Meeting Minutes
Associate Deans for Research

Friday, October 16, 2015, 9:00-10:00 a.m.
SEB 2251

*Items in Blue are Action Items

1. General Announcements/Updates – Stan Smith
   a. Research@UNLV and Technology Expo

2. Follow-Up: Request for Volunteers Regarding Top Tier Initiative – Stan Smith
   a. Tom would like the associate deans to be more involved in several of the Top Tier groups addressing specific action items.
   b. If you haven’t already done so, please indicate which activity you would like to be involved in as a representative from the Associate Deans for Research by Oct. 30th.

| 1-1 | Centers/Institutes and Strategic Areas | Connie Mobley
     |     |                               | Billy Bai
| 2-1 | Development of research infrastructure master plan |
| 2-2 | Evaluate appropriate research staffing plan |
| 2-3 | Develop plans for increasing competitive grants |
| 3-1 | Reevaluate F&A distribution | Jay Shen
     |     |                               | Connie Mobley
| 3-2 & 3-3 | Establish incentive program for faculty and research seed grant program | Sajjad Ahmad
              |                               | Stacey Tovino
              |                               | Brad Donohue
              |                               | Connie Mobley
| 4-3 | Evaluate T&P and workload policies |
| 4-4 | Identify barriers & develop plan for top tier faculty recruitment/retention & diversity |

3. 1st Quarter Research Reports
   a. Research Integrity – Lori Olafson (handout)
      i. IRB approvals have increased since last year and turn-around time is below national average.
   b. Sponsored Programs – David Paul
      i. Mixed number. Proposal dollars are down; more grants are being applied for with lower award amounts. College/School breakdowns will be provided later.
   c. Economic Development – Zach Miles
      i. Tech Transfer numbers (invention disclosure and agreements) are down slightly from last year.

4. Spotlight on Research Presentation – Jay Shen
   a. Community Health Sciences (presentation attached)
5. Volunteers for Spotlight on Research
      i. Workday @ UNLV Presentation
   b. Dec. 18 – Jennifer Keene: Liberal Arts
   c. Jan. 15 – Billy Bai: Hotel Administration
   d. Future Volunteer: Ramona Denby-Brinson

   **Next Associate Deans for Research Meeting:**
   Friday, November 13, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., LLB: Tiberti Conference Room
   Joint Meeting with Research Council
**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Tom Picchota and Stan Smith  
**FROM:** Lori Olafson  
**DATE:** 10/12/2015  
**SUBJECT:** FY16 1st Quarter Office of Research Integrity Data

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Research Activities in the School of Community Health Sciences

Jay Shen, Ph.D.
Associate Dean

October 16, 2015
School of Community Health Sciences

Environmental and Occupational Health
Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Healthcare Administration and Policy
Social and Behavioral Health
Centers and Labs
Summary of Recent Research Activities

- **SCHS**
  - Formed in 2004
  - 1 PhD program, 2 master degree programs, and 2 undergraduate degree programs.
  - Fulltime faculty: 30
  - Staff: 50 (most supported by grants and contracts)

- **Research highlights**
  - External funding
    - 5.1m in 2014; indirect $283,000
    - 5.7m in 2015; indirect $268,000
  - Peer reviewed publications
    - 100 in 2014
Factors associated with research achievements

- Faculty support from the university leadership
- Academic collaborations
  - On campus with
    - Health sciences: nursing, allied health, dental
    - Other colleges/schools: liberal arts, urban affairs, science, business, hotel
  - Regional
  - National
  - International
- Student involvement
- Community engagement
  - Local
  - Regional
  - National
BRANCH I.
Environmental and Occupational Health
Mark Buttner, Ph.D.
Patricia Cruz, Ph.D.

