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FACULTY BOOK

FY 2020-21

The **UNLV School of Public Health** is the first and only accredited School of Public Health in Nevada, and one of just 66 in the world with this distinction from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH).

Offering six degree programs and two certificate programs, the mission of the school is to advance the science of public health, improve the quality of life of people in our communities and eliminate health disparities in Nevada, the nation and the world by providing leadership in quality education, research and service.



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DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Shawn Gerstenberger, PhD

Dean of the School of Public Health; Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: *Lead, Lead Poisoning, PCBs, Mercury, Toxicology, Healthy Homes, Environmental Health*



Dr. Shawn L. Gerstenberger is currently the Dean of the School of Public Health (formerly School of Community Health Sciences) at the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV), and a Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health. His first faculty appointment was in 1997 as an Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies in the Greenspun College of Urban Affairs at UNLV. He was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in 2003 and Professor in 2009.

In 2004, he left the Greenspun College of Urban Affairs to start a new School of Public Health, establish a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree and form the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health located in the Division of Health Sciences at UNLV.

In 2006-2007 he drafted and submitted the proposal for a PhD in Public Health degree. This proposal was then combined into a joint PhD in Public Health Program with the University of Nevada-Reno, and approved in 2008, as one of the first joint programs between the two institutions. Over a twelve period, the School of Public Health (renamed to the School of Community Health Sciences in 2009) has grown to add programs, certificates, faculty and staff that acquire approximately \$7,000,000 annually from extramural sources, and publish approximately 100 peer-reviewed journal articles annually. These accomplishments are done in close collaboration with the faculty, staff, several centers and institutes within the school and support 20+ full-time staff members from extramurally funded sources. From 2008 to 2013, Dr. Gerstenberger served as both Department Chair and Associate Dean for the SPH and led the effort to pursue accreditation for the MPH program.

In July 2013, the School of Public Health received accreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) for the MPH Program for a five-year term, extending to July 2018. This accreditation encompasses all of the core public health areas of emphasis including: Environmental and Occupational Health, Health Care Administration and Policy, Social and Behavioral Health, and Biostatistics and Epidemiology. In 2018, as Dean he coordinated the efforts to become the first Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME) accredited school in the state of Nevada. In 2018, he also led the efforts to become the first accredited School of Public Health in Nevada in accordance with the newly adopted (CEPH) criteria.

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; Landlord-Tenant Hotline; and mercury contamination in wildlife.

Unique Resources: 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:

- Barnes JG, Doney GE, Yates MA, Seegar WS, Gerstenberger SL (2019) A BROADSCALE ASSESSMENT OF MERCURY CONTAMINATION IN PEREGRINE FALCONS ACROSS THE NORTHERN LATITUDES OF NORTH AMERICA. *The Journal of Raptor Research* 53(1): 1-13.
- Marquez E, Haboush-Deloye A, and Gerstenberger SL. (Accepted 2018) Evaluation of the Blood Lead Screening Component of the Southern Nevada Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*
- Barnes JG, Varland DE, Buchanan JB, Fleming, TL and Gerstenberger SL (2018) Mercury contamination in Peregrine Falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) in coastal Washington, 2001–2016, *Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 130(4):958-968.
- Marquez E, Sokolowsky A, Sheehy E, Huebner J, Barber C, and Gerstenberger SL (2018) Measuring the impact of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Programs: Evaluating hazard reduction using the Healthy Homes Rating System. *Journal of Environmental Health* 81(2):8-14.
- Barber C, Huebner J, Marquez E, Sheehy E, Sokolowsky A, Obenza A and Gerstenberger SL (2018). Effective recruitment strategies for Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Programs. *Journal of Environmental Health* 80(7):20-26.
- Marshall M, Sokolowsky A, Burns M and Gerstenberger SL (2018). Landlord-Tenant Hotline Study: Characterizing Environmental Hazards in Renter Occupied Units in Clark County, NV. *Journal of Environmental Health* 81(3):8-15
- Shan G and Gerstenberger SL (2017) Fisher's exact approach for post hoc analysis of a chi-squared test. *PLoS ONE* 12(12) e0188709
- Melissa MJ, Weislogel JM, Gerstenberger SL (2017) Potential lead hazards in pre-1978 childcare facilities in southern Nevada. *Cogent Environmental Science* 3:1415627
- Haboush-Deloye A, Marquez E and Gerstenberger SL (2017). Determining Childhood Blood Lead Screening Compliance among Clark County, Nevada Physicians. *Journal of Community Health* 42(4):779-784.
- Sokolowsky A, Marquez E, Sheehy E, Barber C and Gerstenberger SL (2017). Health Hazards in the Home: An assessment of a southern Nevada community. *Journal of Community Health* 42(4):730-738
- Young S, Grydera L, David W, Teng Y, Gerstenberger SL, and Benyshek D (2016) Human placenta processed for encapsulation contains modest concentrations of 14 trace minerals and elements. *Nutrition Research* 36(8):872-878.
- Liu Q, Klingler R, Wimpee B, Dellinger M, King-Heiden T, Grzybowski J, Gerstenberger SL, Weber D, Caravan MJ (2016). Maternal methylmercury from a wild caught walleye diet induces developmental abnormalities in zebrafish. *Reproductive Toxicology* 65:272-282.
- Shan G, Wilding G, Hutson A, Gerstenberger SL (2015). Optimal adaptive two-stage designs for early phase II clinical trials. *Statistics in Medicine* 35(8): 1257-1266

ENVIRONMENTAL & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

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Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

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Environmental and Occupational Health

Francisco S. Sy, MD, MS, DrPH - Chair and Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Mark Buttner, PhD - Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Karen E. Callahan, PhD - Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Lung-Wen 'Antony' Chen, PhD - Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Sheila Janofsky Clark, PhD - Assoc. Professor-in-Residence of Environmental and Occupational Health
Courtney Coughenour, PhD - Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Chad Cross, PhD, MFT, PStat(R), C-MDI - Visiting Associate Professor
Patricia Cruz, PhD - Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Vincent Fenimore, PhD - Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Paula Frew, PhD, MPH - Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Max Gakh, JD, MPH - Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Erika Marquez, PhD - Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Jennifer Pharr, PhD - Graduate Coordinator and Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Social and Behavioral Health Program

Melva Thompson-Robinson, DrPH - Program Coordinator and Professor of Social and Behavioral Health
Jason Flatt, PhD, MPH - Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral Health
Timothy Grigsby, PhD - Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral Health
Amanda Morgan, PhD, MPH - Associate Professor-in-Residence of Social and Behavioral Health
Charles Regin, PhD - Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral Health
Manoj Sharma, MBBS, PhD, MCHES - Professor of Social and Behavioral Health
Marya Shegog, PhD, MPH, CHES - Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral Health

Part-Time Instructors pool

Russell Argenal	Aaron Hunt	Megan McDonough	Asma Tahir
MacKenzie Burns	Jennifer (Jenna) Heath	Jose Melendrez	Douglas Taylor
Jocy-Anna Chevalier	Justin Keane	Tanviben Patel	Markie Twist
Sanae El Ibrahim	Iwimbong Kum Ghabowen	Alyx Peterson	Jodi Tyson
Alexandria Evans	Kathleen Lauckner	Jennifer Ritchie	William (Brent) Webber
Lucy 'Tatiana' Gesundheit	Sabina Malik	Raymond Rodriguez	Carissa Wolff
Saruna Ghimire	Melissa Marshall	Jennifer Shaps	David Woodard
Amanda Haboush-Deloye			

Francisco S. Sy, MD, MS, DrPH

Chair and Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: HIV/AIDS, infectious disease, parasitology, minority health, health disparities, LGBT, community-based participatory research (CBPR), global health



Dr. Francisco Sy is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the UNLV School of Public Health. He is the President of the Delta Theta Chapter of the UNLV Delta Omega Society, the Public Health Honor Society.

At the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Dr. Sy was a Senior Program Director and AIDS Coordinator in the Division of Extramural Scientific Programs at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD). In his 12 years at NIH/NIMHD, he served in various leadership positions including Director, Office of Community-Based Participatory Research & Collaboration; Director, Office of Extramural Research Administration; and Director, Division of Extramural Activities & Scientific Programs. He was the President of NIH Asian

Pacific American Organization (APAO).

At the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Dr. Sy was a Senior Health Scientist in the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention for 4 years. In 2003, he volunteered and led the CDC SARS Community Outreach Team in Asian communities in the U.S. to mitigate the fear and stigma associated with SARS. He was the founding President of the Association of Asian Pacific Islander Employees of CDC and ATSDR (AAPIECA). He taught and conducted research in infectious disease epidemiology for 15 years at University of South Carolina (USC) School of Public Health. Dr. Sy has been the Editor of *AIDS Education and Prevention- An Interdisciplinary Journal* for 29 years.

Dr. Sy has received numerous awards including: the 2015 NIH Director's Award for catalyzing the advancement of sexual and gender minorities research; 2012 Harvard School of Public Health Outstanding Alumnus for Leadership in Public Health Practice; 2012 NIH Director's Award for coordinating LGBT research at NIH; 2004 HHS Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service in CDC's SARS outbreak investigation; and the 1991 James Keith Excellence in Teaching Award from USC School of Public Health.

Dr. Sy earned his Doctor of Public Health in Immunology and Infectious Diseases from Johns Hopkins University; MS in Tropical Public Health from Harvard University; MD and BS degrees from the University of the Philippines.

Research Interests: HIV/AIDS prevention; infectious disease epidemiology; parasitology; emerging infectious diseases; minority health and health disparities research; LGBT health research; community-based participatory research (CBPR) and global health.

Courses Taught: Transmission of Infectious Diseases, Implementation Science

Current Projects: Assessment of Filipino American Health in Greater Las Vegas: A Pilot Study

Unique Resources: Knowledge of extramural grant process at NIH

Recent Publications:

- Ghimire, S., Hill, CV, Sy, F.S. and Rodriguez, R. Decline in Telomere Length by Age, Gender, Allostatic Load and Comorbidities in National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 1999-2002. PLoS ONE 2018, *Manuscript under review*.
- Ghimire, S., Cheong, P., Sagadraca, L., Chien, LC, Sy, F.S. A Health Needs Assessment of the Filipino American Community in the Greater Las Vegas Area. Health Equity 2018, *In Press*.
- Chien, L.C., Lin, R.T., Liao, Y., Sy, F.S. and Perez, A. Surveillance on the Endemic Zika Virus Infection by Meteorological Factors in Colombia: A Population-Based Spatial and Temporal Study. BMC Infectious Diseases, 2018, 18:180.
- Dankwa-Mullan, I., Bull, J., and Sy, F.S. Precision Medicine and Health Disparities: Advancing the Science of Individualizing Patient Care. American Journal of Public Health, 2015; 105, No. S3, S368-S368.

Mark Buttner, PhD

Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: *bioaerosol, pollen, IAQ, HAI*



Dr. Mark Buttner is a Professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the UNLV School of Public Health. He is the Associate Director of the UNLV Public Health Laboratory, the Director of the Pollen Monitoring Laboratory and Co-Director of the Emerging Diseases Laboratory at UNLV. 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 detection of antimicrobial resistant microorganisms and prevention of healthcare-associated infections. He served on the editorial board of the journal *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* and as an editor of the Aerobiology section of the *Manual of Environmental Microbiology*. He currently serves as a member of the Standing Standard Project Committee, "Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality", of the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers.

Research Interests: Bioaerosol sampling and analysis; airborne pollen; indoor air quality; healthcare-associated infections; antibiotic-resistant microorganisms.

Courses Taught: Fundamentals of Environmental Health; Scientific and Technical Writing; Airborne, Pathogens and Public Health; Transmission of Infectious Disease; Children, Development, Health, and the Environment

Current Projects: Public health microbiology; Airborne pollen monitoring

Unique Resources: Emerging Diseases Laboratory (EDL); Bioaerosol Test Chamber; Airborne Pollen Laboratory; Nevada State Public Health Laboratory, UNLV Branch

Recent Publications:

Patel, T.Y., Buttner, M.P., Rivas, D. Cross, C., Bazylnski, D.A., and J. Seggev. 2018. Variation in airborne fungal spore concentrations among five monitoring locations in a desert urban environment. *Environ Monit Assess* 190: 634.

Woodard D.R., Buttner, M.P., Cruz, P., and J. Roeder. 2018. Microbial contamination of privacy curtains in the emergency department of a metropolitan hospital, *Journal of Hospital Infection*, In Press.

Patel, T.Y., Buttner, M.P., Rivas, D. Cross, C., Bazylnski, D.A., and J. Seggev. 2018. Variation in airborne pollen concentrations among five monitoring locations in a desert urban environment. *Environ Monit Assess* 190: 424.

Enyinnaya, F., Cruz Perez, P., Buttner, M. P., Cross, C., D.R.Woodard. 2017. Comparison of Clinical & Laboratory Standards Institute standards in antimicrobial susceptibility among the carbapenemase producing Enterobacteriaceae. *Future Science OA* 3(4).

Keane, J., Pharr, J.R., Buttner, M.P., and E. Ezeanolue. 2017. Interventions to Reduce Loss to Follow-up During All Stages of the HIV Care Continuum in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Systematic Review. *AIDS and Behavior*. 21, 1745-1754.

Bumgarden, K., Pharr, J. R., Buttner, M. P., and E. Ezeanolue. 2016. Interventions that increase the intention to seek voluntary HIV testing in young people: a review, *AIDS Care*, 29:3, 365-371,

Karen E. Callahan, PhD

Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: *cancer epidemiology, health disparities, immigrant health*



Dr. Karen E. Callahan is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the School of Public Health at UNLV. She recently completed her PhD in Public Health at UNLV with a concentration in Epidemiology and Biostatistics; her dissertation work focused on Colorectal Cancer. She enjoys sharing her passion for Public Health in the classroom as well as collaborating with colleagues from across the globe on research projects. She presents her research at local, national, or international conferences, often sponsored by the organizations of which she is a member: the Nevada Public Health Association, the American Public Health Association, and the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries.

Research Interests: Her primary research interest is in population-based descriptive cancer epidemiology, using cancer registry data and mortality data to characterize population disparities. In particular, she looks at racial/ethnic disparities as well as intra-racial/ethnic heterogeneity, including examining cancer differences between US-born Mexicans and Mexican immigrants, between US-born Blacks, Afro-Caribbeans, and African immigrants, and between diverse Asian/Pacific islander groups such as Filipinos, Chinese, and South Asians. Special focus areas have included breast, colorectal and liver cancer. Her research aims to provide novel and/or updated baseline information critical to the development of targeted and culturally-specific cancer control and prevention efforts.

Additionally, Dr. Callahan has worked collaboratively with Nepali researchers and students to conduct primary research in the small Himalayan country of Nepal. Study topics have included the increasing burden of chronic diseases, health among the aging population, and the experience of teenage girls practicing menstrual exile, a traditional practice still prevalent in rural Western Nepal.

Courses Taught: PBH 165 Health Across the Lifespan, PBH 200 Multicultural Health, HCA/PBH 202 Epidemiology, PBH 205 Introduction to Public Health, EAB 705/HCA702 Epidemiology

Recent Publications:

Pinheiro PS, Callahan KE, Kobetz, E. Disaggregated Hispanic groups and cancer: importance, methodology and current knowledge. Springer Publications. 2020. Book Chapter.

Callahan KE, Pinheiro PS, Cross C, Sy F. Low colorectal cancer survival in the Mountain West state of Nevada: A population-based analysis. Plos One. Aug 19, 2019.

Pinheiro PS, Callahan KE, Jones PD, Morris C, Ransdell JM, Kwon D, Brown CP, Kobetz E. Liver Cancer: A Leading Cause of Cancer Death in the United States and the Role of the 1945-1965 Birth Cohort. J Hep Reports. June 17, 2019.

Kumar P, Cross CL, Callahan KE, Moonie S. Disparities in Colorectal Cancer Screening Prevalence and Mortality Rates in Nevada: A Population Health Analysis of Behavioral Risk- (P82). International Journal of Radiation Oncology. April 2019 Vol. 103 (5), Supplement, Page E53.

Pinheiro PS, Callahan KE, Koru-Sengul T, Ransdell, JM, Bouzoubaa L, Brown CP, Kobetz E. Low Cancer Mortality for Whites and Blacks in Heavily Hispanic South Florida. Preventing Chronic Disease. 2019;16; 180295.

Callahan KE, Pinheiro PS. Hepatocellular carcinoma among Hispanics: An understudied public health priority. Letter to the Editor. Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology. July 2019 Vol.17 (8), Issue 8, Pages 1649-1650

Ghimire S, Baral BK, Mishra SR, Dhimal M, Callahan KE, Bista B, Aryal KK. Noncommunicable disease risk factors among older adults aged 60-69 years in Nepal: findings from the STEPS survey 2013. 2019. J Hum Hypertens. 2019;33 (602-612)

Ghimire S, Singh DR, Callahan KE, Shrestha N, Nath D, Baral BK. Nursing Students' Knowledge of Aging, Attitudes toward and Perceptions of Working with Older Adults in Kathmandu Nepal. International Journal of Nursing Sciences. 2019

Gakh M, Callahan KE, Goodie A, Rutkow L. How Have States Used Executive Orders to Address Public Health? J Public Health Manag Pract. 2019;25(1):78-80.

Amatya P, Ghimire S, Callahan KE, Baral BK, Poudel KC. Practice and Lived Experience of Menstrual Exiles (Chhaupadi) among Adolescent Girls in Far Western Nepal. PLOS ONE. 2018;13(12): e0208260.

Pinheiro PS, Callahan KE, Boscoe FP, Balise RR, Cobb TR, Lee DJ, et al. Cancer Site- Specific Disparities in New York, Including the 1945-1965 Birth Cohort's Impact on Liver Cancer Patterns. Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev. 2018 Aug;27(8):917-27.

Osuoha CA, Callahan KE, Ponce CP, Pinheiro PS. Disparities in lung cancer survival and receipt of surgical treatment. Lung Cancer. 2018 Aug;122:54-9.

Ghimire S, Baral BK, Karmacharya I, Callahan KE, Mishra SR. Life satisfaction among elderly patients in Nepal: associations with nutritional and mental well-being. Health and quality of life outcomes. 2018;16(1):118.

