponsor: Nevada Department of Wildlife, $40,000, June 2010.
Department of Health Care Administration and Policy
http://hca.unlv.edu

Academic Faculty
Charles B. Moseley, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Chair; Emeritus Associate Professor (as of 7/1/11)
Christopher R. Cochran, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Department Director (as of 7/1/11)
Gregory O. Ginn, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Darren Liu, Dr.PH, Assistant Professor
Jie Shen, Ph.D., Associate Professor

Adjunct Faculty
Elmer Washington, MD, MPH, FACHE

Part-Time Instructors
Kim Crandell, MHA
Bonnie Hillegass, MHA
Larry Hurst, MPA
Ayesha Mehdi, JD
Michelle Sotero, MPH
Glen Stevens, JD
Dana Zuckerman, MA

Faculty Research, Publications and Funding:

Charles Moseley, Emeritus Associate Professor (as of July 1, 2011)
Associate Professor and Chair of Health Care Administration and Policy; Ph.D.,
Virginia Commonwealth University.

Dr. Moseley teaches the graduate course on health services management and the capstone course. He has published peer-reviewed journal articles on the quality of nursing home care, quality improvement in the public health care sector, gambling behavior among the elderly, the uninsured in Nevada and various aspects of U.S. hospital behavior.

Recent Publications


Christopher Cochran, Associate Professor of Health Care Administration and Policy; Graduate coordinator for MHA program through 12/31/11; HCAP Department Director (eff. 7/1/11). Ph.D., University of South Carolina, Columbia.

He has authored and co-authored numerous articles on access to care for underserved populations and safety net resources including management issues and quality improvement public and private health care organizations. Recently, Dr. Cochran’s research has examined economic and health effects of the Nevada Clean Indoor Air Act. He is also involved in a Department of Defense study to examine early identification of visitors to Las Vegas with influenza-like-illness. His previous research has examined health disparities for Hispanic women in Nevada for the Nevada State Health Division’s breast and cervical cancer early detection and screening program, and he has researched access to treatment for the severely mentally ill. He has worked on evaluating the cost efficiency in providing services to low income populations and with emphasis on primary care providers and public hospitals. Dr. Cochran teaches in the areas of the U.S. health care systems, health care policy, epidemiology, and strategic management. He is past president of the Nevada Public Health Association.

Research Interests: Health care services to the poor and medically underserved; quality improvement in public agencies; and relationship marketing.

Current Projects: Access to health care for low-income women who qualify for selective screening programs, hospitalization of mentally ill, provider satisfaction with government funded screening programs, application of learning competencies in health care internship programs.

Unique Resources: Experience with State inpatient Sample, Area Resource File, original survey methods, and Las Vegas and Nevada contact for health care internships.

Recent Publications


2010-2011 Contracts and Grant Awards

**Gregory O. Ginn**, Associate Professor of Health Care Administration and Policy; MBA, Ph.D., University of Texas, Austin.

Dr. Ginn teaches online courses in both the undergraduate and graduate programs. His teaching areas include operations management, human resources management, strategic management, and health care finance. Dr. Ginn has published peer-reviewed journal articles on community benefit laws, health promotion services and wellness programs, workplace violence, governance, and adoption of electronic health records in hospitals.

**Research Interests:** Community orientation, governance, ownership, health promotion, and electronic health records.

**Current Projects:** Manuscripts on ownership type, diversity, and regulation.


**Recent Publications**


**Darren Liu**, Assistant Professor of Health Care Administration and Policy; Dr.PH, University of Pittsburgh, PA

Dr. Liu joined the department in the Fall of 2011 as an assistant professor. His main research interests focus on health information technology (HIT) and quality of care, particularly in long-term care area (e.g., nursing homes, home health care). Prior to Joining UNLV, Dr. Liu was a research/visiting assistant professor at Washington State University and University of Central Florida, respectively. His past research has examined the association between HIT adoption, including features or tools such as Electronic Health Records (EHR), point-of-care (POC), or Telemedicine, and quality of care in nursing home facilities. Dr. Liu is currently conducting research on the impact of Internet technology on long-term care planning among different generations. He also studies consumer HIT designs, web-based decision support tools, and the needs and preferences of HIT users among long-term care consumers.

**Research Interests**

Long-term care, health information technology, and nursing home quality.
Recent Publications


Jay Shen, Associate Professor of Health Care Administration and Policy; Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University.