- Professors
- Co-directors of the Emerging Diseases Laboratory
- Research areas:
  - Enhanced detection of microorganisms of public health significance and potential human health risks
  - Sampling and analysis of fungi of indoor air quality concern
  - Antibiotic-resistant microorganisms and antibiotic stewardship
  - Global public health
  - Sampling and analysis of airborne microorganisms
  - Healthcare-associated infection prevention
  - Antibiotic-resistant microorganisms of public health concern
- Recent external Funding:
  - Las Vegas Environmental Sampling - $1.2 million
  - Airborne Pollen Monitoring - $75,000
- Number of Publications: 3 in the past 2 years
Lung-Wen Antony Chen, Ph.D.

- Assistant professor & Advisor for the Institute of Earth Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences
- Research areas:
  - Atmospheric aerosol and co-pollutants from natural and anthropogenic sources
  - Development of monitoring and modeling methods for assessing public exposure to the pollutants and associated health risks
  - Environmental health issues in developing countries and their global implications
- PI/co-PI for several federal or state funded research projects, a grant reviewer for NSF, NASA, JFSP, and DOE
- Number of Publications: 11 between 2007-2015
Shawn Gerstenberger, Ph.D.

• Dean and Professor
• Research areas:
  • Environmental toxicology
  • Childhood lead poisoning prevention and the impact of the built environment on human health
• Founder of the Nevada Healthy Homes Partnership
• Collaborative grants with key community partners such as the Southern Nevada Health District, City of Henderson and the Nevada State Health Division
• Received extensive grants from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Environmental Protection Agency
• Number of Publications: 10 past 2 years
Shwan’s Group: Mackenzie Burns, Ph.D., Melissa Breunig, MPH, MPH, Erika Marquez, MPH

- Part-time Instructor (Burns)
- Program Manager: Clark County Landlord-Tenant Hotline Study (Burns)
- Research Assistant: Clark County Landlord-Tenant Hotline Study (Breunig)
- Healthy Home Specialist/Lead Risk Assessor (Marquez and Burns)
- Research Projects:
  - Clark County Landlord-Tenant Hotline Study
  - Henderson Lead Hazard Control & Healthy Homes Program
- Number of Publications: 1 in 2014 (Burns)
Jennifer Pharr, Ph.D.

- Assistant Professor and board member of the Nevada Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities
- Research areas:
  - Barriers that impede healthy behaviors such as preventive care and disease prevention
  - Interventions to reduce barriers to healthy behaviors
  - Intersection of sport, physical activity and health
- Current Projects:
  - Healthy Beginning Initiative
  - School garden evaluation - CCSD
  - Health through sport
- External Funding:
  - The PEW Charitable Trust & Robert Wood Johnson Foundation – Health Impact Assessment Grant
- Current collaborations:
  - UNLV - College of Education
  - Community – Green Our Planet, CCSD, and Sunrise Health Foundation
- Number of Publications: 20 during 2014-2015
Courtney Coughenour, Ph.D.

- Assistant Professor
- Research areas:
  - Health & Place, specifically the influence of community design on health behaviors
- Ongoing Research Projects:
  - The role of built environment characteristics on active transport to school rates, walkability, bikeability, and other health behaviors
  - Racial bias in driver yielding behavior to pedestrians in Clark County, NV
  - Evaluation of the urban food environment
- Current collaborations:
  - College of engineering
  - City of Henderson- Henderson Strong
  - University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
  - Southern Nevada Health District
- Number of Publications: 10 between 2014-2015
Marya L. Shegog, Ph.D., MPH, CHES

- Assistant professor & Director of health programs at the Lincy Institute at UNLV (joint appointment with Lincy)

- Research areas:
  - Community engagement and capacity building
  - Cultural competency
  - Health disparities and Sexual and reproductive health

- Received awards, commendations and recognitions for
  - HIV/AIDS prevention
  - Health equity and community development

- Co-editor of the Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice

- Number of Publications: 6 during 2005-2010
Sheila Clark, Ph.D.