Ghimire S, Shrestha N, Callahan KE. Barriers to Dietary Salt Reduction among Hypertensive Patients. J Nepal Health Res Counc. 2018;16(2):124-130.

Pinheiro PS, Callahan KE, Stern MC, de Vries E. Migration from Mexico to the United States: A high-speed cancer transition. Int J Cancer. 2018 Feb 1;142(3):477-88.

Lung-Wen (Antony) Chen, PhD

Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: *air pollution, particulate matter, exposure assessment, receptor model, environmental epidemiology*



Dr. Antony Chen is an Associate Professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the UNLV School of Public Health.

Dr. Chen researches atmospheric aerosol and co-pollutants from natural and anthropogenic sources, focusing on development of monitoring and modeling methods for assessing public exposure and health risks. He is particularly interested in environmental health issues in developing countries and their global implications.

Dr. Chen is an affiliate Associate Research Professor at the Division of Atmospheric Sciences, Desert Research Institute. He has been PI/co-PI for several federal or state funded research projects, a grant reviewer for NSF, NASA, JFSP, and DOE, and an editor/referee for several peer-reviewed journals in his field.

Research Interests: Micro-to-regional scale air pollution monitoring to improve exposure assessment; analytical methods for characterizing particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ including bioaerosol), coupled with receptor modeling to quantify their sources; air pollution health effects and global environmental health issues related to energy use, urbanization, and climate change

Courses Taught: Pollution and Health; Environmental Health; Air Quality Measurement and Modeling

Current Projects: Hybrid Environmental Receptor Model for PM source apportionment; evaluation and applications of low-cost air quality sensors; primary bioaerosol particles in the urban southwest; PM exposure and asthma incidence; emissions from biomass burning – environmental and climate impacts.

Unique Resources: Urban Air Quality Laboratory (UAQL) including real-time and time-integrated aerosol samplers/sizers/analyzers, air sensors calibration tools; automated deposition samplers, weather stations, and fluorescence aerosol imaging system.

Recent Publications:

Chen, L.-W.A.; Cao, J. (2018). PM_{2.5} Source Apportionment Using a Hybrid Environmental Receptor Model. *Environmental Science & Technology*, 52(11):6357-6369.

Chow, J.C.; Watson, J.G.; Green, M.C.; Wang, X.; Chen, L.-W.A.; Trimble, D.L.; Cropper, P.M.; Kohl, S.D.; Gronstal, S.B. (2018). Separation of brown carbon from black carbon for IMPROVE and Chemical Speciation Network PM_{2.5} samples. *Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association*, 68(5):494-510.

Wang, X.; Ho, K.F.; Chow, J.C.; Kohl, S.D.; Chan, C.S.; Cui, L.; Lee, S.C.F.; Chen, L.-W.A.; Ho, S.S.H.; Cheng, Y.; Watson, J.G. (2018). Hong Kong vehicle emission changes from 2003 to 2015 in the Shing Mun Tunnel. *Aerosol Science and Technology*, 1-14.

- Cui, L.; Wang, X.L.; Ho, K.F.; Gao, Y.; Liu, C.; Ho, S.S.H.; Li, H.W.; Lee, S.C.; Wang, X.M.; Jiang, B.Q.; Huang, Y.; Chow, J.C.; Watson, J.C.; Chen, L.-W.A. (2018). Decrease of VOC emissions from vehicular emissions in Hong Kong from 2003 to 2015: Results from a tunnel study. *Atmospheric Environment*, 177:64-74.
- Yatavelli, R.L.; Chen, L.-W.A.; Knue, J.; Samburova, V.; Gyawali, M.; Watts, A.C.; Chakrabarty, R.K.; Moosmüller, H.; Hodzic, A.; Wang, X.; Zielinska, B. (2017). Emissions and Partitioning of Intermediate-Volatility and Semi-Volatile Polar Organic Compounds (I/SV-POCs) During Laboratory Combustion of Boreal and Sub-Tropical Peat. *Aerosol Science and Engineering*, 1(1):25-32.
- Tian, J.; Ni, H.; Cao, J.; Han, Y.; Wang, Q.; Wang, X.; Chen, L.-W.A.; Chow, J.C.; Watson, J.G.; Wei, C.; Sun, J.; Zhang, T.; Huang, R. (2017). Characteristics of carbonaceous particles from residential coal combustion and agricultural biomass burning in China. *Atmospheric Pollution Research*, 8(3):521-527.
- Tai, A.Y.C.; Chen, L.-W.A.; Wang, X.; Chow, J.C.; Watson, J.G. (2017). Atmospheric deposition of particles at a sensitive alpine lake: Size-segregated daily and annual fluxes from passive sampling techniques. *Science of The Total Environment*, 579:1736-1744.
- Watson, J.G.; Chow, J.C.; Chen, L.-W.A.; Engling, G.; Wang, X.L. (2016). Source apportionment: principles and methods. In *Airborne Particulate Matter: Sources, Atmospheric Processes, and Health*, Royal Society of Chemistry, London, UK. pp. 72-125.
- Han, Y.M.; Chen, L.-W.A.; Huang, R.J.; Chow, J.C.; Watson, J.G.; Ni, H.Y.; Cao, J.J. (2016). Carbonaceous aerosols in megacity Xi'an, China: Implications of thermal/optical protocols comparison. *Atmos. Environ.*, 132:58-68.
- Ho, C.C.; Chan, C.C.; Chio, C.P.; Lai, Y.C.; Chang-Chien, G.P.; Chow, J.C.; Watson, J.G.; Chen, L.-W.A.; Chen, Pau-Chung; Wu, C.F. (2016). Source apportionment of mass concentration and inhalation risk with long-term ambient PCDD/Fs measurements in an urban area. *Journal of Hazardous Materials*, 317:180-187.
- Chakrabarty, R.K.; Gyawali, M.; Yatavelli, R.L.; Pandey, A.; Watts, A.C.; Knue, J.; Chen, L.-W.A.; Pattison, R.R.; Tsibart, A.; Samburova, V.; Moosmüller, H. (2016). Brown carbon aerosols from burning of boreal peatlands: microphysical properties, emission factors, and implications for direct radiative forcing. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 16(5):3033-3040.

Sheila Janofsky Clark, PhD

Associate Professor-In-Residence of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: *food systems, active transportation, safe routes to school*



Dr. Sheila Janofsky Clark is an Associate Professor-in-Residence at the UNLV School of Public Health. She completed her PhD in Public Health with a concentration in Social and Behavioral Health at UNLV in May 2014. Her research interests include community-based physical activity and active transportation, especially in children. She has authored articles in these and related areas.

She is a member of the Nevada Public Health Association and American Public Health Association and teaches courses including Introduction to Public Health, Methods in Health Education, and Health Studies on Dangerous Drugs at UNLV.

Research Interests: Food systems; policy-based approaches to childhood obesity; Community-based physical activity; Active transportation, especially in children

Courses Taught: Introduction to Public Health; Health Studies of Dangerous Drugs; Methods in Health Education; Food Systems and Health; Active Transportation and Health

Current Projects: Analysis of the urban food environment; investigation of channel blurring using Dollar Stores as a potential mediator for healthy food access; analysis of food rescue efforts to mitigate hunger; the examination of neighborhood walkability and the influence on health behaviors and overall health; the potential influence of bias as a factor in pedestrian crash rates; and the influence of policy on youth risk behaviors and reducing inequalities

Recent Publications:

Coughenour, C., Clark, S., Singh, A., Claw, E., Abelar, J., Huebner, J. (2017). Examining racial bias as a potential factor in pedestrian crashes. *Accident Analysis and Prevention*, 98(2017), 96-100. [dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.aap.2016.09.031](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aap.2016.09.031)

Pharr, J. R., Gakh, M., Coughenour, C. A., Clark, S. (2017). Health Impact Assessment as an Instrument to Examine the Health Implications of Pending School-Related Policies. *Public Health*, 145, 83-92.

Coughenour, C., Clark, S., Singh, A., Huebner, J. (2017). Are single entry communities and cul-de-sacs a barrier to active transport to school in 11 elementary schools in Las Vegas, NV metropolitan area? *Preventive Medicine Reports*.

Clark, S., Bungum, T., Meacham, M., & Coker, L. (2014). Happy trails: The effect of a media campaign on urban trail use in Southern Nevada. *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*.

Clark, S. Bungum, T., Shan, G., Meacham, M., & Coker, L. (2015). The effect of a trail use intervention on urban trail use in Southern Nevada. *Preventive Medicine*. DOI: 10.1016/j.ypmed.2014.04.0

Courtney Coughenour, PhD

Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: *health disparities, food access, walkability, bikeability, urban health, rural health, pedestrian safety, health policy, health impact assessment, social determinants of health*



Dr. Courtney Coughenour is an Assistant Professor for the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the UNLV School of Public Health. Her research focuses on environmental, social, and policy factors that influence health disparities; she is particularly interested in how community design influences health behaviors and using the social determinants of health to improve overall health and wellbeing. She collaborates frequently with local partners in these efforts, including Three Square Food Bank, The Southern Nevada Health District, the Transportation Research Center, and planning departments within the local jurisdictions. She offers opportunities for students to gain hands on research experience.

Research Interests: The influence of environmental, social, and policy factors on health disparities; the relationship between the built environment and health behaviors

Courses Taught: Introduction to Public Health; Fundamentals of Public Health; Health Impact Assessment (experiential); Built Environment and Health; Injury Prevention and Public Health; Health Across the Lifespan; Health Studies of Dangerous Drugs

Recent Publications:

Coughenour, C., Regalado, M.N., Bungum, T. (in press). Healthy food options at dollar discount stores are equivalent in quality and lower in price compared to grocery stores: An examination in Las Vegas, NV. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*.

Bartshe, M., Coughenour, C., & Pharr, J. (2018). Perceived walkability, social capital, and self reported physical activity in Las Vegas college students. *Sustainability*, 10(9), 3023.

Pharr, J. R., Coughenour, C. A., & Bungum, T. J. (2018). An assessment of the relationship of physical activity, obesity, and chronic diseases/conditions between active/obese and sedentary/normal weight American women in a national sample. *Public Health*, 156, 117-123.

Gakh, M., Coughenour, C., Pharr, J., Goodie, A., To, S. (2017). Insights into how HIAs are characterized in the press: Findings from a media analysis of widely circulated United States newspapers. *Chronicles of Health Impact Assessment*, 2(1), 1-24.

Coughenour, C., Clark, S., Singh, A., Huebner, J. (2017). Are single entry communities and cul-de-sacs a barrier to active transport to school in 11 elementary schools in Las Vegas, NV metropolitan area? *Preventive Medicine Reports*, 6, 144-148.

Pharr, J., Gakh, M., Coughenour, C., Clark, S. (2017). Health impact assessment as an instrument to examine the health implications of education policies. *Public Health*, 145, 83-92.

Coughenour, C., Clark, S., Singh, A., Claw, E., Abelar, J., & Huebner, J. (2017). Examining racial bias

as a potential factor in pedestrian crashes. *Accident Analysis & Prevention*, 98, 96-100

Coughenour, C., Paz, A., Singh, A., De la Fuente, H. (2016). Multinomial logistic regression to estimate and predict perceptions of bicycle and transportation infrastructure in a sprawling metropolitan area. *Journal of Public Health*, 38(4), e401-e408.

Coughenour, C., & Burns, M. S. (2016). Community Design Impacts on Health Habits in Low-income Southern Nevadans. *American Journal of Health Behavior*, 40(4), 534-544.

Coughenour, C. & Bungum, T. Single entry communities increase trip distance and may overestimate neighborhood walkability. *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*, 12(S1), S46-52.

Chad L. Cross, PhD, MFT, PStat(R), C-MDI

Visiting Associate Professor

Keywords: *Biostatistics, mathematics, data science, mathematics education, sampling, experimental design*



Dr. Chad L. Cross is trained as a multidisciplinary scientist and holds advanced degrees in statistics, the life sciences, and the social sciences. He works professionally as a statistician and data scientist, and has specific interests in applied biostatistics, nonparametric methods, multivariate methods, research design and sampling methodology, analysis of messy data, complex analysis of big data, secondary data analysis, pattern recognition, data science, statistical genetics, and computer programming.

He has worked as a professional scientist, biostatistician, and consultant, as well as in academia, the federal government, and private industry. His technical education and research have resulted in recognition by the American Statistical Association as an Accredited Professional Statistician™. His research consistently involves working with multi-disciplinary research teams to bring statistical and analytical expertise to novel and interesting research questions. He applies his quantitative work broadly in medicine, healthcare, and STEM applications.

Research Interests: Biostatistics, medicine and health statistics applications, research design and sampling, analysis of nonstandard data sets, community-based research, environmental statistics applications, social science statistics applications, big data analytics and programming

Courses Taught: Personal Health Across the Lifespan, Biostatistical Methods for the Health Sciences, Nonparametric Statistics for Public Health, Linear Statistical Models, Survival Analysis for Public Health, Multivariate Methods for the Health Sciences

Current Projects: Statistical support for several ongoing medical projects, translational research in HIV/AIDS with the UNLV Global Health Initiative, sports-related injury with faculty at the University of Utah School of Medicine, rehabilitation medicine

Unique Resources: ASA Accredited Professional Statistician™; Advanced modeling and statistical analysis; Analysis in SAS, R, MINITAB, SPSS; Computer programming languages (Python, SQL, C#, VB.NET)

Recent Publications:

Young, S. M., Gryder, L. K., Cross, C. L., Zava, D., Norris, W., & Benyshek, D. C. Ingestion of steamed and dehydrated placenta capsules does not affect postpartum plasma prolactin levels or neonatal weight gain: Results from a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, pilot study. *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*. (In Press)

Reyes, A. T., Serafica, R., Cross, C. L., Constantino, R. E., & Arenas, R. A. Resilience, acculturative stress, and family norms against disclosure of mental health problems among foreign-born Filipino American women. *Asian/Pacific Island Nursing Journal*. (In Press)

Patel, T. Y., Buttner, M., Rivas, D., Cross, C., Bazylnski, D. A., & Seggev, J. Variation in airborne fungal spore concentrations among five monitoring locations in a desert urban environment. *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*, 190, 634, 10pp.

- Imran, S., Cross, C. L., & Das, S. Trends in incidence and characteristics of pediatric patients with non-accident trauma. *Journal of Investigative Medicine*.
- Teramoto, M., & Cross, C. L. Importance of team height to winning games in the National Basketball Association. *International Journal of Sports Science & Coaching*, 13(4), 559-568.
- Patel, T. Y., Buttner, M., Rivas, D., Cross, C., Bazyliniski, D. A., & Seggev, J. Variation in airborne pollen concentrations among five monitoring locations in a desert urban environment. *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*, 190, 424, 8pp.
- Teramoto, M., Cross, C. L., Cushman, D. M., & Willick, S. E. Boxing fatalities in relation to rule changes in Japan: secondary data analysis. *The Physician and Sportsmedicine*, 43(3), 349-354.
- Teramoto, M., Cross, C. L., Rieger, R. H., Maak, T. G., & Willick, S. E. Predictive Validity of National Basketball Association Draft Combine on Future Performance. *Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research*, 32(2), 396-408.
- Sam-Agudu, N. A., Pharr, J. R., Bruno, T., Cross, C. L., Cornelius, L. J., Okonkwo, P., Oyeledun, B., Khamofu, H., Olutola, A., Ereka, S., Menson, W., N. A., & Ezeanolue, E. E. Correction to: Adolescent coordinated transition (ACT) to improve health outcomes among young people living with HIV in Nigeria: Study protocol for a randomized controlled trial. *Trial*, 19, 104.
- Young, S., Gryder, L., Cross, C., Zava, D., Kimball, D., & Benyshek, D. C. Placentophagy's Effects of Placentophagy on Maternal Salivary Hormones: A Pilot Trial, Part 1. *Women and Birth*, 31, e245-e257.
- Young, S., Gryder, L., Cross, C., Zava, D., Kimball, D., & Benyshek, D. C. Placentophagy's Effects on Mood, Bonding, and Fatigue: A Pilot Trial, Part 2. *Women and Birth*, 31, e258-e271.
- Sam-Agudu, N. A., Pharr, J. R., Bruno, T., Cross, C. L., Cornelius, L. J., Okonkwo, P., Oyeledun, B., Khamofu, H., Olutola, A., Ereka, S., Menson, W., N. A., & Ezeanolue, E. E. Adolescent coordinated transition (ACT) to improve health outcomes among young people living with HIV in Nigeria: Study protocol for a randomized controlled trial. *Trials*, 18, 595-607.
- Teramoto, M., Cushman, D. M., Cross, C. L., Curtiss, H. M., & Willick, S. E. Game schedules and rate of concussions in the National Football League. *Orthopaedic Journal of Sports Medicine*, 5.
- Denby, R. W., Testa, M., Alford, K. A., Brinson, J., & Cross, C. Children's risks and well-being: Kinship caregiver's protective factors as mediating effects. *Child Welfare*, 95(4), 111-136.
- Ihekuna, J. D., Rosenberg, N., Menson, W. N. A., Gbadamosi, S. O., Olawepo, J. O., Chike-Okoli, A., Cross, C., Onoka, C., & Ezeanolue, E. E. Male partner involvement on initiation and sustainment of exclusive breastfeeding among HIV-infected post-partum women: Study protocol for a randomized control trial. *Maternal & Child Nutrition*, 1-7
- Enyinnaya, F., Cruz, P., Buttner, M. P., Cross, C. & Woodard, D. R. Comparison of Clinical & Laboratory Standards Institute standards in antimicrobial susceptibility among the carbapenemase producing *Enterobacteriaceae*. *Future Science OA*, 10.4155/fsoa-2017-0095.

Patricia Cruz, PhD

Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: QPCR, IAQ, fungi



Dr. Patricia Cruz is a Professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the UNLV School of Public Health. Since 1995, she has conducted research focused on enhanced molecular biology methods for the detection of microorganisms that pose a potential risk to human health. Dr. Cruz is a co-inventor of a patented method for the detection and quantification of fungi of indoor air quality concern. She has also conducted research involving antibiotic-resistant microorganisms and oral pathogens. She is the Co-Director of the Emerging Diseases Laboratory at UNLV and the Laboratory Lead Scientist of the UNLV Public Health Laboratory. Dr. Cruz received her PhD from the University of Nevada, Reno, and has been a member of the UNLV Institutional Biosafety Committee since 2007.