Dr. Shen teaches courses on the U.S. health care system, health economics, research methods, and management of health information systems. His research interests have focused on outcomes, patient safety, quality of care research, health economics, health care disparities, uninsured and socioeconomically disadvantaged populations, health services delivery and policy including EHR adoption, nursing care quality, public health, and international health systems. He has received research grants awarded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, National Institute of Health, and National Council of States Boards of Nursing. He was an entry of the National Institute for Health Care Management Foundation Health Care Research Award. He has published book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles. He frequently presents his research at meetings of Academy Health, American Public Health Association, Healthcare Information Management and Systems Society, and International Health Economics Association. He was a grant reviewer for the National Institute of Health, and the National Science Foundation of New Zealand. He is an editorial board member of Ethnicity & Disease. He is also a reviewer for many scientific journals including American Journal of Managed Care, American Journal of Public Health, American Journal of Rural Health, Journal of General Internal Medicine, Journal of Health Care Finance, Journal of Hospital Medicine, Journal of Medical Systems, Medical Care, Neurology, and Stroke. He is also a regular visiting professor at Fudan University in Shanghai, China.

Research Interests: Health care outcomes, quality and patient safety, health care disparities, health economics and financing, health services delivery and policy, EHR adoption, public health, and international health systems.

Current Projects: Comparing medication errors among nurses at nine hospitals in Las Vegas area, stroke intervention projects at ten stroke centers in Las Vegas area, patient safety in hospital care, hospital EHR adoption, health care costs and financing in China.
**Unique Resources:** Experience in outcome measures, risk adjustment, quality of care and patient safety indicators, economic analysis, use of National Inpatient Sample (NIS), State Inpatient Data (SID), American Hospital Association (AHA), AHA EHR, and Area Resource File (ARF) datasets, and application of quantitative analytical techniques including use of SAS and STATA.

**Recent Publications**


2010-2011 Contracts and Grant Awards


Co-Principal Investigator, The Economic Impact of Nevada’s Clean Indoor Air Act in Clark County. The UNLV President Award. ($36,140) July 2008-June 2010.
Department of Health Promotion (Health Promotion Program, effective 2010)
http://dhp.unlv.edu/index.html

Academic Faculty
Shawn Gerstenberger, Ph.D., Acting Chair of Health Promotion (see Department of Environmental and Occupational Health)
Warren McNab, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Health Promotion
Charles Regin, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Health Promotion

Part-Time Instructors
Lori Andersen  Seale, Karen
Dabby, Karen Shank, Ryane
Kadlubek, Vaune Shaps, Jennifer
McNab, Dr. Warren (as of July 1, 2011) Wharton, Starr
Morgan, Amanda Wolff, Carissa
Sampson, Jameika

Faculty Research, Publications and Funding:

Warren McNab, Professor Emeritus of Health Promotion (as of July 1, 2011); Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

Dr. McNab has served as a member of the Board of Directors for the American Association of Health Education and the American School Health Association, has been elected a fellow of these associations, and has received distinguished recognition awards from both of these associations. He has also received the distinguished service award from Eta Sigma Gamma the National Health Honorary for people in health sciences. He has served on the editorial boards of The Health Educator and the Journal of Health Education. Dr. McNab has been professor of health education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for the past 20 years where he has been awarded sixteen teaching awards. He has written over 70 professional publications, and given more than 90 presentations, primarily in the areas of sexuality education, adolescent health, humor, and teaching methodologies.

Charles Regin, Assistant Professor of Health Promotion; Ph.D., Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

Dr. Regin has served as a keynote / motivational speaker to over 250 organizations throughout the country. He has authored articles on wellness and fitness, stress management, humor, and program planning. Dr. Regin has been actively involved in corporate and agency wellness programs for companies such as NIKE, AT&T, and fire departments in southern Nevada. He is the recipient of six excellence in teaching awards including CSUN's Faculty Excellence Award for the University, the College of Education's Lily Fong Distinguished Professor of the Year Award, and was recognized by the Nevada Board of Regents for Excellence in Service activities for the University. He is also active in the professional health organizations of the American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance and the American Association of Health Education and holds a leadership position with the Nevada Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Research Interests: Worksite health promotion with particular emphasis on technological applications.
The mission of the American Indian Research and Education Center (AIREC) is to enhance the ability of tribes, the university community, and the general public to understand and address issues affecting American Indian populations.

The American Indian Research and Education Center conducts community based research, promotes educational and research opportunities for American Indian students, provides training and technical assistance and serves as an informational resource for the campus community, tribal populations and the general public.