- Assistant Professor (Faculty in Residence)
- Research areas:
  - Active transportation to school
  - Community-based physical activity
  - Health Impact Assessment
  - Other policy-based approaches for reducing obesity and increasing physical activity
- Current Research Projects:
  - Active transportation to school in Clark County
    - Walking, school buses
    - Social media tools
    - Built environment interventions
  - Distracted driving in undergraduates
- External Funding: $18,000
- Number of Publications: 4 in the past 2 years
BRANCH II.
Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Timothy Bungum, Ph.D.

• Associate Professor
• Research areas
  • Physical activity behavior
• Project Collaborations:
  • Clark County School District
  • Southern Nevada Health District
  • City of Las Vegas and community organizations
• Current External Funding:
  • Distracted Driving
  • CCSD School Gardens - $37,000
• Number of Publications: 9 during 2011-2013
Echezona Ezeanolue, MD, MPH, FAAP, FIDSA

- Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health and Director of the Global Health and Implementation Research Initiatives

- Research areas
  - Implementation science
  - Maternal-Child Health
  - Community-Based Participatory Research
  - Health Disparity Research
  - Population/Global Health

- Current Projects and External Funding
  - Ryan White Title IV Women, Infants, Children, Youth and Affected Family Members AIDS Healthcare, NIH $881,170
  - Mobile Health: Technology and Outcomes in Low and Middle Income Countries, NIH $322,369

- Number of Publications: 16 between 2014-2015
Ge Lin Kan, Ph.D.

- Professor
- Research areas
  - Public health data science
  - Infrastructure approach to develop integrated data marts, data analysis utilities, and training modules for public health data specialists
  - Geographic information system applications
  - Spatial epidemiology and spatial statistics
  - Big data in public health
  - Health disparity assessment
- Number of Publications: 4 in 2014
Sheniz Moonie, Ph.D

- Associate Professor and MPH and Ph.D. Graduate Coordinator
- Research areas: Pediatric Asthma
- Research Projects:
  - Investigating the relationship between asthma and obesity among children with University of Nevada School of Medicine
- External funding:
  - Southern Nevada Director for the CDC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey
- Number of Publications: 2 in 2013
Paulo Pinheiro, M.D., Ph.D.

- Associate Professor and Nevada Cancer Epidemiologist
- Research areas
  - Cancer epidemiology, especially the validity of epidemiological indicators for ethnic and racial minorities
- Number of Publications: 10 between 2008-2013
Guogen Shan, Ph.D.

- Assistant Professor of Biostatistics
- Research areas
  - Developing adaptive clinical trials
  - Efficient parametric and non-parametric statistical inferences
  - Exact testing procedures
- External funding
  - Biostatistician for CTR, COBRE, HUD grants
- PI a grant from the UNLV Faculty Opportunity Awards program
- Number of Publications: 17 SCI papers since 2014
Qing Wu M.D., Sc.D.

- Associate Professor of Biostatistics (joint-appointment with NIPM)
- Research Areas
  - Meta-analysis, genome-wide meta-analysis and mega-analysis
  - Statistical modeling and model validation for clinical application
  - Research design and methodology in clinical trials and epidemiological studies
  - Methodology development for personalized diagnosis
  - Osteoporosis and cardiovascular disease
  - Statistical consulting in biomedical research
- Grant Activities
  - NIH CORBRE grant
  - NIH R15 grant
  - SOAPS study
  - Meta-analysis
- Collaborative Research
  - Nora (R01, School of Life Sciences, UNLV)
  - Martin (Foundation grants, School of Life Sciences, UNLV)
  - Nick (Local legal settlement Grant, University Medical Center)
  - Kling (Meta-analysis, Mayo)
- Recent Number of Publications: 15 since 2013
BRANCH III. Healthcare Administration and Policy
Chris Cochran Ph.D.