Research Interests: Enhanced detection of microorganisms of public health significance; Sampling and analysis of fungi of indoor air quality concern; Antibiotic-resistant microorganisms and antibiotic stewardship; Global public health

Courses Taught: Fundamentals of Environmental Health; Food Safety and Public Health; Diseases that Changed the World; Internship in Environmental Health; Doctoral Seminar

Current Projects: Analysis of environmental samples; Public health microbiology

Unique Resources: Nevada State Public Health Laboratory, UNLV Branch; Bioaerosol Test Chamber; Emerging Diseases Laboratory

Recent Publications:

Macher, J., D. Gold, P. Cruz, J.L. Kyle, T.S. Durrani, D. Shusterman. Evaluation and management of exposure to infectious agents. Handbook of Occupational Safety and Health. Wiley. *In Press*.

Woodard, D.R., M. Buttner, P. Cruz, and J. Roeder. 2018. Microbial Contamination of Privacy Curtains in the Emergency Department of a Metropolitan Hospital. *Journal of Hospital Infection*. 100(3):e153-e154.

Enyinnaya, F., P. Cruz, M.P. Buttner, C. Cross, and D.R. Woodard. 2017. Comparison of Clinical & Laboratory Standards Institute standards in antimicrobial susceptibility among the carbapenemase producing Enterobacteriaceae. *Future Science OA*. Ahead of Print & Published Online: 5 Oct 2017.

Mavegam, B.O., J.R. Pharr, P. Cruz, and E.E. Ezeanolue. 2017. Effective interventions to improve young adults' linkage to HIV care in Sub-Saharan Africa: a systematic review. *AIDS Care*. Mar 22:1-7.

Paula Frew, PhD, MPH

Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: Health disparities



Dr. Paula Frew is a Professor at the UNLV School of Public Health. Formerly she was a tenured Associate Professor of Medicine within the Division of Infectious Diseases at Emory University School of Medicine and Departments of Global Health and Behavioral Sciences and Health Education at the Emory Rollins School of Public Health. From 2014-2018, she has held an appointment as a visiting Health Scientist with the US Centers for Disease Control; she also served as a scientific collaborator at the Atlanta VA Medical Center.

Her research interests focus on addressing health disparities and developing interventions with community-based organizations, clinics, jails and detention centers, state/territorial, and federal, global/international entities to promote immunization acceptance and uptake strategies. She is the Principal Investigator on projects on behalf of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and foundations that address an array of HIV/AIDS issues across the prevention and care continuum. She currently has 5 research projects funded by CDC that examine HIV behavioral issues including PrEP refusal and unsuccessful initiation among MSM, MSM prevention behavior across the lifespan, treatment typologies, and care and syringe access program experiences among those living with addiction. She previously conducted HIV testing in jails and detention centers in Atlanta. Dr. Frew is a behavioral scientist and clinical researcher with many years of leading efforts within the NIH clinical trial networks to promote community involvement in biomedical research.

Recent Publications:

Frew PM, Murden, R, Mehta C, Chamberlain A, Hinman A, Nowak G, Mendel J, Aiken A, Randall LA, Hargreaves AL, Omer SB, Orenstein WA, Bednarczyk RA. (2019) Development of a Parental Vaccine Confidence Index for Monitoring and Assessment of Childhood Vaccine Decision-Making. *Vaccine* Jan 7;37(2):325-332.

Holloway IW, Wu ESC, Gildner J, Fenimore VL, Tan D, Randall L, Frew PM. Quadrivalent Meningococcal Vaccine Uptake Among Men Who Have Sex With Men During a Meningococcal Outbreak in Los Angeles County, California, 2016-2017. *Public Health Rep.* 2018 Sep/Oct;133(5):559-569.

Frew PM, Holloway IW, Goldbeck C, Wu E, Tan E, Nowak G, Mendel J, Aikan A, Randall L, Fenimore VL, Lutz C, Bednarczyk R. Development of a measure to assess vaccine confidence among men who have sex with men. (2018) *Expert Review of Vaccines* Nov;17(11):1053-1061.

Bergenfeld I, Nganga SW, Andrews CA, Fenimore VL, Otieno NA, Wilson AD, Chaves SS, Verani JR, Widdowson MA, Wairimu WN, Wandera, Atito RO, Adero MO, Frew PM, Omer SB, Malik FA (2018). Provider perspectives on demand creation for maternal vaccines in Kenya. *Gates Open Research*, [version 1; referees: 1 approved]. *Gates Open Res* 2018, 2:34.

Mehrotra A, Fisher AK, Mullen J, Rodriguez L, Jiles AJ, Albert AP, Randall LA, Frew PM. (2018) Provider Insight on Surmounting Specialty Practice Challenges to Improve Tdap Immunization Rates among Pregnant Women. *Heliyon* May 25;4(5):e00636. PMID:

- Montgomery BEE, Frew PM, Rompalo A, Hughes J, Wang J, Adimora A, Haley D, Justman J, Kuo I, Golin G, Jennings L, El-Bassell N, Hodder SL. for the HPTN 064 Study Team. (2018) HIV-Risk Characteristics and Syndemic Factors Associated with Violence Against Women: A Longitudinal Study Among Women in the United States. *J Women's Health* Jun 15.
- Holloway IW, Wu E, Gildner J, Fenimore VL, Frew PM. (2018) Immunization Acceptance and Reported Meningococcal Vaccine (MCV4) Status among Men-Who- Have-Sex-With-Men After a Meningitis Outbreak in Los Angeles, California (In Press – *Public Health Reports*)
- Holloway IW, Bednarczyk R, Fenimore VL, Goldbeck C, Wu E, Himmelstein R, Tan D, Randall L, Lutz CS, Frew PM. (2018) Factors Associated with Immunization Opinion Leadership among Men Who Have Sex with Men in Los Angeles, California. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 15(5):939: 1-12.
- Carey JW, Carnes N, Schoua-Glusberg A, Kenwlar K, Gelaude D, Denson D, Gall E, Berkowitz S, Randall LA, Frew PM. (2018) Barriers and Facilitators for Medical Care Engagement among HIV-positive African American and Latino Men who have Sex with Men. *AIDS Care and STDs* 2018 May;32(5):191-201.
- Spaulding A, Drobeniuc A, Frew PM, Lemon TL, Anderson E, Cerwonka C, Bowden C, Freshley J, Wortley P, del Rio C. (2018) Jail, an unappreciated medical home: the feasibility of a strengths-based case management intervention to improve the care retention of HIV-infected persons once released from jail. *PLoS One*. 2018 Mar 30;13(3): e0191643
- Frew PM, Randall LA, Malik F, Wilson A, Limaye R, O'Leary S, Donnelly M, Fenimore VL, Dudley MZ, Ault K, Salmon D, Omer SB. (2018) Clinician Perspectives on Strategies to Improve Patient Maternal Immunization. *Hum Vaccin Immunother*. 2018 Jan 9:1-10.
- Rouphael NG, Paine M, Mosley R, Henry S, McAllister DV, Kalluri H, Pewin W, Frew PM, Yu T, Thornburg N, Kabbani S, Lai L, Skountzoul, Compans RW, Mulligan MJ, and Prausnitz MR for the TIV-MNP 2015 Study Group. (2017) Safety, Immunogenicity and Acceptability of Inactivated Influenza Vaccine Delivered by Microneedle Patch. *Lancet* 2017: 390(10095):649-658.
- Chung Y, Fisher A, Schamel JS, Frew PM. (2017) Persuasive Influences on Immunization Decision-Making among US Parents of Young Children *Maternal Child Health Journal* 2017 July 28, PMID: 28755045
- Shapiro E, Schamel JT, Parker K, Frew PM. Relationships among Functional Ability, Social Interaction, and Transportation that Predict Clinical Research Participation among Church-going African American Seniors. *Open J Clinical Trials* 2017, 9:21-30, PMCID: 5552064.
- Rolle, C. P., Rosenberg, E. S., Luisi, N., Grey, J., Sanchez, T., Del Rio, C., Peterson JL, Frew PM, Sullivan PS, & Kelley, C. F. Willingness to use pre-exposure prophylaxis among Black and White men who have sex with men in Atlanta, Georgia. *International Journal of STD & AIDS*, 2017: 28(9): 849-857.

Max Gakh, JD, MPH

Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: QPCR, IAQ, fungi



Max Gakh is an Assistant Professor at the UNLV School of Public Health and the Associate Director of the UNLV Health Law Program. His research centers on the intersection of law, policy, and public health, and investigates how legal mechanisms and policies can improve (or hinder) the health of communities. It includes exploring the government's legal authority to promote public health; laws relevant to public health emergencies; and laws and policies outside the health sector that impact health.

He is especially interested in interdisciplinary research and education. Prior to joining the faculty, he worked with public health professionals to address real-world public health issues through law and policy and worked as a non-partisan legislative attorney. He received his AB from Washington University in

St. Louis, JD from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, and MPH from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. He is an admitted member of the State of Ohio Bar, certified in Public Health, and has held leadership roles in the Law Section of the American Public Health Association.

Research Interests: How law and policy impact health mediators and outcomes, with an emphasis on the exercise of governmental authority across public health areas, including healthy public policy and public health preparedness.

Courses Taught: Public Health Law; Public Health Policy; Health Impact Assessment; Healthcare Law

Current Projects: The intersection of education and health policy; physician mandatory reporting laws; executive orders and public health; prevention in health reform

Unique Resources: Legal research and analysis skills, policy experience, community engagement

Recent Publications:

Gakh, M., Callahan, K., Goodie, A., & Rutkow, L. (2018). How have states used executive orders to address public health? *Journal of Public Health, Management, and Practice*.

Suneja, A., Gakh, M., & Rutkow, L. (2018). Burdens and management of non-communicable diseases after earthquakes and tsunamis. *Health Security*. 16(1), 30-47.

Gase, L., DeFosset, A., Gakh, M., Harris, E.C., Weisman, S.R., & Dannenberg, A.L. (2017). Review of education-focused health impact assessments conducted in the United States. *Journal of School Health* 87 (12), 911-922.

Gakh, M., Coughenour, C.A., Pharr, J., Goodie, A., & To, S. (2017). Insights into how HIAs are characterized in the press: findings from a media analysis of widely circulated United States newspapers. *Chronicles of Health Impact Assessment*, 2(1), 1-24.

- Gakh, M., Labus, B., & Walker, B. Characteristics of laws requiring physicians to report patient information for public health surveillance: Notable patterns from a Nevada case study. (2017). *Journal of Community Health*. Advance online publication.
- Gakh M., & Rutkow, L. (2017). Lessons from public health legal preparedness to operationalize Health in All Policies. *The Journal of Law, Medicine, and Ethics* 45(3), 392-401.
- Pharr, J., Gakh, M., Coughenour, C.A., & Clark, S. (2017). Health Impact Assessment as an instrument to examine health implications of pending school-related policies. *Public Health*, 145, 83-92.
- Gakh, M., & Weisman, S.R. (2016). *STRIDE toward health equity: Health in All Policies in Minnesota*. St. Paul, MN: Public Health Law Center at Hamline Mitchell School of Law & Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota Center for Preventi

Erika Marquez, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: children's health, health disparities, housing, program evaluation, public health policy



Dr. Erika Marquez is an Assistant Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree from San Francisco State University and completed her Master of Public Health degree in Epidemiology and Biostatistics and her PhD in Public Health with a focus in Social and Behavioral Health at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She has devoted the last decade of her career to working on local issues focused on housing quality, housing-related health concerns, and housing equity. In September 2016, Dr. Marquez was appointed to the U.S. Office of Minority Health's Pacific and Southwest Regional Health Equity Council. In May 2016, Governor Brian Sandoval appointed Dr. Marquez to the Board of Registered Environmental Health Specialists. She also sits on the Clark County Department of Social Services Citizens Advisory Committee and is an active member of the Nevada Minority Health and Equity Coalition. She also serves as a part-time instructor for the UNLV School of Public Health. Dr. Marquez is passionate and committed to improving the lives and health of the residents of Nevada.

Research Interests: The built environment; the impacts of substandard housing, poverty, social determinants of health as they impact vulnerable populations; health care infrastructure; health care access; and ways to approach public health policy and programs utilizing systematic approaches, including Health Impact Assessments.

Courses Taught: Introduction to Public Health; Health Studies on Dangerous Drugs

Current Projects: Assessing the impacts of living in poverty and upward mobility; annual assessment of health of children entering kindergarten; translation of research to policy; and advocating for children and families in Nevada.

Recent Publications:

Haboush, A., Marquez, E., & Gerstenberger, S. (2017). Determining childhood blood lead level screening compliance among physicians. *Journal of Community Health*. Advanced online publication.

Sokolowsky, A., Marquez, E., Sheehy, E., Barber, C., & Gerstenberger, S. (2017). Health hazards in the home: An assessment of a southern Nevada community. *Journal of Community Health*. Advanced online publication.

Burns, M., Shah, L., Marquez, E., Denton, S., Neyland, B., Vereschagin, D., Gremse, D., & Gerstenberger, S. (2012). Efforts to identify at-risk children for blood lead screening in pediatric clinics, Clark County, Nevada. *Clinical Pediatrics*, 51(11), 1048-1055.

Saxena, K., Mora, L.B., Torres, E., Hall, R., Delizoona, L., Torres, A., Durkin, A., & Steiner, H. (2010). Divalproex Sodium – ER in outpatients with disruptive behavior disorders: a three months open label study. *Child Psychiatry and Human Development*, 41(3), 274-284.

Jennifer Pharr, PhD

Graduate Coordinator; Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health

Keywords: *HIV/AIDS, sexual minorities, social marketing, social cognitive theory, sport*



Dr. Jennifer Pharr is an Associate Professor in the Environmental and Occupational Health Department at the UNLV School of Public Health. Her research focuses on barriers that impede healthy behaviors such as preventive care and disease prevention; interventions to reduce barriers to healthy behaviors; disparities in healthcare/health service utilization of vulnerable populations; the intersection of sport, physical activity, and health; and the use of social marketing to promote health.

Dr. Pharr worked in healthcare for 15 years prior to becoming a professor of public health. Now she uses her research and teaching to improve population health rather than individual health.

Research Interests: Use of the social cognitive theory to identify facilitators and barriers to healthcare and healthy behaviors, health disparities and implementation science with a special focus on HIV risk, barriers to prevention, and effective interventions for prevention, adolescent risk behaviors, barriers to testing and role of health locus of control on risky behavior.

Courses Taught: Introduction to Public Health; Global Health; Mixed Methods Research; Research Ethics; Technical Writing; Health Across the Lifespan.

Current Projects: Developing an effective intervention to transition HIV positive adolescents from pediatric to adult care; developing an effective intervention to increase HIV testing among young sexual minority populations.

Recent Publications:

Olawepo, J., Pharr, J. Kachen, A. (in press). The Use of Social Marketing Campaigns to Increase HIV Testing Uptake: A Systematic Review. *AIDS Care*.

Wong, T., Pharr, J., Bungum, T., Coughenour, C., Lough, N. (in press, 2018). Effects of Peer Sexual Health Education on College Campuses: A Systematic Review. *Health Promotion Practice*

Yamashita, T., Keene, J. R., Moonie, S., Shen, J., Pharr, J., & Yoo, J. W. (in press). Literacy Activity and Health among Older Adults in the U.S. *Educational Gerontology*.

Wells, K., Moonie, S., Pharr, J., Anderson, J. (in press, 2018). Association Between Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention During Routine Check-ups and Alcohol Consumption Among Adults Living in California. *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing*.

Ezeanolue, E., Pharr, J., Patel, D., Ezeanolue, C., Obiefune, M., Ogidi, A., Ehiri, J. (in press, 2018). Developing a Theoretical Framework for a Complex Maternal-Child Health Intervention: Health Beginning Initiative. *Health Promotion Practice*.

Irwin, C., Pharr, J., Layne, T., Irwin, R. (2018). Youth Swimming Ability and Associated Factors in the United States, 2010-17. *American Journal of Health Behavior*. 42(5): 32-42.

- Badejo, O., Menson, W., Sam-Agudu, N., Pharr, J., Ereka, S., Bruno, T., Nwanne, G., Ogunsola, O., Ilozumba, J., Busari, O., Ezeanolue, E. (2018). Pediatric to Adult Healthcare Transitioning for Adolescents Living with HIV in Nigeria: A National Survey. *PLOS One*. 13(6): 1-13.
- Bartshe, M., Coughenour, C., Pharr, J. (2018). Perceived Walkability, Social Capital, and Self-Reported Physical Activity in Las Vegas College Students. *Sustainability*. 10 (3023): 1-11.
- Slinkard, S., Pharr, J., Bruno, T., Patel, D., Ogidi, A., Obiefune, M., Ezeanolue, E. (2018). Determinants of Infant Mortality in Southeast Nigeria: Results from the Healthy Beginning Initiative, 2013-2014. *International Journal of Maternal Child Health and AIDS*. 7(1): 1-8.
- Pharr, J., Irwin, C., Layne, T., Irwin, R. (2018). Predictors of Swimming Ability among Children and Adolescents in the United States. *Sports*. 6(17):1-17.
- Pharr, J., Coughenour, C., Bungum, T. (2018). Assessing the relationship of physical activity, obesity and chronic diseases/conditions between active/obese and sedentary/normal weight American women in a nation sample. *Public Health*. 156:117-123.
- Sam-Agudu, N., Pharr, J., Bruno, T., Cross, CL., Cornelius, L., Okonkwo, P., Oyeledun, B., Khamofu, H., Olutola, A., Ereka, S., Menson, W., Ezeanolue, EE. (2017). Adolescent Coordinated Transition (ACT) to Improve Health Outcomes among Young People Living with HIV in Nigeria: Protocol for a Cluster-Randomized Controlled Trial. *Trials*. 18:595.
- Pharr, J., Enejoh, V., Mavegam, B., Olutola, O., Karick, H., & Ezeanolue, E. (in press). The role of HIV/AIDS knowledge in risky sexual behaviors of adolescents in Nigeria. *International Journal of High Risk Behavior and Addiction*.
- Bumgarden, K., Pharr, J., Buttner, M., & Ezeanolue, E. (2017). Interventions that increase the intention to seek voluntary HIV testing in young people: A systematic review. *AIDS Care*, 29(3), 365-371.
- Chizoba, A., Pharr, J., Oodo, G., Ezeobi, E., Ilozumba, J., Egharevba, J., Ezeanolue, E., & Nwandu, A. (2017). Increasing HIV testing among pregnant women in Nigeria: Evaluating the traditional birth attendant and primary health center integration (TAP-In) model. *AIDS Care*, 29(9), 1094-1098.
- Egharevba, J., Pharr, J., van Wyk, B., & Ezeanolue, E. (2017). Factors influencing the choice of delivery location among women in Ebonyi State of Nigeria. *International Journal of Maternal Child Health and HIV*, 6(1), 81-91.
- Ezeanolue, E., Obiefune, M., Yang, W., Ezeanolue, C., Pharr, J., Osuji, A., Ogidi, A., Hunt, A., Patel, D., Ogedegbe, G., & Ehiri, J. (2017). What do you need to get male partners of pregnant women tested for HIV in resource limited settings? The baby shower cluster randomized trial. *AIDS & Behavior*, 21, 587-596.
- Mavegam, B., Pharr, J., Cruz, P., & Ezeanolue, E. (2017). Effective interventions to improve young adults' linkage to HIV care in Sub-Saharan Africa: A systematic Review. *AIDS Care*.