Research Goals
- Identify research issues relevant to the needs of American Indians
- Conduct high quality, applied, community based research
- Inform and educate Indian people, the university community, and the general public

2010 – 2011 Research Projects

National K-12 diabetes curriculum (DETS). A science-based curriculum for Tribal Communities; meets National Standards, 2010

URBAN21 Grant - Sustaining the Health and Well-Being of Community Caregivers: Preventing Depression 2010.

National Institutes of Diabetes, Digestive & Kidney Disease (NIDDK) Urban Translational Diabetes 2 year planning grant (awarded April 1, 2009).

Technical Assistance Capabilities

Education: Curriculum Development, Health Education and Information Materials, and Teacher Professional Development training.

Research: Community Capacity Building, Design, and Data Analysis

Program Development: Strategic Planning, Evaluation, and Training.
Melva Thompson-Robinson, Dr.PH., Executive Director and Associate Professor (see EOH Academic Faculty) Email: Melva.Thompson-Robinson@unlv.edu

Dr. Thompson-Robinson has done extensive work in the area of sexual health and health disparities, particularly HIV prevention with African Americans and communities of color. She was a speaker on health disparities and reproductive health at the Urban Initiative on Reproductive Health—Western Regional. She has also been the Associate Executive Director for the Institute for HIV Prevention Leadership, which is a national capacity building program for HIV prevention program managers from community-based organizations in communities most affected by HIV. The results of her work in sexual health and experiences in capacity building will be very applicable in working with faith-based organizations to implement evidence-based interventions.

The Center for Health Disparities Research was founded in 2004 as a research center within the School of Community Health Sciences at UNLV with the approval of the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents. The mission of CHDR is working to create health equities from health disparities through: leadership, advocacy, education, research, evaluation, capacity building, collaboration, community engagement, evaluation, communication, partnership, and cultural competence. In addition to research activities, the Center provides opportunities and support for faculty and graduate students in the MPH program to develop and conduct health disparities research.

2010 – 2011 Contract and Grant Awards

Principal Investigator, Southern Nevada Teen Pregnancy Prevention Project. Funded by the Office of Adolescent Health, OPHS, Department of Health and Human Services, $2,799,105. September 2010 – August 2015.


Principal Investigator, Rape Prevention and Education Project. Funded through the Nevada State Health Division, $58,205. November 2009 – January 2010.

Collaborations

- **Education for Quality Living (EQL)** is a nationally-known health promotion and disease prevention consulting firm and subcontractor to the Center for Health Disparities Research on the Southern Nevada Teen Pregnancy Prevention Project.
- **Community Partners for Better Health (CBPH)** is a local, non-profit health coalition that works with the faith-based community in Southern Nevada. CBPH is also a subcontractor to CHDR on the Southern Nevada Teen Pregnancy Prevention Project.
- Health Commission of the **First African Methodist Episcopal Church (FAME)** offers church-based health promotion and disease prevention programs to its youth and is also a subcontractor on the Southern Nevada Teen Pregnancy Prevention Project.
• **The Southern Nevada Health District** – The CHDR works with and serves as a resource for the Health District to address health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities in Nevada.

• **The State Health Division** – The CHDR has worked with and serves as a resource for the State to address health issues of communities of color around the state.

• **City of North Las Vegas** – The CHDR works with the City of North Las Vegas to educate community members about HIV/AIDS and to examine factors impacting health disparities in that jurisdiction.

• The CHDR has established an on-line, journal entitled *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice* (M. Chino & M. Thompson-Robinson, Eds). This peer-reviewed publication includes scholarly articles on all aspects of research, practice, and policy addressing health disparities. With an Editorial Board of nationally and internationally recognized experts in the field, the journal has already received recognition from across the country. The journal is available at http://web.unlv.edu/journals/chdr/journal.html.
Joseph Greenway, MPH, Director

Joseph Greenway is the Director and Co-founder of the Center for Health Information Analysis (CHIA) at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. He has a Master’s in public health and more than 20 years of experience in the health data field. Mr. Greenway’s recent projects have concentrated on the examination and analysis of readmission rates, Potentially Preventable Conditions (PPC), and healthcare quality measures. His latest efforts include advancing health data transparency in Nevada, including the collection, analysis and public posting of hospital and ambulatory surgery center data.