• Professor and Chair of Department of Healthcare Administration and Policy

• Research areas
  • Use of electronic medical records for improving patient safety and reducing cost
  • Using real time data collection for bio-surveillance and early identification of disease outbreaks
  • Economic and health effects of the Nevada Clean Indoor Air Act
  • Health disparities for Hispanic women in Nevada
  • Access to treatment for the severely mentally ill

• 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

• Recent Publications: 2 in 2014
Josue Epane, Ph.D., MBA

- Assistant Professor
- Area of Research
  - Research strategies that can help enhance organizational performance (financial and clinical) in the health care field, such as the use of hospitalists, community orientation, and diversity
- Research Projects:
  - Organizational and Market Characteristics of Hospitals Using Hospitalists
  - Hospitalists Contractual Arrangements and Pneumonia Process of Care Measures Direct to Consumer Advertising and Asthma Diagnosis of Medicaid-insured Children
  - Privatization of Public Hospitals and its Impact on Community Orientation
  - Diversity Leadership: Key Findings from the NCHL National Diversity Demonstration Project
  - Blueprint for Sustainable Change in Diversity Management and Cultural Competence
  - Country of birth and Variations in Asthma Prevalence and Emergency Department Utilization in Children
  - The Impact of Privatization on Efficiency and Productivity
  - Comparative and Trend Analysis of Quality of Care Provided by US Hospitals (Nevada INBRE)
  - The Impact of Hospitalists on Quality and Processed of Care in US Hospitals (AHRQ)
- Number of Publications: 7 between 2014-2015
Darren Liu, Dr. P.H.

- Assistant Professor
- Research areas
  - Consumer health information seeking on the internet
  - Nursing Home Study
  - Quality of Care
  - Long-term Care
- Current Research:
  - The impact of Internet technology on long-term care planning among different generations
- Number of Publications: 5 in 2015
Jay Shen, Ph.D.

- Associate Dean and Professor
- Research areas
  - Health services research
  - Comparative effectiveness research
  - Clinical outcome/quality of care and patient safety
  - Healthcare disparities
  - EHR implementation
  - International health systems and policy
- Current research projects
  - Factors associated with medication errors
  - Impact of ACA on health care in Nevada
  - Effects of HER on process, outcome, cost of care and patient satisfaction
  - Palliative care versus hospital care
  - Rehabilitation models for patients with ischemic stroke
- External funding
  - Reducing Medication Errors among Southern Nevada Hospitals, NCSBN
  - Engaging Patients with Life-Limiting Illnesses on Receiving Palliative Care, PCORI
- Number of Publications: 12 between 2014-2015
Michelle Sotero, Ph.D., MPH

- Assistant Professor
- Research areas
  - Adolescent health
  - Racial and ethnic health disparities
  - Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
  - Historical trauma and Workforce cultural competency
- Work in the development of hospital interpreter services and cultural competency programs have been nationally recognized by the National Association of Public Hospitals and the Joint Commission
- Number of Publications: 3 in 2006
BRANCH IV.
Social and Behavioral Health
Carolee Dodge-Francis, Ed.D.

- Associate Professor, Public Health Undergraduate & Internship Coordinator, and Executive Director of the American Indian Research and Education Center (AIREC)

- Research areas
  - Program development and evaluation work in chronic disease within Tribal communities

- Collaborating projects with
  - UNLV/Anthropology & Nursing, CDC, NIDDK/NIH, Moapa & Las Vegas Paiutes, Tribal Colleges, University of Hawaii, Stanford, and Charles Drew University

- External Funding
  - Science & Health: Ascertaining Research Education (SHARE) Consortium, NIH $142,534
  - Journey: NIDDK STEP-UP, NIH/NIDDK $850,066

- Number of Publications: 4 during 2013-2014
Max Gakh, J.D., MPH

- Assistant Professor (joint appointment with Law School)
- Research areas
  - Public health law and policy
  - Health in All Policies and health impact assessments
  - Health equity and the impact of social factors on health
  - Public health preparedness
- Current Collaborations
  - Associate Director, UNLV Health Law Program
  - Community Health Improvement Plan
  - Full-Day Kindergarten Health Impact Assessment Steering Committee
  - American Public Health Association
- External Funding
  - Full-Day Kindergarten Health Impact Assessment (co-PI)
  - Health in All Policies Report (PI)
- Number of Publications: 7 during 2014-2015
Melva Thompson-Robinson, Ph.D.