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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HEALTH

Melva Thompson-Robinson, DrPH

Program Coordinator; Professor of Social and Behavioral Health

Keywords: *health disparities, health of African Americans, sexual health, HIV/AIDS prevention, teen pregnancy prevention*



Dr. Melva Thompson-Robinson is a Professor of Social and Behavioral Health at the UNLV School of Public Health. She teaches courses and mentors students in social and behavioral health and health disparities. Dr. Thompson-Robinson serves as the Executive Director of the Center for Health Disparities Research in the School of Public Health, where she provides community leadership to address health disparities that exist in Southern Nevada, as well as statewide, regionally, and nationally.

She is Co-Editor of the *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*, a nationally known peer reviewed publication.

Research Interests: Health Disparities; Health of African Americans; Sexual Health; HIV/AIDS Prevention; Teen Pregnancy Prevention

Courses Taught: Multicultural Health; Program Planning and Evaluation; Program Planning and Grant Writing in Health Promotion; Health Program Evaluation

Unique Resources: Center for Health Disparities Research, Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice

Recent Publications:

Thompson-Robinson, M, Lee, MC, Atkins-Girouard, P, Andrews, J, Shegog, M. (In Press). Teen Pregnancy Prevention and African American Faith-Based Organizations: Lessons Learned from the Southern Nevada Teen Pregnancy Prevention Project. *Journal of Public Health Issues and Practices*.

Lee, M. C., Thompson-Robinson, M., & Dodge Francis, C. (2018). *Feasibility and Acceptability of an Adapted HIV Prevention Intervention for Native American Adolescents*. *AIDS Education and Prevention*. 30(1): 72-84.

Wells, B., Lopez, I., Jarmon, B., Thompson-Robinson, M., Dutton, M., Lee, T., & Grzywacz, J. *Physical Activity Knowledge and Adherence among Black College-Educated Women*. *American Journal of Health Behavior*. Submitted: 2017.

Wells, B. and Thompson-Robinson, M. (2016). Using the Health Belief Model to Identify Perceived Barriers to Mammography Re-Screening among African-American Women. *Nevada Journal of Public Health*. 13: 1-9.

Smallwood, S. W., Spencer, S. M., Annang Ingram, L., Thrasher, J. F., Thompson-Robinson, M. (2016). Different Dimensions: Internalized Homonegativity among African American Men who Have Sex with Men. *Journal of Homosexuality*. [epub ahead of print].

Jason Flatt, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral Health

Keywords: Aging, Dementia, Cognition, Health Disparities, Sexual and Gender Minorities, LGBT, Vulnerable Populations, Healthcare workforce, Intersex populations



Dr. Jason D. Flatt (He/Him/His) is an Assistant Professor in the Social and Behavioral Health Program at the UNLV School of Public Health. Jason's current research works to better understand the risk and protective factors for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias among LGBTQ seniors. He also is exploring the role of affordable and inclusive housing for LGBTQ seniors (Building Healthy Outcomes Using a Supportive Environment or Building H.O.U.S.E).

His research interests focus on improving health among vulnerable aging populations, including sexual and gender minorities, racial/ethnic minorities, and other disadvantaged groups.

Research Interests: Aging, Dementia, Cognition, Health Disparities, Sexual and Gender Minorities (LGBTQ), Community-Based Participatory Research

Courses Taught: Community-Based Participatory Research

Current Projects: The epidemiology of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias in sexual and gender minority older adults: Identifying risk and protective Factors (Funded by NIH/NIA; K01AG056669; 2018 – 2023)

Exploring the associations between risk and protective factors and the health of older sexual and gender minority Asian Americans (Funded by Rutgers Asian Resource Center for Minority Aging Research/NIA; P30AG059304; 2019 – 2020)

Generational change in the effects of gender on cognition in a nationally representative cohort study (Funded by the American Federation for Aging Research; 2020 – 2021)

Building Healthy Outcomes Using a Supportive Environment (H.O.U.S.E) for sexual and gender minority older adults (Funded by the California Health Care Foundation and private donations; 2019 – 2022)

Unique Resources: Mixed-methods research, neuroimaging training, and Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES)

Recent Publications:

Lambrou NH, Cochran KM, Everhart S, Flatt JD, Zuelsdorff M, O'Hara JB, Weinhardt L, Flowers-Benton S, Gleason CE. Learning from Transmasculine Experiences with Healthcare: Tangible Inlets for Reducing Health Disparities Through Patient-Provider Relationships. *Transgender Health*, in press, 1-15.

Perales-Puchalt J, Gauthreaux K, Flatt J, Teylan MA, Resendez J, Kukull WA, Chan KCG, Burns J, Vidoni

ED. Risk of dementia and mild cognitive impairment among older adults in same-sex relationships. *Int J Geriatr Psychiatry*. 2019 Jun;34(6):828-835. doi: 10.1002/gps.5092. Epub 2019 Apr 22.

Flatt JD. Addressing Life Course Trauma and Cardiometabolic Risk in Sexual Minority Women. *J Womens Health*. 2019 Sep; 28(9):1177-1178.

Anderson JG, Flatt JD. Characteristics of LGBT caregivers of older adults: Results from the National Caregiving in the U.S. 2015 Survey. *J Gay Lesbian Soc Serv*. 2018; 30:2, 103-116, DOI: 10.1080/10538720.2018.1440681

Johnson JK, Stewart AL, Acree M, Nápoles AM, Flatt JD, Max WB, Gregorich SE. A Community Choir Intervention to Promote Well-being among Diverse Older Adults: Results from the Community of Voices Trial. *J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci*. 2018 Nov 09

Flatt JD, Johnson JK, Karpiak SE, Seidel L, Larson B, Brennan-Ing M. Correlates of Subjective Cognitive Decline in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Older Adults. *J Alzheimers Dis*. 2018;64(1):91-102. doi: 10.3233/JAD-171061.

Gilsanz P, Mayeda ER, Flatt J, Glymour MM, Quesenberry CP, Whitmer RA. Early Midlife Pulmonary Function and Dementia Risk. *Alzheimer Dis Assoc Disord*. 2018 Oct-Dec; 32(4):270-275.

Hollister B, Flatt JD, Chapman SA. Dementia-Capable Care Coordination in Duals Demonstration Programs: Workforce Needs, Promising Practices, and Policy. *Gerontologist*. 2018 07 13; 58(4):768-778.

Flatt JD, Gilsanz P, Quesenberry CP, Albers KA, Whitmer RA. Post-traumatic stress disorder and risk of dementia among members of a healthcare delivery. *Alzheimer's & Dementia*, 2018; 64(1):91-102.

Flatt JD, Williams BA, Barnes D, Goldenson J, Ahalt C. Post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms and associated health and social vulnerabilities in older jail inmates. *Aging Ment Health*, 2017 Oct; 21(10):1106-1112. PMID: PMC5580931

Rosso AL, Flatt JD, Carlson MC, Lovasi GS, Rosano C, Brown AF, Matthews KA, Gianaros PJ. Neighborhood Socioeconomic Status and Cognitive Function in Late Life. *Am J Epidemiol*. 2016 06 15; 183(12):1088-97. PMID: 27257114.

Flatt JD, Rosso AL, Aizenstein HJ, Schulz R, Longstreth WT, Newman AB, Fowler NR, Rosano C. Social Network Size and Cranial Magnetic Resonance Imaging Findings in Older Adults: The Cardiovascular Health Study. *J Am Geriatr Soc*. 2015 Nov; 63(11):2430-2.

Timothy Grigsby, PhD

Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral Health

* Bio and additional details coming soon *

Recent Publications:

- Forster, M., Grigsby, T. J., Gower, A. L., Mehus, C. J., & McMorris, B. J. (in press). Social support, childhood adversity, and suicide behaviors: Latent class analysis of a population-based sample of high school students. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*.
- Yin, Z., Lesser, J., Grigsby, T. J., Paiva, K. A., Zapata, J., Ryan-Pettes, S., et al. (2020). Using mHealth tools to engage rural underserved residents in a diabetes education program in South Texas. *Journal of Medical Internet Research mhealth & uhealth*, 8(3), e16683, doi: [10.2196/16683](https://doi.org/10.2196/16683)
- Grigsby, T. J., Forster, M., Davis, L. & Unger, J. B. (online first). Impact of household incarceration on substance use outcomes among Hispanic emerging adults. *Journal of Ethnicity on Substance Abuse*.
- Forster, M., Vetrone, S.*, Grigsby, T. J., Rogers, C.*, & Unger, J. B. (online first). The longitudinal association between adverse childhood experiences, dimensions of emerging adulthood, and substance use patterns in a community sample of Hispanics. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*.
- Forster, M., Rogers, C.*, Benjamin, S. M., Grigsby, T. J., Lust, K., & Eisenberg, M. E. (2019). Adversity, ethnicity, and substance use: Findings from a diverse two-college sample. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 54(14), 2368-2379.
- Forster, M., Davis, L., Grigsby, T. J., Rogers, C. J.*, Vetrone, S.*, & Unger, J. B. (2019). The role of familial incarceration and ethnic identity in suicidal ideation and suicide attempt: Findings from a longitudinal study of Hispanics in California. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 64(1-2), 191-202.
- Grigsby, T. J. (2019). Development and psychometric properties of the Tobacco and Nicotine Consequences Scale (TANCS) to screen for cigarette and e-cigarette misuse in community settings. *Addictive Behaviors*, 98, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2019.106058>
- Grigsby, T. J. & Howard, J. T. (2019). Prescription opioid misuse and comorbid substance use: Prevalence, patterns, correlates and co-occurring health indicators in the 2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. *The American Journal on Addictions*, 28(2), 111-118.
- Grigsby, T. J., & McLawhorn, J.* (2019). Missing data techniques and the statistical conclusion validity of survey-based alcohol and drug use research studies: A review and comment on reproducibility. *Journal of Drug Issues*, 49(1), 44-56.
- Grigsby, T. J., Forster, M., & Sussman, S. (2018). Preliminary psychometric evaluation of the micro-condescension scale for individuals in substance use treatment. *Journal of Addictive Diseases*, 37(1-2), 87-95.

Amanda E. Morgan, PhD, MPH

Associate Professor-In-Residence of Social and Behavioral Health

Keywords: *sex education, sexuality education, body-safe materials in adult sexuality products, environmental justice, environmental and reproductive health issues, and sexuality education*



Dr. Amanda Morgan is an Associate Professor-in-Residence for the Social and Behavioral Health Program of the Environmental and Occupational Health Department at the UNLV School of Public Health. Amanda Morgan has been teaching undergraduate and graduate-level courses for the School of Public Health since 2011, after completing graduate school at UNLV.

Dr. Morgan is actively involved in community-based education and advocacy around issues of sexuality education and health. Her research interests include human sexual behavior, body-safe materials in adult sexuality products, environmental and reproductive health issues, environmental justice, reproductive justice, and sexuality education.

Research Interests: Sexuality education; human sexual behavior and body-safe materials in adult sexuality products; environmental justice; environmental and reproductive health issues; and the intersections of environmental and reproductive justice.

Courses Taught: Education for Sexuality; Seminar in Environmental Justice; Introduction to Public Health

Recent Publications:

Weeks, G. R., Morgan, A. E. (2014). Why study sexology? In Vaidya, K. (Ed.), *Sexology for the Curious*. Canberra, Australia: Curious Academic Publishing.

Morgan, A. (2016). Book review: "Sex, shame, and violence: A revolutionary practice of storytelling in poor communities." *AIDS Education and Prevention*, 28(5), 453–454.

Weeks, G. R., & **Morgan, A. E.** (2014). "Why Study Sexology?" In Vaidya, K. (Ed.), *Sexology for the Curious*. Canberra, Australia: Curious Academic Publishing.

Charles Regin, PhD

Undergraduate Coordinator; Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral Health

Keywords: *genetics-enhanced model, Meta-analysis, genotype imputation*



Dr. Charles Regin is the undergraduate coordinator and Assistant Professor of Social and Behavior Health at the UNLV School of of Public Health. 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. He is the recipient of eight 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 UNLV.

He has also initiated the transition of numerous school and department classes from lecture format to online offerings. His service career has included work with the Nevada state legislature, three fire departments in Southern Nevada and providing input and leadership to numerous school-wide committees. Dr. Regin has also served as graduate coordinator, undergraduate public health program coordinator, and department chair.

Research Interests:

Presentation methodology; curriculum design; and stress management

Courses Taught:

Personal Health Across the Lifespan; An Introduction to Public Health; Stress Management; and Public Health Capstone

Manoj Sharma, MBBS, PhD, MCHES

Professor of Social and Behavioral Health



Dr. Manoj Sharma, MBBS, Ph.D., MCHES ® is a Professor of Social and Behavioral Health in the Department of Environmental & Occupational Health in the School of Public Health. He is a public health physician with a medical degree from the *University of Delhi* and a doctorate in Preventive Medicine (Public Health) from *The Ohio State University*. He is also a master certified health education specialist certified from the *National Commission on Health Education Credentialing*. In his career, spanning over 30 years, he has trained/taught over 6,000 health professionals at 13 national and international universities working full time or part-time.

Dr. Sharma is a prolific researcher and as of August 2020 had published 10 books, over 280 peer-reviewed research articles, and over 450 other publications and secured funding for over \$4 million (h-index 36, i-10 index 147, and over 7,000 citations). He has been awarded several prestigious honors including American Public Health Association's Mentoring Award, ICTHP Impact Award, William R. Gemma Distinguished Alumnus Award from the College of Public Health Alumni Society at the *Ohio State University* and others.

Research Interests: Developing and evaluating evidence-based health behavior change interventions, obesity prevention, stress-coping, community-based participatory research, integrative mind-body-spirit interventions

Recent Publications:

Sharma, M., Largo-Wight, E., Kanekar, A., Kusumoto, H., Hooper, S., & Nahar, V. K. (2020). Using the multi-theory model (MTM) of health behavior change to explain intentional outdoor nature contact behavior among college students. *International Journal of Environmental Research and PublicHealth*, 17, 6104. doi: 10.3390/ijerph17176104

Brown, L., Sharma, M., Leggett, S., Sung, J. H., Bennett, R. L., & Azevedo, M. (2020). Efficacy testing of the SAVOR (Sisters Adding Fruits and Vegetables for Optimal Results) intervention among African American women: A randomized controlled trial. *Health Promotion Perspectives*, 10(3), 270-280. doi: 10.34172/hpp.2020.41

Claros, E., Nahar, V. K., Mafi, M., Eliadi, C., Abu-Moustafa, S., & Sharma, M. (2020). Using the multi-theory model of health behavior change to identify correlates of change in substance use behavior in a mental health clinic-based sample. *Journal of Substance Use*. DOI: 10.1080/14659891.2020.1745309

Chirico, F., Sharma, M., Zaffina, S., & Magnavita, N. (2020). Spirituality and prayer on teacher stress and burnout in an Italian cohort: A pilot, before-after controlled study. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 10, 2933. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.02933>

Jefferson, T., Addison, C., Sharma, M., Payton, M., & Jenkins, B. (2019). Association between sleep and obesity in African Americans in the Jackson Heart Study. *The Journal of the American*

Osteopathic Association, 119, 656-666. doi:10.7556/jaoa.2019.113

- Hayes, T., *Sharma, M.*, Shahbazi, M., Sung, J. H., Bennett, R., & Reese-Smith, J. (2019). The evaluation of a fourth-generation multi-theory model (MTM) based intervention to initiate and sustain physical activity in African American women. *Health Promotion Perspectives, 9*(1), 13-23. doi: 10.15171/hpp.2019.02.
- Dokun-Mowete, C. A., *Sharma, M.*, & Beatty, F. (2019). Using multi-theory model to predict low salt intake among Nigerian adults with hypertension. *International Quarterly of Community Health Education 39*(4), 245-255. doi: 10.1177/0272684X18821308
- Sharma, M.*, Anyimukwu, C., Kim, R. W., Nahar, V. K., & Ford, M. A. (2018). Predictors of responsible drinking among college students who binge drink: A multi-theory model (MTM) approach. *The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association, 118*(8), 519-530. doi: 10.7556/jaoa.2018.120.
- Sharma, M.*, Stephens, P. M., Nahar, V. K., Catalano, H. P., Lingam, V., & Ford, M. A. (2018). Using multi-theory model to predict initiation and sustenance of fruit and vegetable consumption among college students. *The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association, 118*(8), 507-517. doi:10.7556/jaoa.2018.119
- Bridges, L., *Sharma, M.*, Lee, J. H., Bennett, R., Buxbaum, S., & Reese-Smith, J. (2018). Using the PRECEDE-PROCEED model for an online peer-to-peer suicide prevention and awareness for depression (SPAD) intervention among African American college students: Experimental study. *Health Promotion Perspectives, 8*(1), 15-24. doi: 10.15171/hpp.2018.02.
- Khoury, B., *Sharma, M.*, Rush, S.E., & Fournier, C. (2015). Mindfulness-based stress reduction for healthy individuals: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Psychosomatic Research, 78*(6), 519-528. doi: 10.1016/j.jpsychores.2015.03.009.