Research Faculty
Joseph Greenway, MPH, Director
Danny Chan, BS, Systems Programmer
Deron Frederickson, BA, BS, Systems Programmer
Robert Herrington, Software Developer
William Porter, Programmer

The mission of the Center for Health Information Analysis (CHIA) is to act as a central health data hub in Nevada, in an effort to improve data quality and increase available knowledge via public transparency works. CHIA’s objectives are to:

1) Continue to expand health data collection efforts;
2) Continue to enhance liaisons with health data providers and data associations such as the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the National Association for Health Data Organizations (NAHDO), The Nevada Hospital Association (NHA), HealthInsight and others;
3) Continue to build and maintain state of the art software for data collection, auditing, analysis, and public posting -- to create, maintain, analyze, and distribute health data and reports to its fullest capability;
4) Conduct standard analyses, as well as specialized analyses, as required;
5) Assist Health Planning and Statistics, Nevada State Health Division, by providing UB-92/04, and publicly posting their reports on sentinel events, nursing homes, and annual health reports; and
6) Expand Center operations in its incorporation of data for Nevada emergency department, hospital outpatient surgery, and Ambulatory health data.

2010-2011 Contract and Grant Awards

Data and Reports

Nevada Healthcare Quarterly Reports: http://chia.unlv.edu/NHQR/utilizationandfinancial.htm
The Center for Health Information Analysis maintains the inpatient records for acute care hospitals as well as the Nevada Healthcare Quality Reports (NHQR).

Nevada Health Choices: http://chia.unlv.edu/nevadahealthchoices/html/nevadahealthchoices.htm
Nevada Personal Health Choices is an annual publication that displays five year trends for 50 of the most common medical and surgical diagnoses by Diagnosis-Related Group (DRG) as reported by Nevada’s 34 general acute care hospitals. Nevada Personal Health Choices is a joint publication of the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics and the University of Nevada - Las Vegas, Center for Health Information Analysis.

Standard Health Reports: http://chia.unlv.edu/stdreports/stdreports.html

Topical Consumer Health Reports & User Generated Reports:
http://www.nevadacomparecare.net/consumers/default.aspx

Quality Indicator Reports & Utilization Statistics:
http://www.nevadacomparecare.net/Monahrq/home.html

Health Division Reports (only posted by CHIA, not produced by us):
http://www.nevadacomparecare.net/professionals/default.aspx

Provider Preventable Conditions: http://www.nevadacomparecare.net/professionals/PPC/PPCs.aspx
Tara Phebus, M.A., Interim Executive Director, effective November 2011

Ms. Phebus has worked for the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy conducting applied research and program evaluation since 2004. Her research and evaluation projects cover a variety of children's issues including; health and safety, injury prevention, child welfare, juvenile justice, early childhood education, and social marketing evaluation. Currently, Tara is serving as the Interim Executive Director at the Institute and is specifically interested in continuing NICRP's mission to use community-based research and program evaluation to help improve the lives of children and families in Nevada. Tara received her Bachelor of Arts Degrees in both Sociology and Business Administration from Doane College in Crete, Nebraska in 2002, and then in 2007 completed her Master of Arts degree in Sociology from the University of Nevada Las Vegas.

Research Faculty
Tara Phebus, M.A., Interim Executive Director (effective 11/1/11)
Denise Tanata Ashby, J.D.*
Samantha Beecher, M.A., Assistant Research Analyst
Dawn Davidson, Ph.D., Research Associate
Amanda Haboush, M.A., Sr. Research Associate
Kari Wolkwitz, M.P.P.*
*No longer with CHDR

The Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy (NICRP) looks out for Nevada's children. NICRP’s mission is to conduct academic and community-based research that will guide the development of policies, programs and services, which will enhance the health and well-being of Nevada's children.

NICRP provides valuable research and evaluation services, compiles a legislative briefing book each legislative session focused on issues related to children, as well as provides bill tracking on our website during the legislative session to ensure that policy makers and community leaders can make informed data driven decisions related to children and families. In addition, NICRP staff serve on a number of community coalitions including:

- Southern Nevada Drowning Prevention Coalition, (Tara Phebus, Board Member)
- Southern Nevada Injury Prevention Partnership,
- Southern Nevada Maternal Child Health Coalition,
- Partnership for a Healthy Nevada,
- Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council,
- Children’s Mental Health Consortium
- Courts Catalyzing Change (Research and Outreach committees)

2010 -2011 Grants and Contracts

Evaluation for Southern Nevada Health District’s Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program. Sponsor: Southern Nevada Health District, $70,294 annually, 10/01/10 to 9/30/12.