- Professor and Director of the Center for Health Disparities Research

- Research Areas
  - Health disparities, particularly among African Americans
  - Sexual health, particularly related to HIV prevention

- External funding:
  - Southern Nevada Teen Pregnancy Prevention Project, NIH $2.8 million

- Recent Number of Publications: 11 between 2004-2012
Activities from Centers and Laboratories
**Environmental and Occupational Health**

- **Clark County Landlord-Tenant Hotline Study**
  - **PI:** Shawn Gerstenberger, PhD
  - **Funding Source:** US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Healthy Homes Technical Studies Grant Program
  - **Award amount:** $650,000
  - **Sub-grantee:** Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD)
  - **Purpose:** Determine whether a landlord-tenant hotline is an efficient and cost-beneficial method to address home-based health hazards, specifically in renter-occupied units

- **Current Study Progress (as of September 30, 2015):**
  - 3,126 original calls received
  - 1,255 eligible and consented study participants
  - 200 site inspections conducted by SNHD

- **On-Going Related Activities:**
  - Year 1 data to be presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo (November 2015)
  - Draft manuscripts in progress
  - Invited to submit a Full Proposal for the FY2015 Health Homes Technical Studies Grant Program (proposal currently under review)
Environmental and Occupational Health (cont.)

- **Henderson Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Program**
  - Lead Based Paint Inspection & Risk Assessment (LIRA)
  - If lead hazards are identified:
    - Lead hazard control work
    - Healthy homes rehabilitation work
  - Inspections:
    - 114 LIRAs
    - 90 Healthy Homes Assessments
  - Removing Lead Hazards
    - Damaged/Non-Repairable Components
    - Deteriorated Substrate
    - Nonfunctioning windows or doors
    - Friction Surfaces

- **Lead Hazard Control**
  - Abatement only = 11 cases
  - Interim Controls only = 9 cases
  - Abatement and Interim Controls = 26 cases
  - Average Cost/project = **$5,500**
    - Range = **$750 to $18,000**
  - Rebuilding Together (CDBG) = **$40,000**
    - Total invested in community = **$246,000**

- **Healthy Homes**
  - Average Cost/project = **$3,700**
  - Range = **$720 to $17,500**
  - Total Hazards Identified = 631
  - Total Hazards Addressed = 416 (66%)
    - Total invested in community = **$171,000**
      - (Remediation and Consumables)
Emerging Disease Laboratory (EDL)

- Co-Directors: Drs. Mark Buttner and Patricia Cruz
- Ongoing Projects
  - Las Vegas Environmental Sampling
    - Sponsor: Department of Homeland Security through Nevada State Health Division
    - Amount Awarded: **$1,214,000**
    - POP: 9/1/15-8/31/16
  - Airborne Pollen Monitoring
    - Sponsor: Clark County School District
    - Amount Awarded: **$75,000**
    - POP: 9/1/15-8/31/16
  - Las Vegas Environmental Sampling
    - Sponsor: Department of Homeland Security through Nevada State Health Division
    - Amount Awarded: **$1,152,427**
    - POP: 9/1/14-8/31/15
  - Airborne Pollen Monitoring
    - Sponsor: Clark County School District
    - Amount Awarded: **$75,000**
    - POP: 9/1/14-8/31/15
American Indian Research and Education Center (AIREC)