Marya Shegog, PhD, MPH, CHES

Assistant Professor of Social and Behavioral Health

Keywords: *health disparities, health equity, HIV/AIDS, sex, sexual health, women's health, stress and coping, CBPR, organizational management*



Dr. Marya Shegog is an Assistant Professor within the School of Public Health, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Social and Behavioral Health Program. She is a graduate of the University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health where she attained her Masters and PhD in Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior and a graduate Certificate in Women's Studies. She is also certified as a Community Health Educator Specialist (CHES). Dr. Shegog's career spans across two decades and includes public and private sectors, community based participatory research (CBPR), HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, corporate research and organizational planning, evaluation, and implementation. In Las Vegas, her work includes working to

create and expand the health infrastructure in southern Nevada, one of the fastest growing regions in the country. Dr. Shegog focuses on identifying and addressing health disparities to achieve health equity for everyone. She is a community leader and a dynamic board member for select community based and non-profit organizations that align with creating health equity. Dr. Shegog is one of the editors of the *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*, and actively participates in creating unique research and community development partnerships that support knowledge, education and improved health outcomes in southern Nevada. She has presented her research and expertise locally, nationally and internationally. She has received countless awards, commendations and recognitions for her efforts in HIV/AIDS prevention, health equity and community development. Fundamentally, Dr. Shegog believes that by addressing people, not disease, health equity will be achieved.

Research Interests: Stress and coping among women of color; sexual and reproductive health across the lifecycle; health equity/health disparities; community based participatory research (CBPR); capacity building; and cultural competency

Courses Taught: Special Topics in Public Health: Women's Health Across the Lifespan; Theory- Based Behavioral Change in Health Promotion; Community Based Participatory Research; Health Promotion and Wellness; Multicultural Health; Introduction to Public Health; Gender, Race and Class

Current Projects: Access and availability of over the counter emergency contraceptives; Evaluation of "You Got the Power" behavioral health intervention

Recent Publications:

Shegog, M. (2014). Acculturation. In L. Cousins (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of human services and diversity* (14-16). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

Shegog, M. (2014). Social determinants of health. In L. Cousins (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of human services and diversity* (1209-1210). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

Shegog, M. (2014). Women minorities. In L. Cousins (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of human services and diversity* (1390-1392). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc.

EPIDEMIOLOGY & BIOSTATISTICS

UNLV
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Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

ACADEMIC FACULTY

Sheniz Moonie, PhD – Department Chair and Professor of Biostatistics

Tim Bungum, DrPH - Professor of Epidemiology

Lung-Chang 'JoJo' Chien, DrPH - Assistant Professor of Biostatistics

Ge Lin Kan, PhD - Professor of Epidemiology

Brian Labus, PhD, MPH - Assistant Professor of Epidemiology

Guogen Shan, PhD - Associate Professor of Biostatistics

Ann Vuong, DrPH, MPH - Assistant Professor of Epidemiology

Qing Wu, MD, ScD - Associate Professor of Biostatistics

Sheniz Moonie, PhD

Chair and Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Keywords: *asthma data, chronic disease data, epidemiology, biostatistics, complex survey data*



Dr. Sheniz Moonie is a Professor and Chair for the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the UNLV School of Public Health. Her primary research focus is asthma surveillance with a focus on the clinical management, risk factors, and disparities. She has acquired extramural grant funding and published approximately 50 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals. Currently, Dr. Moonie is conducting active research investigating the relationship between asthma and obesity among underserved minority children. She is the Southern Nevada director for the CDC funded Nevada Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, which provides data regarding the health status of adult Nevadans.

Research Interests: Pediatric and adult asthma (surveillance and tracking, clinical management, and environmental triggers); chronic disease health disparities and trends; and complex weighted health survey data

Courses Taught: Applied Linear Statistical Models; Chronic Disease Epidemiology; Biostatistical Methods for the Health Sciences; Survey Sampling; Epidemiology and Public Health

Current Projects: Nevada Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey administration and management; Identifying and understanding the association between Asthma, Allergy, and Obesity; UNLV SPH – UNLV School of Medicine Chronic Disease Health Liaison

Unique Resources: Asthma Data; Longitudinal Chronic Disease Data; Nevada BRFSS Data; coding for complex survey data

Recent Publications:

Cross C, Kumar P, De Leon J, Anderson J, Moonie S. Rural-Urban Continuum as a Potential Geographic Correlate of Breast and Prostate Cancer Mortality: A Case Study of Nevada, USA (In Progress – 2018)

Moore, C, Moonie, S, Anderson J. Factors Associated with Rapid Readmission Among Nevada State Psychiatric Hospital Patients. (In Press 2018 – *Community Mental Health Journal*)

Yamashita T, Keene, J, Moonie S, et al. Literacy Activity and Health among Older Adults in the U.S (In Press 2018 – *Educational Gerontology*)

Gore, J., Moonie, S., Anderson J, Shan, G. Differences in Perceived Importance of Preventative Services and Healthcare Provider Trust among Hispanics. (Under Review 2018 – *Journal of the Nevada Public Health Association*)

Goertz A., Moonie S. The Impact of Economic Recession on the Health of Adult Nevadans (Under Review 2018 – *Global Health Governance*)

Wells K, Moonie S, Pharr J. Association Between Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention During Routine Check-Ups and Alcohol Consumption among Adults Living in California (Accepted 2018 - *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing*)

- Ganta V, Moonie S, Labus B. Interventions to Reduce Barriers for Cervical Cancer Screening in HIV-Positive Women: A Systematic Review (Under Review – *Aids Care Journal* 2018)
- Admasu E, De Leon J, Moonie S, Cross C. A Summary of Nevada High School Youth Risk Behavior: YRBSS 2015 (Under Review – *Health Education Journal* 2018)
- Moonie S, Hogan MB. Challenges for the Clinician: Physical Activity among Severe Asthmatic Patients with Co-morbid Obesity. (*JACI in Practice*, Volume 6 Issue 3; 823-824. (Note *Impact Factor 5.317)
- Lucas JA, Moonie S, Hogan MB, Evans W. Efficacy of an Exercise Intervention among Children with Comorbid Asthma and Obesity. 2018: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.puhe.2018.02.014>
- Pergola B, Moonie S, Pharr J, Bungum T, Anderson J. Sleep Duration Associated with Cardiovascular Conditions Among Adult Nevadans. *Sleep Medicine* 34 209e216, 2017.
- Ganta V, Moonie S, Patel D, Hunt H et al. Quality Improvement Interventions to improve Annual Papanicolaou (PAP) smear rates among HIV-infected Women. *AIDS Care*.
- Crittenden A, Sorrentino J, Moonie S et al. Oral health among the Hadza of Tanzania: Implications of a Transition Diet from Bush to Village. *PLoS ONE*, 12(3), 1-19. March 2017
- Chawla V, Hogan MB, Moonie S, Fenwick G et al. Parental Perception of Efficacy of Antihistamines for Pruritus in Pediatric Atopic Dermatitis. *Allergy and Asthma Proceedings*. 37, 157-63, 2016
- Lucas JA, Moonie S, Olsen-Wilson K, Hogan MB. Asthma, allergy, and obesity: Examining the relationship among Nevada children. *J Asthma*.
- Young D, Moonie S, et al. A Cross Sectional Examination of Patient and Therapist Factors Affecting Participation in Physical Therapy in the Acute Hospital Setting. *Physical Therapy Journal*, 97 (1); 3-12, June 2016

Timothy J. Bungum, DrPH

Professor of Epidemiology

Keywords: *physical activity, driver distraction, pedestrian safety*



Dr. Timothy J. Bungum has been a faculty member in the UNLV School of Public Health since 2001. His research is focused on physical activity behavior, pedestrian safety, distracted driving, and smallpox. His research has produced over 50 peer-reviewed publications.

He currently has funding to reduce distracted driving among college students. Dr. Bungum has collaborated on projects with the Clark County School District, Southern Nevada Health District, the City of Las Vegas and community organizations.

Research Interests: Physical activity behavior; road safety; infectious diseases

Courses Taught: Health Theories; History of Public Health; Introduction to Public Health; Research Methods

Current Projects: The effects of a distracted driving intervention on college undergraduates with an emphasis on pedestrians

Recent Publications:

Wong, T., Pharr, J.R., Bungum, T., Coughenhour, C., & Lough, N.L. (2018). Effects of peer health education on college campuses: A systematic review. *Health Promotion Practice* X, 1-15.

Pergola, B.L., Moonine, S., Pharr, J., Bungum, T., Anderson, J.L. (2017). Sleep duration associated with cardiovascular conditions among adult Nevadans. *Sleep Medicine*, 34, 209-216.

Schneider, S., Pharr, J., & Bungum, T. (2017). Impact of school garden participation on health behaviors of children. *Health Behavior and Policy Review*, 4, 46-52.

Ardalan, A., & Bungum, T. (2016). Gestational age and risk of maternal breast cancer: a population-based case-control study. *The Breast Journal* pp1-5.

Young, DL., Moonie, S., Bungum, T. (2016) Cross-sectional examination of patient and therapist factors affecting participation in physical therapy in acute care hospital settings. *Physical Therapy*, DOI: 10.2522ptj.20150591

Mukarkami, T., Pharr, J., & Bungum, T. (2016). Educator's perceptions associated with school garden programs in Clark County, Nevada: Practices, resources, benefits and barriers. *Journal of Nutrition and Food Sciences*, 6, <http://dx.doi.org/10.4172/2155-9600.1000465>

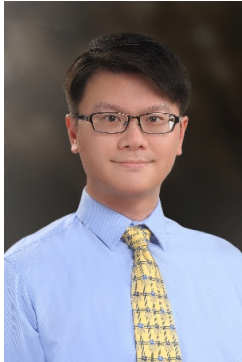
Coughenour, C., & Bungum, T.J. (2015). Single entry communities increase trip distance and may overestimate neighborhood walkability. *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*, 12, S46-S52.

Clark, S., Bungum, T.J., Coker, L. & Meacham, M. (2015). Happy trails: The effect of a media campaign on urban trail use in Southern Nevada. *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*. 12,48-51.

Lung-Chang Chien, DrPH

Assistant Professor of Biostatistics

Keywords: *spatiotemporal analysis, geographic disparity, spatial vulnerability*



Dr. Lung-Chang 'JoJo' Chien is an Assistant Professor of Biostatistics in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the UNLV School of Public Health. His research focuses on investigating spatial vulnerability and geographic disparities on human health. His research topics cover socioeconomic deprivation in cancer incidence and mortality, modifying effects of location in geo-survival analysis, the impact of Asian dust storms on children's health, geographic disparities of asthma and diabetes, spatiotemporal impacts of meteorological factors on dengue fever, and high risk areas in elderly mortality due to heat waves. Dr. Chien has also collaborated on publications in Nursing research and global health.

Research Interests: Spatial and spatiotemporal analysis; environmental epidemiology; nonlinear lag analysis

Courses Taught: Biostatistical methods for public health; Nonparametric methods for public health

Current Projects: Outbreak prediction of Zika virus infection by meteorological factors and locations; Integration of small area estimate approach; Influence of air pollution on asthma in Las Vegas

Recent Publications:

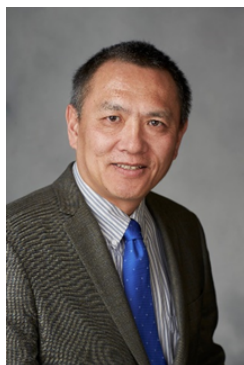
- Lin, R-T, Soeberg, M., Chien, L-C, Fisher, S., Discoll, T., Takala, J., Sorahan, T., Takahashi, K. (2018) Gaps in Research on Asbestos-Related Diseases: Declining Emphasis on Public Health. *BMJ-Open*. 2018(8): e022806.
- Lin, R-T, Chien, L-C, Kawachi, I. (2018) Nonlinear associations between working hours and overwork-related cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases: underreporting of illness and gaps in risk across industry sectors. *Scientific Reports*. 8: 9694.
- Lee, S-P, Hsu, Y-T, Bair B, Toberman M, Chien, L-C. (2018) Gender and Posture are Significant Risk Factors to Musculoskeletal Symptoms during Touchscreen Tablet Computer Use. *Journal of Physical Therapy Science*. 30(6): 855-861.
- Chien, L-C, Chen, Y-A, Yu, H-L. (2018) Lagged influence of fine particulate matter and geographic disparities on the clinic visits of children's asthma in Taiwan. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 15(4): 829.
- Chien, L-C*, Lin, R-T, Liao, Y., Sy, F., Perez, A. (2018) Surveillance on the Endemic of Zika Virus Infection by Meteorological Factors in Colombia: A Population-Based Spatial and Temporal Study. *BMC-Infectious Disease*. 18: 180.
- Chien, L-C*, Lin, G., Li, X., Zhang X. (2018) Disparity of Imputed Data from Small Area Estimate Approaches – A Case Study on Diabetes Prevalence at The County Level in the U.S. *Data Science Journal*. 17: p8.

- Fitch T. J., Yu X., Chien, L-C, Karim, M. M., Alamgir H. (2018) Traumatic life events and development of post-traumatic stress disorder among female factory workers in a developing country. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*. (First Published Online March 8, 2018)
- Perez, A., Chien, L-C, Harrell M. B., Pasch K. E., Obinwa U. C., Perry C. L. (2017) Geospatial Associations Between Tobacco Retail Outlets and Current Use of Cigarettes and e-Cigarettes among Youths in Texas. *Journal of Biometrics & Biostatistics*. 8(5): 375.
- Tabet, M., Nelson, E., Schootman, M., Chien, L-C, Chang, J. (2017). Geographic variability in gestational weight gain: a multilevel population-based study of women having term births in Florida (2005-2012). *Annals of Epidemiology*. 27(7): 421-428.
- Chien, L-C*, Li, X., Staudt, A. (2017). Physical inactivity displays a mediator role in the association of diabetes and poverty: a spatiotemporal analysis. *Geospatial Health*. 12(2). Doi: <https://doi.org/10.4081/gh.2017.528>
- Yu, H-L, Lee, C-H, Chien, L-C (2016). A spatiotemporal dengue fever early warning model accounting for nonlinear associations with hydrological factors: a Bayesian maximum entropy method. *Stochastic Environmental Research and Risk Assessment*. 30(8): 2127-2141. doi: 10.1007/s00477-016-1328-1.
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- Li, X., Staudt, A., Chien, L-C* (2016). Identifying counties vulnerable to diabetes from obesity prevalence in the United States: a spatiotemporal analysis. *Geospatial Health*. 11(3): 439. doi: 10.4081/gh.2016.439
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- Yeh, C-H, Suen, L. K-P, Shen, J., Chien, L-C, Liang, Z., Glick, R. M., Morone, N. E., Chasens E. R. (2016). Changes in sleep with auricular point acupressure for chronic low back pain. *Behavioral Sleep Medicine*. 14(3): 279-297. doi: 10.1080/15402002.2014.981820.

Ge Lin Kan, PhD

Professor of Epidemiology

Keywords: GIS, health disparity, spatial statistics, disease cluster detection



Dr. Ge Lin Kan is a Professor in spatial epidemiology and biostatistics at the UNLV School of Public Health. His research focuses on spatial statistics, and GIS applications in public health. He and his colleagues have developed six spatial statistical methods, resulting in more than 20 publications in statistical journals. He led the development of the Nebraska Public Health Data Center and its experience was summarized in his coauthored book titled *Smart Use of State Public Health Data for Healthy Disparity Assessment*. His most recent publications are mostly in applications of data analytics to monitor and to solve public health problems. His research has been funded by NSF, NIH, NIJ, CDC, and state public health agencies.

Research Interests: Spatial statistics; GIS applications in Public Health; Addressing health disparity; and health equity through public health integration and analytics.

Courses Taught: Epidemiology; Research Methods; Biostatistics Methods; GIS Applications In Public Health.

Current Projects: Using Hospital Discharge data to assess maternal and new born health; Small area estimates for behavioral risk factors; Spatial distribution of syndemics in the US; and cell-phone based GIS applications

Unique Resources: Spatial analysis capacity that includes high precision GPS verification, mobile phone travel pattern recognition, and spatial cluster and clustering detections.

Recent Publications:

Nayar, Preethy, Aastha Chandak, and Ge Lin 2018 Rural Urban Disparities in Access to Breast Cancer Screening: A Spatial Clustering Analysis. *Journal of Rural Health*

Kaeli Sampson, Ashvita Garg, Corrine Hanson, Ann Anderson Berry, Ge Lin, Ming Qu, Dejun Su. 2018 Birth History as a Predictor of Adverse Birth Outcomes: Evidence from State Vital Statistics Data *Preventive Medicine Reports* (Forthcoming)

Samuel Opoku and Ge Lin Trends and Geographic 2017. Variations in Hospital Length of Stay for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders. *Alzheimer Disease & Associated Disorders - An International Journal*.

Nayar, Preethy, Fang Yu, Aastha Chandak, Ge Lin Kan, Brian Lowes and Bettye A. Apenteng 2017, Risk Factors for In-Hospital Mortality in Heart Failure Patients: Does Rurality, Payer or Admission Source Matter? *THE JOURNAL OF RURAL HEALTH*.

Xiaqing Jiang Ge Lin, K.M. Monirul Islam 2017, Socioeconomic factors related to surgical treatment for localized, nonsmall cell lung cancer. *Social Science & Medicine* 175: 52-57

Zhang, T., and G. Lin 2017. Asymptotic properties of spatial scan statistics under the alternative hypothesis" *Bernoulli* 23:89-109.

Wan, Neng; Lin, Ge; Wilson, Gaines, 2017. Addressing Spatial Uncertainties in GPS-based Activity Monitoring: a Methodological Framework Transactions in GIS. forthcoming

Wan, Neng; Lin, Ge, 2016 Classifying Human Activity Patterns from Smartphone Collected GPS data: a Fuzzy Classification and Aggregation Approach Transactions in GIS. 20: 869–886

Wan, Neng Wan, and Ge Lin 2016; Parkinson's Disease and Pesticides Exposure: New Findings From a Comprehensive Study in Nebraska, USA The Journal of Rural Health 32:303-313

Brian Labus, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor of Epidemiology

Keywords: *infectious disease epidemiology, social media, surveillance*



Dr. Brian Labus is an Assistant Professor at the UNLV School of Public Health. His research focuses on communicable disease surveillance and he is currently studying the use of social media to identify restaurants associated with increased risk of causing foodborne illness. Dr. Labus is a Registered Environmental Health Specialist through the National Environmental Health Association, and teaches courses in general public health, infectious disease epidemiology, outbreak investigation, and data management. Prior to joining the faculty at UNLV, Dr. Labus worked as a senior infectious disease epidemiologist for the Southern Nevada Health District, conducting outbreak investigations, disease surveillance, and implementing public health informatics systems.