NV Safe Injection Practice (SIP) Evaluation Project. Sponsor: CDC thru NV/DHHS Health Division, $6,155, 10/20/10 to 1/31/12.

Program Evaluation for Nevada Silver State Stars Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS). Sponsor: Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, $66,564, 7/01/09 to 6/30/12

HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) Program Outcome Evaluation. Sponsor: Sunrise Children’s Foundation, $13,650, 7/18/11 to 9/30/12.


Early Childhood Data Warehouse. Sponsor: State of Nevada, Welfare Division, Office of Early Care and Education, $118,650, 7/1/10 to 6/30/12

Kindergarten Health Survey – Year Four. Sponsor: State of Nevada, Nevada State Health Division, Maternal and Child Health Program, $24,043 (annually), 7/14/10 to 6/30/12.

Clark County Child Death Review – Team Coordination and Data Management. Sponsor: State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services, $17,993 (annually), 7/1/2010 – 6/30/2011 and 7/1/11 to 6/30/2012

Big Brothers Big Sisters Program Evaluation, Sponsor: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Nevada, $15,500, 7/1/2010 to 11/30/2011.

Choose Your Partner Carefully Campaign Sponsor: Nevada Division of Child and Family Services $15,350, 11/1/11 to 6/30/12

Communities in Schools Program Evaluation, Sponsor: Communities in Schools of Nevada Inc. $10,500, 8/16/2010 to 3/31/2011.


Clark County DA - PAID Project Process Evaluation, Sponsor: CC District Attorney Family Support Division, $12,205, 3/2010

St. Rose Community Health Needs Assessment, Sponsor: Catholic Healthcare West, $34,792, 1/28/10.

Peer Reviewed Publications 2010-2011


Non-Peer Reviewed Publications 2010-2011


School of Community Health Sciences Faculty Contact Information
http://publichealth.unlv.edu

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Mary Guinan, Ph.D., M.D., Dean
Phone: (702) 895-5090
Office: BHS 506

Sherry Marks, MA, CRA, Business Manager/Dean’s Assistant
E-mail: sherry.marks@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-3897
Office: BHS 508

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Susan Tackstrom, Administrative Assistant
E-mail: susan.tackstrom@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-5410
Office: BHS 510

Shawn Gerstenberger, Ph.D., Associate Executive Dean
Department Chair and Professor of Environmental & Occupational Health
E-mail: Shawn.Gerstenberger@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-1565
Office: BHS 514

Scott Abella, Ph.D., Associate Research Professor of Environmental & Occupational Health
E-mail: scott.abella@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 774-1446
Office: SEB 4168

Jennifer Berger, MPH, Healthy Homes Information Specialist
E-mail: jennifer.berger@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-5449
Office: BHS 339

Mark Buttner, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental & Occupational Health
E-mail: mark.buttner@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-1418
Office: BHS 518

Michelle Chino, Ph.D., Graduate Coordinator and Associate Professor of Environmental & Occupational Health
E-mail: michelle.chino@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-2649
Office: BHS 526

Lindsay Chiquoine, Research Assistant, Environmental and Occupational Health
E-mail: lindsay.chiquoine@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 774-1462
Office: SEB 4117
Patricia Cruz, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental & Occupational Health  
E-mail: Patricia.Cruz@unlv.edu  
Phone: (702) 895-1417  
Office: BHS 516

Elizabeth Engel, Research Associate, Environmental and Occupational Health  
E-mail: Cayenne.Engel@unlv.edu  
Phone: (702) 774-1461  
Office: SEB 4169

Erika Marquez, MPH, Project Coordinator, Environmental and Occupational Health  
E-mail: Erika.Marquez@unlv.edu  
Phone: (702) 895-5449  
Office: BHS 339

Linda Stetzenbach, Ph.D., Professor Emerita  
E-mail: Linda.Stetzenbach@unlv.edu

Melva Thompson-Robinson, DrPH, Associate Professor of Environmental & Occupational Health, Executive Director, Center for Health Disparities Research  
E-mail: Melva.Thompson-Robinson@unlv.edu  
Phone: (702) 895-1127  
Office: BHS 530

David Wong, Ph.D., Associate Research Professor, Environmental and Occupational Health  
E-mail: David.Wong@unlv.edu  
Phone: (702) 895-4890  
Office: BHS 534

EPIDEMIOLOGY AND BIOSTATISTICS PROGRAM

Tim Bungum, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology  
E-mail: Tim.Bungum@unlv.edu  
Phone: (702) 895-4986  
Office: BHS 524