- Director: Dr. Carolee Dodge-Francis
- Conducts community based research, and promotes educational and research opportunities for American Indian/Alaska Native students
- Provides training and technical assistance and serves as an informational resource for the campus community, tribal populations and the general public
- Collaborations are both campus-wide, state and national:
  - UNLV/Anthropology & Nursing,
  - CDC
  - NIDDK/NIH
  - Moapa & Las Vegas Paiutes
  - Tribal Colleges, University of Hawaii, Stanford, and Charles Drew University
- Research Funding:
  - From 2012 until 2017, there have been 4 different researches conducted by AIREC
  - Total funding: $1,067,600
Center for Health Information Analysis (CHIA)

- Director and co-founder, Joseph Greenway, MPH
- Collected, audited, analyzed and reported on hospital in patient claims data
  - 1988-present
- Outpatient hospital data
  - Since 2009
- Ambulatory Surgical Center data
  - Since 2010
- Projects:
  - State Innovation Model – Increase quality of healthcare without increasing costs through HIE, data mining outcomes, and collaborative efforts.
  - Attempting to connect to Medicaid data for greater in depth analyses.
  - Working with the Nevada Center for Health Statistics & Surveys of UNR to obtain a grant to study congenital birth defects.
  - Attempting to obtain Nursing Home and Urgent Care Center data.
- Ongoing Projects:
  - Expansion of public transparency
- Publications: 4
Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy (NICRP)

Staff
Tara Phebus – Executive Director
Amanda Haboush-Deloye – Chief Research Associate
Dawn Davidson – Senior Research Associate
Amaris Fuller – Assistant Research Analyst
Patricia Haddad – Research Assistant
Mirzah Trejo – Research Assistant

Community Coalitions/Workgroups
• Southern Nevada Maternal Child Health Coalition
• Southern Nevada Child Drowning Prevention Coalition
• Nurse Family Partnership Advisory Board
• Nevada Safe Haven Work Group
• Child Welfare Network
• Safe Haven Work Group
• Clark County Children’s Mental Health Consortium
• Southern Nevada Injury Prevention Partnership
• Healthy Start Community Action Network
• Partners for a Healthy Nevada
• CARE Coalition
• Southern Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council
• Strong Start for Kids Advisory Board

Content Areas
- Maternal and child health
- Child injury/maltreatment prevention
- Child welfare
- Early childhood education
- Juvenile justice
- Program evaluation
- Youth Homelessness
NICRP Current Collaborations (19 Funded Projects)

Children’s Health

- **Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health** – Annual Kindergarten Health Survey
- **Southern Nevada Health District** – Healthy Start Program Evaluation, Baby Safe Sleep Program Evaluation, Partnerships in Community Health Evaluation
- **Clark County Coroner’s Office** – Implementation of Sudden Unexpected Death in Childhood registry
- **Clark County Department of Family Services** – Child Fatality Review
- **Positively Kids** – Neonatal Follow Up Program Evaluation
- **Nevada Attorney General’s Office** – Statewide Domestic Violence Fatality Review

Early Childhood Education

- **Nevada Department of Education** – Office of Early Learning and Development – Evaluation for the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)
- **WK Kellogg Foundation** – Outreach and Advocacy for Early Childhood Education in Nevada: about $1m
- **City of Las Vegas** – Interest Assessment for Early Childhood Programming and Services
- **Children’s Advocacy Alliance** – Feasibility Study for Social Impact Bond to Support Pre-Kindergarten Programs

Child Welfare

- **Clark County Department of Family Services** – Evaluation for Federal IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project, Youth At Risk of Homelessness Planning Grant
- **Nevada Division of Child and Family Services** – Child Fatality Review, Choose Your Partner Carefully Campaign
- **Nevada Division of Health and Human Services – Children’s Trust Fund** – Parent/Youth Training for Prevention of Child Maltreatment
- **Prevent Child Abuse Nevada** – State chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America
Moving forward........

• Strategic plan
  • UNLV Top Tier initiative
  • School CEPH accreditation
  • MHA CAHME accreditation

• Major challenges
  • Physical space is lacking
  • Supporting stuff is lacking