Research Interests: The use of social media in disease surveillance; the communicable disease reporting and surveillance process; outbreak investigation; and foodborne illness

Courses Taught: Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Disease Surveillance; Outbreak Investigation; Data Management

Current Projects: The use of social media in the identification of restaurants at risk of causing foodborne illness

Recent Publications:

Gakh, M., Labus, B., & Walker, B. (2017). Characteristics of Laws Requiring Physicians to Report Patient Information for Public Health Surveillance: Notable Patterns from a Nevada Case Study. *Journal of Community Health, Journal of community health*, 19 September 2017.

Sadilek, A., Kautz, H., Diprete, L., Labus, B., Portman, E., Teitel, J., & Silenzio, V. (2017). Deploying nEmesis: Preventing foodborne illness by data mining social media. *AI Magazine*, 38(1), 37-48.

Sadilek A, Kautz H, DiPrete L, Labus B, Portman E, Teitel J, Silenzio V. Deploying nEmesis: Preventing Foodborne Illness by Data Mining Social Media. Twenty-Eighth Annual Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence. Phoenix, AZ. 2016

Guogen Shan, PhD

Associate Professor of Biostatistics



Dr. Guogen Shan is an Associate Professor of Biostatistics in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the UNLV School of Public Health.

He collaborates with researchers from the university and other institutes on designing clinical trials, applying existing methods to the data, and developing new statistical methods for data analysis.

His research areas of interest include efficient clinical trial designs, exact statistical methods, and more powerful parametric and nonparametric tests.

Research Interests: Clinical trials; Two-stage designs; Categorical data analysis; Exact test; Exact confidence interval; Empirical likelihood; Nonparametric; Survival analysis

Current Projects: Develop an R package for the exact confidence interval for the difference of two proportions; propose more powerful nonparametric tests based on ranks for the trends; develop efficient two-stage designs for clinical trials with binary and continuous endpoints.

Recent Publications:

Shan, G., Zhang, H. and Jiang, T., 2018. Determining sample size for a binary diagnostic test in the presence of verification bias. *Journal of biopharmaceutical statistics*, pp.1-10.

Shan, G., 2018. Exact confidence limits for the probability of response in two-stage designs. *Statistics*, pp.1-10.

Shan, G. and Chen, J.J., 2018. Optimal inference for Simon's two-stage design with over or under enrollment at the second stage. *Communications in Statistics-Simulation and Computation*, 47(4), pp.1157-1167.

Shan, G., Bernick, C. and Banks, S., (2018). Sample size determination for a matched-pairs study with incomplete data using exact approach. *British Journal Of Mathematical And Statistical Psychology*, 71(1), 60-74.

Shan, G., Kang, L., Xiao, M., Zhang, H. and Jiang, T., (2018). Accurate unconditional p-values for a two-arm study with binary endpoints. *Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation*, 88(6), 1200-1210.

Shan, G. (2017). Comments on 'Two-sample binary phase 2 trials with low type I error and low sample size'. *Statistics in Medicine*, 36(21), 3437-3438.

Shan, G. and Gerstenberger, S., 2017. Fisher's exact approach for post hoc analysis of a chi-squared test. *PloS one*, 12(12), p.e0188709.

Shan, G. and Zhang, H., (2017). Exact unconditional sample size determination for paired binary data (letter commenting: J Clin Epidemiol. 2015; 68: 733-739.). *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*. 84, 188-190.

- Liu, X., Shan, G., Tian, L., & Ma, C. (2017). Exact methods for testing homogeneity of proportions for multiple groups of paired binary data. *Communications in Statistics-Simulation and Computation*. 46(8), 6074-6082.
- Xiao, M., Jiang, T., Zhang, H., & Shan, G.* (2017). Exact one-sided confidence limit for the ratio of two Poisson rates. *Statistics in Biopharmaceutical Research*. 9(2), 180-185.
- Hua Zhang, Guogen Shan*, and Daniel Young (2017). Comparison of unweighted and weighted rank based tests for an ordered alternative in randomized complete block designs. *Communications in Statistics- Simulation and Computation*. 46(6), 4452-4464.
- Guogen Shan* and Weizhen Wang (2017). Exact one-sided confidence limits for Cohen's kappa as a measurement of agreement. *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*. 26(2), 615-632.
- Guogen Shan*, John J. Chen, and Changxing Ma (2017) Boundary problem in Simon's two-stage clinical trial designs. *Journal of Biopharmaceutical Statistics*. 27(1), 25-33.
- Shan, G., Zhang, H. and Jiang, T., 2017. Efficient confidence limits for adaptive one-arm two-stage clinical trials with binary endpoints. *BMC Medical Research Methodology*, 17(1), p.22.
- Jianbo Xu†, Guogen Shan*, Amei Amei, Jiwei Zhao, Daniel Young, and Sheila Clark (2017). A modified Friedman test for randomized complete block designs. *Communications in Statistics-Simulation and Computation*. 46(2), 1508-1519.
- Guogen Shan* (2017). A better confidence interval for the sensitivity at a fixed level of specificity for diagnostic tests with continuous endpoints. *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*. 26(1), 268-279.
- Shan, G., Zhang, H., & Jiang, T. (2016). Minimax and admissible adaptive two-stage designs in phase II clinical trials. *BMC Medical Research Methodology*, 16(1), 90.
- Shan, G., Zhang, H., Jiang, T., Peterson, H.†, Young, D., & Ma, C. (2016). Exact p-Values for Simon's Two-Stage Designs in Clinical Trials. *Statistics in biosciences*, 8(2), 351-357.
- Guogen Shan* (2016) Exact sample size determination for the ratio of two incidence rates under the Poisson distribution. *Computational Statistics*. 31(4), 1633-1644.
- Guogen Shan*, Gregory Wilding, Alan Hutson, and Shawn Gerstenberger (2016). Optimal adaptive two-stage designs for early Phase II clinical trials. *Statistics in Medicine*. 35(8), 1257-1266.
- Guogen Shan* (2016). Exact confidence intervals for randomized response strategies. *Journal of Applied Statistics*. 43(7), 1279-1290.
- Guogen Shan* and Changxing Ma (2016). Unconditional tests for comparing two ordered multinomials. *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*. 25(1), 241-254.
- Guogen Shan*, Sheniz Moonie, and Jay Shen (2016). Sample size calculation based on efficient unconditional tests for clinical trials with historical controls. *Journal of Biopharmaceutical Statistics*. 26(2), 240-249.

Ann Vuong, DrPH, MPH

Assistant Professor of Epidemiology

Keywords: children's environmental health, perinatal and pediatric health, endocrine disrupting chemicals, neurodevelopment, obesity, adiposity, polybrominated diphenyl ethers, perfluoroalkyl substances



Dr. Ann Vuong is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the School of Public Health.

She received her MPH degree in epidemiology and her doctoral degree in epidemiology and environmental health at Texas A&M University's School of Public Health.

She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Cincinnati, Department of Environmental Health.

Research Interests: Dr. Vuong has studied environmental contaminants, including nitrates, nitrites, and nitrosatable drugs and their associations with adverse pregnancy outcomes, including preterm delivery, small-for-gestational age births, and birth defects. Her current work focuses on endocrine disrupting chemicals and children's health outcomes, particularly neurodevelopment, behavior, adiposity, and thyroid hormone disruption. She is interested in applying advanced biostatistical techniques in order to examine health effects of chemical mixtures.

Courses Taught: Introduction to epidemiology; perinatal and pediatric epidemiology; infectious disease epidemiology; environmental public health

Current Projects: Dr. Vuong uses the prospective pregnancy and birth cohort, the Health Outcomes and Measures of the Environment (HOME) Study, to improve children's health by investigating exposures to endocrine disrupting chemicals, including polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), during gestational development as well as childhood and their associations with neurodevelopment, behavior, and adiposity. This study has been following children from early gestation and continues to do so as they become adolescents.

Recent Publications:

Vuong AM, Yolton K, Xie C, Dietrich KN, Braun JM, Webster GM, Calafat AM, Lanphear BP, Chen A. 2018. Prenatal and childhood exposure to poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and cognitive development in children at age 8 years. 2019. *Env Res* 172: 242-248.

Vuong AM, Braun JM, Wang Z, Yolton K, Xie C, Sjodin A, Webster GM, Lanphear BP, Chen A. 2019. Exposure to polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) during childhood and adiposity measures at age 8 years. *Env Int* 123: 148-155.

Liang H, Vuong AM, Xie C, Webster GW, Sjodin A, Yuan W, Miao M, Braun JM, Dietrich KN, Yolton K, Lanphear BL, Chen A. 2019. Childhood polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE) serum concentration and reading ability at ages 5 and 8 years: the HOME Study. *Ent Int* 122: 330-339.

Qing Qu, MD, ScD

Associate Professor of Biostatistics

Keywords: *genetics-enhanced model, Meta-analysis, genotype imputation*



Dr. Qing Wu is an Associate Professor of Biostatistics in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of the Public Health and a founding member of the Nevada Institute of Personalized Medicine, UNLV. Dr. Wu's research interests include meta-analyses, genome-wide meta-analysis, big data analysis, and study design and statistical methodology development.

His currently funded research focuses on development and validation of personalized clinical normative values using modern statistical methodology and existing big data. Dr. Wu has extensive experience in multidisciplinary collaborative research and statistical consulting in biomedical research. His collaborative works have led to 47 research grants funded by federal agencies, major industries and research foundations. Dr. Wu is also an

academic editor of PLOS ONE and Medicine.

Research Interests: Statistical modeling and model validation; genomics-enhanced modeling; research design; meta-analysis; statistical consulting for grant proposals

Courses Taught: Sample size and power analysis; meta-analysis

Current Projects: Developing personalized reference values of bone mineral density

Unique Resources: Genotype imputation, SAS Macro

Recent Publications:

Wu, Q. (2018). Depression and antidepressant medications: Both are linked to increased fracture risk. *Osteoporos Int*.

Liu, B., Wu, Q., Zhang, S., & Del Rosario, A. (2018). Lithium use and risk of fracture: a systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies. *Osteoporos Int*.

Mashiana HS, Dhaliwal AS, Sayles H, Dhindsa B, Yoo JW, Wu Q, Singh S, Siddiqui AA, Ohning G, Girotra M, Adler DG. Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography in cirrhosis - a systematic review and meta-analysis focused on adverse events. *World J Gastrointest Endosc* 2018; 10(11): 354-366

Wu, Q., Liu, B., & Tonmoy, S. (2018). Depression and risk of fracture and bone loss: an updated meta-analysis of prospective studies. *Osteoporos Int*, 29(6), 1303-1312.

Xiao, X., Xu, Y., & Wu, Q. (2018). Thiazide diuretic usage and risk of fracture: a meta-analysis of cohort studies. *Osteoporos Int*, 29(7), 1515-1524.

Xiao, X., Roohani, D., & Wu, Q. (2018). Genetic profiling of decreased bone mineral density in an independent sample of Caucasian women. *Osteoporos Int*, 29(8), 1807-1814.

- Xu, Y., & Wu, Q. (2018). Decreasing trend of bone mineral density in US multiethnic population: analysis of continuous NHANES 2005-2014. *Osteoporos Int*, 29(11), 2437-2446.
- Adcock, A. K., Kosiorek, H., Parich, P., Chauncey, A., Wu, Q., & Demaerschalk, B. M. (2017). Reliability of Robotic Telemedicine for Assessing Critically Ill Patients with the Full Outline of UnResponsiveness Score and Glasgow Coma Scale. *Telemed J E Health*, 23(7), 555-560.
- Young SW, Zhu M, Shirley OC, Wu Q, Spangehl MJ. Do 'Surgical Helmet Systems' or 'Body Exhaust Suits' Affect Contamination and Deep Infection Rates in Arthroplasty? A Systematic Review. *The Journal of arthroplasty*. 2016; 31(1):225-33.
- Wu, Q., Wang, Y., Demaerschalk, B. M., Ghimire, S., Wellik, K. E., & Qu, W. (2017). Bone marrow stromal cell therapy for ischemic stroke: A meta-analysis of randomized control animal trials. *Int J Stroke*, 12(3), 273-284.
- Wu Q, Kling JM. Depression and the Risk of Coronary Heart Disease: A systematic review and meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies. *Medicine* 2016; 95(6):e2815.

HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION & POLICY

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Department of Healthcare Administration and Policy

ACADEMIC FACULTY

Jay Shen, PhD – Associate Dean of the School of Public Health and Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Christopher R. Cochran, PhD – Chair and Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Neeraj Bhandari, MD, PhD – Assistant Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Betty Burston, PhD – Associate Professor-in-Residence of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Charles B. Moseley, PhD – Professor Emeritus

Chris Papesh, MBA – Visiting Lecturer of Healthcare Administration and Policy; Undergraduate Coordinator

Josué Patien Epané, PhD – Associate Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Maire Simington, PhD – Assistant Professor-in-Residence Healthcare Administration and Policy

Michelle Sotero, PhD, MPH – Visiting Assistant Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy; Graduate Coordinator

Soumya Upadhyay, PhD – Assistant Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Elmer Washington, PhD – Professor Emeritus

Part-Time Instructors pool

Paul Brezinski
Sarah Bussmann
Cora Case
James Conway
Matthew Cova
Sheila Evans
Barbara Fraser
Donna Gellatly
Kurt Houser

Larry Hurst
Margaret Ozan Rafferty
David (Dave) Schweer
Lisa Segler
Kristin Steffen
Glen Stevens
Cae Swanger
Christine Zack Gunderson

Jay Shen, PhD

Associate Dean; Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Keywords: *health disparity, outcome research, patient safety, medication error, EHR, health services research*



Dr. Jay Shen is the Associate Dean of the School of Public Health and Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy. His research covers health services research including health care disparities, access to care, comparative effectiveness research, effects of Electronic Health Record(EHR) on health care organizations, quality of care and patient safety; outcomes research related to AMI, CHF, stroke, diabetic complications, maternal outcomes, pneumonia, and patients with advanced illnesses; and global health.

He has received grants awarded by the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality (AHRQ), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Patient Centered Outcome Research Institute, and National Council of State Boards of Nursing. He's been a grant reviewer for AHRQ and NIH. He serves as Associate Editor of

BMC Health Services Research and in the Editorial Board of Ethnicity & Disease. He is Adjunct Professor at Peking University in Beijing and Visiting Professor at Fudan University in Shanghai, China.

Research Interests: Health care disparities; outcome research and quality of care/patient safety; health economics; EHR implementation; health care workforce; and global health.

Courses Taught: Health Economics; Health Information System Management; US Health Care Delivery System and Policy; Research Methods; Epidemiology; Health Care Planning and Strategic Management; and Health Care Administration Capstone

Current Projects: Community engagement in palliative care; impact of Medicaid expansion on access to care and health care disparities; effects of EHR implementation on hospital performance; medication errors at hospital settings; and socioeconomic status and health care in China

Unique Resources: risk-adjustment for clinical outcomes, quantitative methods, comparative effectiveness research, cost-effectiveness analysis, large dataset analysis, and SAS and STATA programming

Recent Publications:

Wang Q, Shen JJ, Rice J, Frakes K. "Social Health Insurance Difference in Inpatient Expenditure and Service Category in China." *Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health*, accepted.

Liu X, Shen JJ, Kim P, Park S, Azab M, Choi , Lee YJ, Pan HY, Yoo J. "Hepatitis C Infection Screening and Management in Opioid Use Epidemics in the United States." *American Journal of Medicine*, forthcoming, Nov. 2018.

Ayatollahi Y, Liu X, Nazami A, Jaradat M, Yamashita T, Shen JJ, Lee YJ, Upadhyay S, Kim SJ, Yoo JW. "Early Readmission Risk Identification for Hospitalized Older Adults with Decompensated Heart Failure." *Research in Gerontological Nursing*, accepted.

- Dong JJ, Shen JJ, Lee YJ. "Dose-Dependent Effect of Cotinine-Verified Tobacco Smoking on Serum Immunoglobulin E levels in Korean Adult Males. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, 2018, in press.
- Shen JJ, Shan G, Kim P, Yoo JW, Dodge-Francis C, Lee YJ. "Trends and Related Factors of Cannabis-Associated Emergency Department Visits in the United States: 2006-2014." *Journal of Addiction Medicine*, 2018. [Epub ahead of print].
- Lee YJ, Yoo JW, Hua L, Kim P, Kim SJ, Shen JJ**. "Ten-Year Trends of Palliative Care Utilization Associated with Multiple Sclerosis Patients in the United States from 2005 to 2014." *Journal of Clinical Neuroscience*, 2018,58:13-19.
- Yamashita T, Keene JR, Moonie S, Shen JJ, Pharr, J, Yoo JW. "Literacy Activity and Health among Older Adults in the U.S." *Educational Gerontology*, DOI: 10.1080/03601277.2018.1521077.
- Wang Q, Shen JJ, Frakes K. "Limited Contribution of Health Behaviors to Expanding Income-Related Chronic Disease Disparities Based on a Nationwide Cross-Sectional Study in China." *Scientific Report*, 2018(8):1248
- Shen JJ, Ko E, Kim P, Kim SJ, Lee YJ, Lee JH, Yoo JW. "Life-Sustaining Procedures, Palliative Care Consultation, and Do-Not Resuscitate Status in Dying Patients With COPD in US Hospitals: 2010-2014." *Journal of Palliative Care*, May 29, 2018.
- Li X, Shen JJ, Yao F, Jiang C, Chang F, Hao F, Lu L. "Does the Certified (Assistant) Physician Exam and Exam-Targeted Training Help Village Doctors Provide Better Care in Rural Areas - A Cross-Sectional Analysis of Village Doctors' Perspectives in Changzhou in Eastern China." *BMC Medical Education*. 2018,18(107).
- Mazurenko O, Shen JJ, Shan G, Greenway J, Rice J. "Nevada's Medicaid Expansion and Admissions for Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions." *American Journal of Managed Care*, 2018,24(6)e294-e300.
- Wang Q, Shen JJ, Sotero M, Li C, Hou Z. "Income, Occupation and Education: Are They Related to Smoking Behaviors in China?" *PLOS ONE*, 2018, Feb.8.
- Shen JJ, Angosta A, Sotero M, Rice J, Raju K. "Nursing Associated Medication Errors: Are Internationally Educated Nurses Different from U.S. Educated Nurses?" *European Journal of Environment and Public Health*, 2018,2(1).
- Kim PC, Shen JJ, Angosta AD, Frakes K, Li C (2018) Errors Associated with the Rights of Medication Administration at Hospital Settings. *Journal of Hospital and Health Care Administration*, 2018, JHHA-111.