Sheniz Moonie, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology  
E-mail: Sheniz.Moonie@unlv.edu  
Phone: (702) 895-5843  
Office: BHS 522

Paulo Pinheiro, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Epidemiology  
E-mail: Paulo.Pinheiro@unlv.edu  
Phone: (702) 895-5717  
Office: BHS 520

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION & POLICY  
http://hca.unlv.edu

Susan Tackstrom, Administrative Assistant  
E-mail: Susan.Tackstrom@unlv.edu  
Phone: (702) 895-5410  
Office: BHS 510
Charles Moseley, Ph.D., Emeritus Associate Professor  
E-mail:  Charles.Moseley@unlv.edu

Christopher Cochran, Ph.D., Department Director; Associate Professor of Health Care Administration & Policy  
E-mail:  Chris.Cochran@unlv.edu  
Phone:  (702) 895-1400  
Office: BHS 512

Gregory Ginn, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Health Care Administration & Policy  
E-mail:  Gregory.Ginn@unlv.edu  
Phone:  (702) 895-3091  
Office: BHS 538

Darren Liu, Dr.PH, Assistant Professor of Health Care Administration & Policy  
E-mail:  Darren.Liu@unlv.edu  
Phone:  (702) 895-5282  
Office: BHS 532

Jay Shen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Health Care Administration & Policy  
E-mail:  jay.shen@unlv.edu  
Phone:  (702) 895-5830  
Office: BHS 532

HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAM  
http://dhp.unlv.edu/index.html

Liz Gil (effective 11/2011)  
E-mail:  Liz.Gil@unlv.edu  
Phone:  (702) 895-4030  
Office: BHS 517

Shawn Gerstenberger, Ph.D., Acting Chair of Health Promotion (see Department of Environmental and Occupational Health)

Warren McNab, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor  
E-mail:  Warren.McNab@unlv.edu

Charles Regin, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Health Promotion  
E-mail:  Charles.Regin@unlv.edu  
Phone:  (702) 895-0856  
Office: BHS 536

SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES GRADUATE COORDINATORS  
http://publichealth.unlv.edu

MPH, M.Ed, and PHD Graduate Coordinator  
Michelle Chino, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health  
E-mail:  michelle.chino@unlv.edu  
Phone:  (702) 895-2649  
Office: BHS 526
MHA Graduate Coordinator
Jay Shen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Health Care Administration & Policy
E-mail: Jay.Shen@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-5830
Office: BHS 519

AMERICAN INDIAN RESEARCH & EDUCATION CENTER
http://www.unlv.edu/centers/airec/
Carolee Dodge Francis, Ph.D., Executive Director
E-mail: Carolee.DodgeFrancis@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-5586
Office: BHS 528

CENTER FOR HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH
http://chdr.unlv.edu
Melva Thompson-Robinson, Dr.PH., Executive Director
E-mail: Melva.Thompson-Robinson@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-1127
Office BHS 530

CENTER OF HEALTH INFORMATION ANALYSIS (CHIA)
http://chia.unlv.edu/
Joseph Greenway, MPH, Director
E-mail: Joseph.Greenway@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-4389
Office: BHS 353

Deysi Baca, Administrative Assistant III
E-mail: Deysi.Baca@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-5436
Office: BHS 352B

Norah Landgendorf, Administrative Assistant III
E-mail: Norah.Langendorf@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-4277
Office: BHS 354

Danny Chan, M.S., Systems Programmer
E-mail: Danny.Chan@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-4278
Office: BHS 352A

Deron Frederickson, M.S., Systems Programmer
E-mail: Deron.Frederickson@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-4389

Robert Herrington, Software Developer
E-mail: Robert.Herrington@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-4389
William Porter, Programmer
E-mail: William.Porter@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-4389

NEVADA INSTITUTE FOR CHILDREN’S RESEARCH AND POLICY (NICRP)
http://nic.unlv.edu/

Tara Phebus, M.A., Interim Executive Director
E-mail: Tara.Phebus@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-1040
Office: CSB 221

Dawn Davidson, Ph.D., Research Associate
Email: dawn.davidson@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 8995-1040
Office: CSB 221

Amanda Haboush, M.A., Research Associate
E-mail: Amanda.Haboush@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-1040
Office: CSB 221

Samantha Beecher, M.A., Research Associate
E-mail: Samantha.Beecher@unlv.edu
Phone: (702) 895-1040
Office: CSB 221