Christopher R. Cochran, PhD

Chair and Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Keywords: *health policy and politics, patient safety, quality improvement, health disparities*



Dr. Chris Cochran is the Chair and Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy at the UNLV School of Public Health. He has authored and co-authored numerous articles on access to care for underserved populations and safety net resources including management issues and patient safety and quality improvement public and private healthcare organizations. Other research has focused on using information technology to improve bio-surveillance of infectious outbreaks in high volume resort communities.

He is a current member of the Public Employees Benefits Program Board, and a current member of the Nevada Health Care Information and Management System Society, Nevada American College of Health Care Executives and ACHE.

Research Interests: Improving patient safety in the hospital environment; understanding the relationship of secondary diagnoses of mental health conditions on preventable primary diagnoses; medical conditions in hospital emergency rooms; reducing waste in healthcare delivery; smoking ban policy.

Courses Taught: U.S. Healthcare System: Programs, Politics and Policy; Health Politics and Policy; Epidemiology for Health Care Management; Health Care Administration Capstone

Current Projects: Understanding the political implications overhauling the Affordable Care Act; Identifying secondary diagnoses of mental illness as the cause for primary diagnoses in hospital admissions; utilizing information technology to improve identification of drug seeking behavior in hospital emergency rooms.

Unique Resources: Health policy and politics

Recent Publications:

- Sun, M., Shen, J. J., Li, C., & **Cochran, C.R.** (2016). Effects of China's new rural cooperative medical scheme on reducing medical impoverishment in rural Yanbian: An alternative approach. *BMC Health Services Research*, 16(1), 1660-7.
- Wang, Q., Shen, J. J., & **Cochran, C.R.** (2016). Unemployment rate, smoking in China: Are they related? *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 13(1).
- Shen, J.J., **Cochran, C.R.**, Mazurenko, O., Moseley, C.B., Shan, G., & Neishi, S. (2016). Racial and insurance status disparities in patient safety indicators among hospitalized patients. *Ethnicity & Disease*, 26(3), 443-452.
- Shen, J. J., **Cochran, C.R.**, Neish, S., Moseley, C. B., & Mukalian, R. (2015). Level of EHR adoption and quality and cost of care - evidence from vascular conditions and procedures. *International Journal of Healthcare Technology & Management*, 15(1), 4-21.

Neeraj Bhandari, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor in School of Public Health, Dept. of Healthcare Admin & Policy



Prior to his arrival at UNLV, **Dr. Neeraj Bhandari** completed his PhD at Pennsylvania State University and a postgraduate degree in Internal Medicine at Government Medical College Amritsar, India. Dr. Bhandari's research interests span three broad areas.

The main focus of his work is the effect of information disclosure aimed at bridging information asymmetries between health care providers and consumers, with an overall goal of steering patients towards providers that offer higher quality services at lower cost. Dr. Bhandari's dissertation focused on quantifying variation in efforts to disseminate such information to consumers and the potential impact of such variation on consumer awareness and use. His other areas of work include the impact of health care reform on patients'

access to health care and empirical evaluation of policies designed to align consumer behavior with emerging scientific evidence on health promoting lifestyles (healthy diet, exercise, sleep etc.).

Research Interests: Effect of information disclosure aimed at bridging information asymmetries between health care providers and consumers; consumers use of Internet to access health information; impact of health care reform on patients' access to health care; empirical evaluation of policies designed to align consumer behavior with emerging scientific evidence on health promoting lifestyles

Courses Taught: The U.S. Health Care System; Programs, Politics and Policy; Health Care Economics

Current Projects: Coverage Expansion; Provider Payment; and Patient Experience of Access to Care in Medicaid

Recent Publications:

Bhandari, Neeraj, Dennis P. Scanlon, Yunfeng Shi, and Rachel A. Smith. "Why Do So Few Consumers Use Health Care Quality Report Cards? A Framework for Understanding the Limited Consumer Impact of Comparative Quality Information." *Medical Care Research and Review* (2018).

Shi, Y., Scanlon, D. P., Bhandari, N., & Christianson, J. B. (2016). *Is Anyone Paying Attention to Physician Report Cards? The Impact of Increased Availability on Consumers' Awareness and Use of Physician Quality Information*. *Health Services Research*.

Bhandari, N., Shi, Y., Hearld, L. R., & McHugh, M. (2016). *Impact of emergency department visit on disease self-management in adults with depression*. *Journal of health psychology*,

Bhandari, N., Shi, Y., & Jung, K. (2016). *Patient Experience Of Provider Refusal Of Medicaid Coverage And Its Implications*. *Journal Of Health Care For The Poor And Underserved*, 27(2), 479-494.

Scanlon, D., Shi, Y., Bhandari, N., and J. Christianson. (2015). "Are Health Care Quality 'Report Cards' Reaching Consumers? Awareness in the Chronically Ill Population" *American Journal of Managed Care*, 2015 Mar; 21(3):236-44.

Betty Burston, PhD

Associate Professor-In-Residence of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Keywords: *multi-disciplinary researcher; edu-tainment; Betty Collier Watson; Betty Collier Arrington; Betty Burston; Grim Weaver; Joshua's Harvest; Miles Away; Get Thee Behind Me*



A trans-disciplinary researcher; published novelist, poet, playwright, songwriter, and scriptwriter; **Dr. Betty Burston** brings her interdisciplinary background and her experience in the world of independent entertainment to the field of health care administration. Dr. Burston received her graduate training at Cornell University, Howard University, and American University.

Because education is a critical mediator of health care access and outcome, her most recently published research seeks to define pathways for greater higher education inclusion as a strategy that can ultimately lower health care costs. Married to Sid Burston, an independent film, stage, music, and television producer, Dr. Burston and a former UNLV colleague served as Health Care Consultants on Mr. Burston's most recent film, *Grim Weaver*, a horror film that contains embedded messages regarding the current opioid health care crisis, and the less often discussed emerging health crisis - treatment resistant STDs. Again, the use of edu-tainment has implications for healthcare administration and policy.

Research Interests: Using edu-tainment as a tool to support prevention and/or illness/disease self-management; Improving public health outcomes per dollar spent through better healthcare prevention and intervention program administration; Improving the coordination between employment and wealth improvement policies, education, and family relations as strategies to support improved long-run health outcomes and health cost containment.

Courses Taught: U.S. Health Care System; Long-Term Care Management; Health Economics; Multicultural Health; Health Care Management; Health Care Finance

Current Projects: Harnessing the knowledge and experience of "non-traditional" undergraduate students and using their expertise to support UNLV's younger students; integrating more active learning opportunities into her courses and retraining students to engage in active rather than passive learning; and continuing to serve as a thought leader rather than a thought follower in every aspect of life and inspiring students to do the same.

Recent Publications:

Liu, D., Burston, B., Stewart, S.C., Njoku, C. (2018). Preparing Future Leaders: Testing the Implementation of Active Learning Strategies in Selected Healthcare Administration Courses. *Journal of Health Administration Education*.

Coombs, LJ, Burston B, Liu, D. (2017). "The Importance of an Alternative Approach to Measuring Quality in a Value to Value World: A Case Study of Diabetes", *BMJ Open Quality*. 2017;6:e000216.

Sparrow, C, Johnson, L, Liu, D., Burston, B., S Collier-Stewart, S., Mulligan, H. Teaching STEM to Underprepared Students. Spring 2017, Monograph. Texas College Press.

Norris, K. and Collier-Stewart, Shartriya. (2017) Social Justice and Parent Partnerships in Multicultural Education. Wrote Chapter 15, "STEM for All!!!: The Importance of Parent/School/Community

Partnerships Across the K-12 Pipeline and Beyond. IGI, Hershey, PA.

Liu, Darren, Lu, C.-J., Burston, Betty. (2016) The role of social media as a source of information on nursing home care decision-making. *Journal of Consumer Health on the Internet*, 20:3.

Collier-Stewart, Shartriya, Burston, Betty, Rhodes, A. (2016) Teaching STEM as a second language: Utilizing SLA to develop equitable learning for all students. *The Journal for Multicultural Education*, 10:3, pp. 257-273 (Download 396).

Collier-Stewart, Shartriya, Burston, Betty, Collier-Coombs, L.J. What's sex got to do with it?: The preparation of elementary male teacher candidates. *Journal for Multicultural Education*, 10:1: pps 2-18. 2016.

Chris Papesh, MBA

Visiting Lecturer of Healthcare Administration and Policy; Undergraduate Coordinator



Chris Papesh is a Visiting Lecturer in Department of Healthcare Administration and Policy at the UNLV School of Public Health.

Papesh has over 20 years of experience in Consulting, Public Health, Industry Management, Project Management and Higher Education, developing, implementing and managing programs, managing research grants and implementing enterprise administrative systems, teaching, and providing service on the global (United Nations, international corporations and nonprofits), national, local, state and regional level.

He has led teams implementing administrative applications, data warehousing and portal and reporting projects at more than 100 leading research universities, colleges and hospitals, including Kaiser Permanente Hospitals, NYU Langone Medical Center/ School of Medicine, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center (LA), Princeton, Stanford, Cornell and Cambridge (UK) universities.

Furthermore, Papesh has led project teams implementing systems for national governments-agencies for the United States, Canada and Singapore and the United Nations and International Monetary Fund.

Recent Publications:

Miner, L. Practical Predictive Analytics and Decisioning Systems for Medicine 1st Edition, Elsevier, New York, Guest Author-Chris Papesh, 2014 (wrote portions of three chapters).

Josué Patien Epané, PhD

Associate Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Keywords: *health care organizational performance, profitability, quality, processes of care, patient experience of care, strategic planning*



Dr. Josué Patien Epané is an Associate Professor in the Department of Healthcare Administration and Policy at the UNLV School of Public Health. His professional experience includes hospital Chief Financial Officer, National Executive Director of a health care system, National Center for Healthcare Leadership consultant, and Faculty.

Dr. Epané is also a reviewer for many health care journals, a board member for educational programs and other nonprofit organizations, and a member of many professional organizations including Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society, Academy of Management, Academy Health, and the Association of University Programs in Health Administration. His research focuses on exploring strategies that can help enhance organizational performance (clinical and financial) in the health care field, such as hospitals' use of hospitalists and community orientation. Some projects he is currently working on include but are not limited to exploring the impact of hospitalists on hospitals' financial performance, efficiency (length of stay, cost, and RN staffing), quality, processes of care, and patient experience of care. Other projects include exploring the impact of hospitalists on minority health, the impact of hospitals' cultural competency on performance, predicting factors of hospitals and nursing home closure, and validating in the nursing home industry the Altman's Z-score model a predictive financial distress model frequently used in other industries.

Research Interests: Clinical and financial organizational performance

Courses Taught: Health Care Accounting and Finance; Advanced Health Care Finance; Health Care Finance; Strategic Management

Current Projects: Exploring the impact of hospitalists; hospital cultural competency on performance; predicting factors of hospitals and nursing homes closure; and validation of the Altman's Z-score model

Unique Resources: Health Care Financial Management Expert

Recent Publications:

Ramamonjiarivelo, Z., Hearld, L., Epané, J. P., McRoy, L., Weech-Maldonado, R. Privatization of Public Hospitals and its Impact on Community Orientation. *Advances in Health Care Management* (Forthcoming)

Dreachslin, J., Weech-Maldonado, R., Epané, J. P., Gail, J., Wainio, J.A., Gupta, S. Hospital cultural competency as a systematic organizational intervention: Key findings from the National Center for Healthcare Leadership diversity demonstration project. *Health Care Management Review* (2018)

McRoy, L., Ramamonjiarivelo, Z., Epané, J. P., Powers, M., Weech-Maldonado, R., Rust, G., (2017) Country of birth and Variations in Asthma Prevalence and Emergency Department Utilization in Children: A NHANES Study. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*.

- Epané, J.P., Weech-Maldonado, R., Hearld, L., Nir, M., Sen, B., O'Connor, S., & Ramamonjiarivelo, Z. (2017). Hospitals use of hospitalists: Implications for financial performance. *Health Care Management Review*.
- Dreachslin, J., Gail, J., Weech-Maldonado, R., Epané, J.P., & Wainio, J.A. (2017). Blueprint for sustainable change in diversity management and cultural competence: Lessons from the NCHL Diversity Demonstration Project. *Journal of Health Care Management*.
- Ramamonjiarivelo, Z., Epané, J.P., Hearld, L., McRoy, L., & Weech-Maldonado, R. (2016). The impact of privatization on efficiency and productivity: The case of US public hospitals. *Journal of Health Care Finance*, 43(2), 104-123.
- Dreachslin, J., Weech-Maldonado, R., Epané, J.P., Gail, J., Wainio, J.A., & Gupta, S. (2016). Diversity leadership: Key findings from the NCHL National Diversity Demonstration Project. *Health Care Management Review*, 00(0), 1-12.
- McRoy, L., Ramamonjiarivelo, Z., Epané, J.P., Powers, M., Weech-Maldonado, R., & Rust, G. (2016). Country of birth and variations in asthma and wheezing prevalence and emergency department utilization in children: A NHANES study. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, 1-6.

Michelle Sotero, PhD

Visiting Assistant Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy; Graduate Coordinator

Keywords: *historical trauma; Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), teen pregnancy prevention*



Dr. Michelle Sotero is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy at the UNLV School of Public Health, as well as the Graduate Coordinator for the department.

Her research focuses on the historical dependencies of social determinants of health, such as historical trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and their effects over the life course on health behaviors, health disparities, and associated effects on the health care system. She has served as a faculty member in various capacities since 2005.

She has 20 years of experience in health care and public health human resources and program development. Her 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

Research Interests: Adolescent health; Racial and ethnic health disparities; Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs); Historical trauma; Workforce cultural competency

Courses Taught: Human Resources Management in Health Care Administration; Operations and Quality in Health Care Administration; Strategic Planning in Health Care Administration; Delivering Health Care in America: A Systems Approach; Cultural Competency and Diversity in the U.S. Health Care System; Health Care Marketing and Strategic Planning

Current Projects: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services – Accountable Health Communities grant proposal CMS-1P1-17-001 Track 3: *Advocates Linking Patients and Community Assets* (ALPACA) (Funding announcement in Spring 2017); Oceti Sakowin: A Case Study in Native American Resilience to Environmental Injustice and Historical Trauma.

Recent Publications:

Sotero, M.M. (2015). The effects of adverse childhood experiences on subsequent injury in young adulthood: Findings from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent and Adult Health. *UNLV Theses, Dissertations, Professional Papers, and Capstones*.

Soumya Upadhyay, PhD

Assistant Professor of Healthcare Administration and Policy

Keywords: *health care quality; patient safety; safety culture; hospital performance; EHR*



Dr. Soumya Upadhyay is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Healthcare Administration and Policy at the UNLV School of Public Health. Dr. Upadhyay's professional background includes Strategic Management Consultant at Kaiser Permanente, Performance Improvement Specialist at MD Anderson Cancer Center, and Clinical Data Analyst at Sutter Health.

Dr. Upadhyay's research interests include patient safety and quality improvement, hospital quality and financial performance, Electronic Health Records, cultural competency at hospitals, and health education and promotion. Dr. Upadhyay engages in multidisciplinary collaborative research to explore how health information technology can be used to enhance health care quality, patient safety, and safety culture. She also examines if hospital cultural competency including diversity programs can influence quality, safety and financial performance. Some of her health care finance research has assessed cash conversion cycle in hospitals and the influence of working capital management on hospital performance. Her collaborative work has led to research grants funded by UNLV Office of Research and Economic Development, and private agencies.

Research Interests: Health care quality and patient safety, health care finance, health promotion

Courses Taught: Statistics for Health Care Managers, Health Care Finance

Current Projects: Examining the impact of Electronic Health Records (EHR) on patient safety; exploring the influence of hospital physician financial integration on patient safety outcomes; assessing the impact of staffing on safety culture

Unique Resources: Certified Quality Improvement Associate (American Society for Quality)

Recent Publications:

Upadhyay, S., Weech-Maldonado, R., Lemak, C. H., Stephenson, A., Mehta, T., & Smith, D. G. (2018). Resource-based view on safety culture's influence on hospital performance: The moderating role of electronic health record implementation. *Health Care Management Review*.

Liu, X. B., Ayatollahi, Y., Yamashita, T., Jaradat, M., Shen, J. J., Kim, S. J., Lee, Y., Hwang, J., Hyeyoung Yeom, H.; Upadhyay, S., Liu, C, Choi, H., Yoo, J. (2018). Health Literacy and Mortality in Patients With Heart Failure: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *Research in Gerontological Nursing*.

Ayatollahi Y, Liu X, Namazi A, Jaradat M, Yamashita T, Shen J.J., Lee Y.J., Upadhyay S., Kim S.J., Yoo J.W. (2018). Early Readmission Risk Identification for Hospitalized Older Adults With Decompensated Heart Failure. *Research in Gerontological Nursing*. 2018 Apr 9:1-8.

Upadhyay, S. Opoku-Agyeman, W., McCaughey D., Darrell, B. (2017). The Association Between

Organizational Characteristics and Strategic Information Systems Planning: A Study of U.S. Hospitals. *European Scientific Journal*, 13 (36). ISSN:1857-7881

Upadhyay, S. Opoku-Agyeman, W., Borkowski, N. (2017). A Macro-environmental Evolution of Readmission Reduction Strategies: A study of United States Hospitals. *Journal of Hospital Administration*, Oct 2017. 10.5430/jha.v6n5p40

Upadhyay, S. Powers, T. (2017). Do Attributes of Patient Satisfaction Affect Word-of-Mouth satisfaction? In: Stieler M. (eds) *Creating Marketing Magic and Innovative Future Marketing Trends: Development in Marketing Science*: Proceedings of Academy of Marketing Science. Springer, Cham

Upadhyay, S., & Smith, D.G. (2016). Hospital Liquidity and Cash Conversion Cycle: A study of Washington Hospitals. *Journal of Healthcare Finance*, 43(2).

Upadhyay, S., & Smith, D.G. (2016). Sustaining High and Low Profitability in Washington Hospitals. *Journal of Healthcare Finance*, 43(2).

EMERITI FACULTY

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Emeriti Faculty:



Michelle Chino, PhD - Professor Emerita of Environmental and Occupational Health

Dr. Chino is an internationally recognized American Indian researcher and educator with expertise in the social determinants of disease and injury and the impact of health disparities among diverse 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. She founded a nationally recognized, peer-reviewed journal entitled *The Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*.



Mary Guinan, MD, PhD - Professor Emerita of Epidemiology

Dr. Guinan is the founding Dean of the School of Public Health. She is known for being the first female physician and epidemiologist to work on smallpox eradication with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as the AIDS epidemic. In her memoir, *Adventures of a Female Medical Detective: In Pursuit of Smallpox and AIDS*, Dr. Guinan highlights her experiences in epidemiology and research, as well as how she broke barriers for females in the medical field.



Charles Moseley, PhD - Professor Emeritus of Healthcare Administration Policy

Dr. Moseley was previously an Assistant Professor and Chair of the Healthcare Administration and Policy Department at UNLV. He taught 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.



Linda D. Stetzenbach, PhD - Professor Emerita of Environmental and Occupational Health

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.



Warren McNab, PhD, Professor Emeritus of Health Promotion

Dr. McNab began his career at UNLV in 1979 and earned numerous teaching and service awards during his tenure. His accolades include the 1996 UNLV Distinguished Teacher Award and the Distinguished Service Award presented by Eta Sigma Gamma National Health Service Honorary. Dr. McNab authored more than fifty scholarly articles on such topics as health education, human sexuality, and teenage pregnancy, and has served on a number of editorial boards of such scholarly journals as *The Health Educator* and *The Journal of Health Education*.

CENTERS

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Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy (NICRP)

The Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy (NICRP) looks out for Nevada's children. Their 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.

The Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy, located within the School of Public Health at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, is a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to improving the lives of children through research, advocacy and other specialized services. NICRP started in 1998 based on a vision of First Lady Sandy Miller. She wanted an organization that could bring credible research and rigorous policy analysis to problems that confront Nevada's children. She wanted to transform that research into meaningful legislation that would make a real difference in the lives of our children and NICRP has been continuing to do just that for nearly 20 years.

In addition to these activities, NICRP also became a fully chartered chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America – Prevent Child Abuse Nevada (PCANV) in 2012. PCANV conducts training and community outreach to ensure that children have the Essentials for Childhood and have safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments.

Team

Amanda Haboush-Deloye, PhD – Interim Executive Director

Dawn L. Davidson, PhD – Interim Associate Director

M. Amaris Knight, MEd – Research Analyst

Erick Lopez – Assistant Research Analyst

Mayra Pacheco – Program Coordinator

Website

nic.unlv.edu

Amanda Haboush-Deloye, PhD

Interim Executive Director of the Nevada Institute for Children's Research & Policy (NICRP)

Keywords: *children's health, health disparities, mental health, program evaluation, injury prevention, advocacy, child welfare, juvenile justice, policy, public health policy*



Dr. Amanda Haboush-Deloye is the Interim Executive Director at the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy and Director of Programs for Prevent Child Abuse Nevada. She earned her PhD in Experimental Psychology and her Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Her research focuses on adolescent and adult mental health, health disparities, and working with families and conducting research in culturally component ways.

Being a Las Vegas native, Amanda aims to use research and policy to help create a healthy community where families and children are a priority. Amanda is also a part-time instructor for the School of Public Health.

Research Interests: Access to health care, mental and behavioral health, child maltreatment, child safety, early childhood education, juvenile justice, children and families.

Courses Taught: Introduction to Public Health; Research Methods

Current Projects: Preventing child abuse and neglect; increasing access to quality early childhood education; evaluation of community health improvement programs; annual assessment of health of children entering kindergarten; assessing access to health for children and families; translation of research to policy; advocating for children and families in Nevada.

Recent Publications:

Haboush-Deloye, A., Marquez, E., & Gerstenberger, S. (2017). Determining childhood blood lead level screening compliance among physicians. *Journal of Community Health*, 42(4), 779-784.

Haboush-Deloye, A., Oliver, T., Parker, A., & Billings, H.N. (2015). Acculturative stress in suicidal youth. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 43(5), 611-618.

Haboush, A., Phebus, T., Hensley, S., Teramoto, M., & Tanata, D. (2014). The impacts of health insurance coverage on access to healthcare in children entering kindergarten. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 18(7), 1753-1764.

Zeitler, D., Haboush, A., & Cox, T. (2013). Reflections on two research communities: Comparing the "Towards a Science of Consciousness Conference" and "Integral Theory Conference" research communities. *Journal of Integral Theory and Practice*, 7(4), 107-125.

Dawn L. Davidson, PhD

Interim Associate Director at Nevada Institute for Children's Research & Policy (NICRP)



Dr. Dawn L. Davidson is the Interim Associate Director at the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy (NICRP) within the School Public Health.

She has worked for NICRP since 2012 and has lead the evaluation for a variety of different programs in the community, including the Southern Nevada Health District's Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, the Clark County Department of Family Service's Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project, and the Nevada Silver State Stars Quality Rating and Improvement System.

Dawn earned her PhD in Experimental Psychology with a concentration in Social Psychology from the University of Memphis.

Research Interests:

Implementation and effectiveness of restorative justice programs, juvenile justice reform efforts, the effectiveness of substance abuse treatment programs, and the evaluation of community-based programs designed to improve the lives of children and families.

Current Projects:

Evaluation of local teen pregnancy prevention initiative; effectiveness of in home safety service model for preventing entrance into foster care; outcomes associated with participation in the state quality rating and improvement system; evaluation of Healthy Start program for improving birth outcomes for low income African American women.

M. Amaris Knight, MEd

Research Analyst at Nevada Institute for Children's Research & Policy (NICRP)



M. Amaris Knight is currently an Research Analyst at the Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy within the UNLV School of Public Health.

Her research background is on suicide prevention and educational programs for mental health among adolescents and continues her own research on universal suicide prevention strategies for youth, adolescents, and young adults from both public health and medical anthropological perspectives.

She hopes to explore further research on stigma reduction regarding mental health and eliminating mental health care disparities for underrepresented groups.

Research Interests:

Suicide prevention; upstream and universal prevention strategies; and mental and behavioral health resources and policies to address the unmet needs of youth and young adults.

Courses Taught:

Public Health Across the Lifespan

Current Projects:

Evaluation of community health improvement initiatives including those related to reducing tobacco use and improving nutrition and physical activity; Outcome assessment for social emotional learning program in middle and high school students.

Unique Resources:

Community engagement through state and local coalitions including: Nevada Suicide Prevention Coalition, Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium Public Awareness Work Group, UNLV Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Task Force, Immunize Nevada, and the Nevada Public Health Association.

Center for Health Information Analysis (CHIA)

The Center for Health Information Analysis (CHIA) is contracted by the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP). CHIA collects certain billing record fields from all hospital inpatient, outpatient, and ambulatory surgical centers. The center serves the community by making specific Nevada health-care-related data and reports available to both the private and public sectors.

- [Nevada's Source for Transparency in Health Care](#)
- [Center for Health Information Analysis](#)

Team

Joseph Greenway, MPH – Director and Principal Investigator

Deysi Baca – Administrative Assistant III

Danny Chan – Systems Programmer

Robert Herrington – Software Developer

William Porter – Web Developer

Website

chia.unlv.edu

Joseph Greenway, MPH

Director and Principal Investigator at the Center for Health Information Analysis

Keywords: *CHIA collects and securely maintains all patient level hospital and ambulatory surgical center health claims records*



Joseph Greenway, in partnership with Donald Carns (retired), co-founded the Center for Health Information Analysis (CHIA) in 1986. The original purpose of the center was hospital cost containment. He was the original computer programmer for the center and worked with Medicaid, Charge Master, and hospital inpatient data.

He has overseen the expansion of center operations as hospital and ambulatory surgical center data sets were added and the Nevada Compare Care transparency website was developed. He has created reports on AHRQ Quality Indicators, as well as Provider Preventable Readmissions and Provider Preventable Conditions.

Research Interests:

Quality of care issues at health facilities; especially provider preventable conditions

Current Projects:

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics: <http://dpbh.nv.gov/Reg/CCBHC/CCBHC-Main/>

Recent Publications:

Doolen, J.L., Greenway, J., & Mathew, S. (2015). Sepsis: A call for incorporation of regional data and improved education programs. *Nevada Journal of Public Health*, 12(1).

Kirkendall, A., Shen, J., Greenway, J. & Bai, W. (2014). Socioeconomic factors associated with post-hospitalization hospice care settings: A five-year perspective. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*, 33(3), 233-239.

Center for Health Disparities Research (CHDR)

The mission of the Center for Health Disparities Research (CHDR) is to create health equities from health disparities through leadership, advocacy, education, research, capacity building, collaboration, community engagement, evaluation, communication, cultural competence, and partnership. CHDR is very interested in engaging community partners in order to address issues related to health disparities in Nevada and throughout the United States.

The CHDR publishes the *Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice*, which is a refereed online journal that explores the dimensions of health disparities globally (digitalscholarship.unlv.edu/jhdrp/). The journal invites submission of original manuscripts from researchers, public health, behavioral health, clinical and social science experts and practitioners that seek to continue the discussion of health disparities in order to eradicate them.

Team

Melva Thompson-Robinson, DrPH – Director (see Social & Behavioral Health Academic Faculty)

Marya Shegog, PhD, MPH, CHES – (see Social & Behavioral Health Academic Faculty)

Robbi Hill-Corley – Journal Assistant

Website

unlv.edu/units/center-health-disparities-research

American Indian Research and Education Center (AIREC)

The American Indian Research and Education Center (AIREC) promotes, encourages, and collaborates with research linked to the health priorities of tribes or tribally-based organizations and institutions in addressing the reduction of health disparities associated within the population. AIREC also provides opportunities for conducting research, research training, and faculty development to meet the needs of students, campus community, tribal populations, and the general public. AIREC is active in building and sustaining a biomedical, clinical, social and behavioral sciences research pipeline for Native American students spanning high school through graduate school

Website

unlv.edu/aire

LABORATORIES

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Environmental Health Laboratory (EHL)

The EHL was established in 2005 to contribute to our ability to analyze toxic contaminants in food, water, soil, and other media that directly impact human health. Some of the laboratory instrumentation available to students includes graphite furnace atomic absorption, cold vapor mercury analysis, x-ray fluorescence, combustion-based mercury analyzers, UV/VIS spectroscopy, and gas chromatography with mass spectral analysis. Several focal areas of the laboratory include the analysis of lead and mercury compounds in paint, soil, candy, fish, and other food items.

Team

Shawn Gerstenberger, PhD – Director (see EOH Academic Faculty)

Website

unlv.edu/publichealth/centers-labs

Emerging Diseases Laboratory (EDL)

The Emerging Diseases Laboratory, located in MPE 231-232, provides Environmental and Occupational Health track students the opportunity to conduct hands-on public health microbiology research. In addition to traditional microbiology laboratory equipment, sophisticated instrumentation includes an Applied Biosystems real-time polymerase chain reaction system for amplification and detection of target genes, a Vitek 2 compact for identification and antimicrobial susceptibility profiling, and the DiversiLab for bacterial strain typing. Recent research includes surveillance of antibiotic resistant bacteria, such as methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and *Clostridium difficile*, in healthcare facilities, and sampling and analysis of environmental microorganisms of public health concern.

Team

Mark P. Buttner, PhD – Co-Director (see EOH Academic Faculty)

Patricia Cruz, PhD – Co-Director (see EOH Academic Faculty)

Website

unlv.edu/publichealth/centers-labs

CCSD/UNLV Pollen Monitoring Program

Airborne pollen is a health concern for many residents in Clark County. In 2013, the Clark County School District (CCSD) and the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) established the Pollen Monitoring Program to provide local pollen and mold spore counts in Las Vegas. Regular monitoring and reporting of airborne pollen concentrations can help sensitive individuals prepare for or avoid exposure.

Team

Mark P. Buttner, PhD – Director (see EOH Academic Faculty)

Asma Tahir, MPH – CCSD/UNLV Pollen Monitoring Program Supervisor

Website

unlv.edu/publichealth/pollen

Asma Tahir, MPH

CCSD/UNLV Pollen Monitoring Program Supervisor; Part-Time Instructor

Keywords: *pollen, mold, allergens, health lifestyles*



Asma Tahir is the current supervisor for the Pollen Monitoring program here at UNLV in collaboration with the CCSD. As a certified National Allergy Bureaus' pollen and mold counter she monitors, collect, count, and identify pollen and mold around the valley. Her research focuses on pollen and mold allergens and the effect of changing environment and weather patterns.

She earned her B.S in Botany and Zoology, BA in Psychology and her MPH in Healthcare Administration & Policy from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. In May 2013, Governor Brian Sandoval appointed Asma Tahir to serve on the Governor's Commission on Behavioral Health. Asma is also a part-time instructor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the School of Public Health.

Research Interests:

Pollen and Mold Allergens

Current Projects:

CCSD/UNLV Pollen Program Supervisor

Courses Taught:

Personal Health Across the Lifespan

Recent Presentations:

- Tahir, A., Patel, T., Jean, J., Buttner, M., Bazylinski, D., & Seggev, J. S. Annual Variation Among Tree Pollen In Las Vegas From 2015-2018, *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*, Volume 143, Issue 2, Supplement, 2019, Page AB22, ISSN 0091-6749, Presented at the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, & Immunology Annual Meeting February 2019
- Patel, T., Buttner, M., Tahir, A., Bazylinski, D., Seggev, J. Variation of Airborne Mulberry and Olive Pollen Concentrations Among Five Locations in Las Vegas in 2016. Presented at the Nevada Public Health Association Annual Meeting September 2018.
- Tahir, A. The Affordable Care Act and its Effect on Patient Influx at Free Clinics. Internship Poster Presentation at School of Community Health Sciences. May 8, 2015. University of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV.

The Urban Air Quality Laboratory

Dedicated to protecting clean air resources for local and global communities, the Urban Air Quality Laboratory uses two Beta Ray Attenuation (BAM) monitors to measure the ambient air quality of UNLV and the area near the Las Vegas Strip. The two monitoring systems measure real-time community exposure levels and long-term air quality trends. It also allows advanced notice to the surrounding community of unhealthy air quality.

Team

Lung-Wen 'Antony' Chen, PhD – Director (see EOH Academic Faculty)

Website

unlv.edu/publichealth/uaq-lab

PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

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Global Health Initiative

The Global Health Initiative focuses on the use of implementation science to improve the quality and effectiveness of health services. This is accomplished through the design, implementation and testing of interventions and approaches targeted at reducing disparities. GHI's overall goal is to place UNLV footprints around the world by building the capacity of UNLV students in global health research, cultivating UNLV faculty research collaborations with global partners and creating opportunities for UNLV graduates to work on projects aimed at improving human health in global settings.

Website

unlv.edu/publichealth/centers-labs

Office of Community Partnerships

The Office of Community Partnerships (OCP) works in support of faculty and staff directly identifying community partners to work with the UNLV School of Public Health internship program. OCP supports the Center for Health Disparities and the American Indian Research and Education Center through collaboration and outreach on behalf of their current projects and research initiatives. OCP also works to support the recruitment of diverse student populations into the SPH. OCP is a partner with other community-based groups and federal, state and local agencies to support the development and engagement of the Minority Health Coalition to increase Equity in Health across the State of Nevada.

Team

José L. Meléndrez, MSW – Executive Director

Website

unlv.edu/publichealth/centers-labs

José Luis Meléndrez, MSW

Executive Director of the Office of Community Partnerships



José L. Meléndrez currently serves as the Executive Director for Community Partnerships in the UNLV School of Public Health. He is responsible for coordinating and building partnerships that promote internships for student experiential learning and success. José works with the Center for Health Disparities and the American Indian Research and Education Center doing research and development. José supports the development of new recruitment strategies to increase the diversity of students enrolling in the School of Public Health, and is the liaison for Title III and Title V initiatives on behalf of the School of Public Health. This includes service within UNLV and the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Hispanic Serving Institutional initiatives.

José received his Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor where his studies concentrated in Community Organizing with a focus on Communities and Social Systems, and completed his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Previously, José has provided leadership for new initiatives at UNLV that include the Vice Presidential Diversity Commission, the Institute on Diversity and Social Justice, and opening and operating the UNLV Multicultural Center. José served as the first Director for the office of Student Diversity Programs and Services (SDPS) where he provided leadership for the development of this new office at UNLV. José has also served as Field Instructor, Field Liaison, and Instructor for the School of Social Work at the University of Michigan. José specializes in diversity and multicultural training, social justice education, and advocacy as it pertains to diverse populations in Nevada. He is also a part-time instructor for the School of Public Health.

UNLV INBRE

(IdeA Network for Biomedical Research Excellence)

Nevada INBRE, part of the IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence, is a National Institutes of Health (NIH) program designed to help traditionally underfunded states build biomedical infrastructure. University of Nevada, Las Vegas is a partner institution of Nevada INBRE. The scope of UNLV INBRE focuses on: attracting more researchers to engage in biomedical research at UNLV, mentoring junior faculty to conduct biomedical and translational research, and enhancing programs to train the next generation of biomedical researchers.

Team

Guogen Shan – Admin Core (See EAB Academic Faculty)

Website

unlv.edu/publichealth/unlv-inbre

Health Law Program

The UNLV Health Law Program is a partnership between the William S. Boyd School of Law and the School of Public Health. The Program aims to create opportunities for faculty and students across UNLV's campus and in our community to learn about the multiple connections between health and law.

Team

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law.unlv.edu/health-law

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