



Research

Faculty Development

Student Training

Community Collaborations



About HPRI

The HPRI serves as a catalyst and focal point for research, training, and community interchange to develop and disseminate evidence-based information and health promotion programs.

AFFILIATED CENTERS

[Center for Cancer Disparities Research](#)

[Center for the Promotion of Healthy Lifestyles and Obesity Prevention](#)

Director's Note

I hope you enjoy reading about the many tremendous research and training activities of the faculty and students involved in the Health Promotion Research Institute this semester. We continue to promote the highest levels of scholarship to positively impact the lives of diverse communities. Please read on to learn more about our events and programs!

Sora Tanjasiri, DrPH, MPH,
Director



Grant Activity

HPRI faculty members have been awarded nine grants, totaling more than \$1 million between July 1, 2015 and April 30, 2016. Twenty grants, totaling, \$4.8 million, were submitted during the same period; several more are currently in progress.



Faculty Members Honored

Several HPRI faculty members were recently recognized for scholarly and creative activity. Honorees include: Drs. Ofir Turel (College of Business and Economics), Debra Cote (College of Education), Jennifer Piazza, Yuying Tsong, Ruth Mielke, Elaine Rutkowski and Dennis Kao (College of Health and Human Development), and Veronica Jimenez Ortiz (College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics). [Read more.](#)



RESEARCH



Research Day

Several undergraduate and graduate students supported by HPRI faculty members were among approximately 60 students who presented their research findings during CSUF's second Student Creative Activities and Research Day. The event took place April 12 at the Titan Student Union. [Read more.](#)

Physical Health

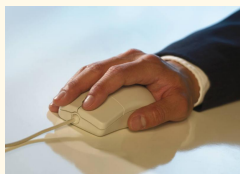
Dr. Jennifer Piazza (Health Science) has been awarded a \$139,100 grant from the National Institute on Aging. The purpose of the two-year study, *Daily Stressor Reactivity and Profiles of Physical Health Across Adulthood*, is to examine whether exposure and reactivity to daily stressors is associated with biomarkers of physical health and to determine if this association changes in magnitude with age.



[Center for
Successful Aging](#)

[Fibromyalgia & Chronic
Pain Center](#)

[UC Irvine Chao Family
Comprehensive Cancer
Center](#)



Contact Us

For more information about the HPRI, including additional projects by faculty and students:

Website

hpri.fullerton.edu

Email

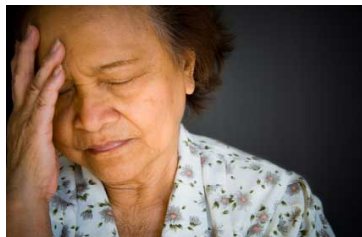
hpri@fullerton.edu

Phone

(657) 278-8145

Smokefree Orange County

Dr. Joshua Yang (Health Science) has been awarded a \$75,000 (\$15,000 annually) contract from the American Lung Association in California. He will evaluate the agency's Smokefree Orange County grant, which aims to pass policy that reduces exposure to tobacco smoke in localities in Orange County. [Read more.](#)



Help-Seeking Behaviors

Dr. Yuying Tsong, (Human Services) has been awarded two grants, totaling \$30,000, to assess Vietnamese American older adults' understanding of mental health and how their cultural background may affect their willingness to seek professional help. As a part of this

project, she and her research assistant Vi Pham, a counseling graduate student, recently appeared in a four-part, mental health series on Little Saigon TV. [Read more.](#)



Stroke Rehabilitation

Dr. Nina Robson (Mechanical Engineering) is providing expertise on a \$1 million-plus grant awarded to Texas A&M University at Qatar. The project, "Exoskeleton Based Stroke Rehabilitation With Augmented Reality," brings together experts in biomedical engineering, kinesiology and the

area of rehabilitation to develop robotic-assisted therapy for patients who suffer from stroke or similar conditions. Robson, principal investigator of the CSUF subcontract, is involved in the design of the exoskeleton for physical training of post-stroke patients. [Read more.](#)

Student Research Award

Adam Hyde, a research assistant for Dr. Daniela Rubin (Kinesiology), has been named Undergraduate Student of Year by the Department of Kinesiology. The award recognizes outstanding academic achievement, community/university service and professional promise. Hyde worked on two externally funded grants that focused on Prader Willi syndrome and childhood obesity. He also completed in his own independent study in the area of pediatric exercise physiology, evaluating ventilator function during exercise. [Read more.](#)



FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

Writing Retreat

Drs. Sawssan Ahmed (Psychology), Koren Fisher (Kinesiology), Juye Ji (Social Work), Tricia Kasamatsu (Kinesiology), Maria Ramirez (Biology) and HyeKyeung Seung (Human Communication Studies) participated in HPRI's fourth annual Spring Writing Retreat. The program took place on campus on Saturday, Feb. 27, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. In addition to providing a dedicated time for writing, the retreat allowed for the sharing of ideas and one-on-one mentorship sessions.



Mini-Grant Awards

The Health Promotion Research Institute awarded three mini-grants for spring 2016. Each faculty member received a course release or summer salary to develop their research idea into a submittable grant proposal by the end of the semester. Awardees include Drs. Maria Koleilat (Health Science), Yuying Tsong (Human Services) and Michele Wood (Health Science).



Mentorship Program Expanded

The HPRI's Biomedical/ Behavioral Faculty Research Mentorship Program, designed to promote the development of junior faculty through research and career development mentoring, and student engagement and training from a senior faculty, has been expanded to include three additional teams.

The mentors/ mentees are :(1) Drs. Denise Chavira (UCLA) and Sawssan Ahmed (Psychology), (2) Madeline Rasche (Chemistry & Biochemistry) and Nina Robson (Mechanical Engineering) and (3) Daniela Rubin and Koren Fisher (both Kinesiology). The pairs will work one-on-one on joint projects (i.e. grant proposal, manuscript, spin-off research project, etc.) during the 2-year program. The mentor/mentees teams are funded by the Biomedical/ Biobehavioral Research Administration Development (BRAD) Research Gateway Project.



STUDENT TRAINING



Allied Health Academy

Nearly 100 students - 49 CSUF students and 45 high school students - are currently participating in the *North Orange County Allied Health Careers Opportunity Partnership (NOCA HCOP) Program*. Recent activities include a field trip to the OC Health Care Agency, a panel presentation by current graduate students and a mentoring retreat. [Read more.](#)



Concussion Safety

Five CSUF athletic training students (Jesse Williams, Brenda Valdez Nava, Jaqueline Miller, Jacob Melgar, and Rachel Brannigan) and HPRI faculty member Dr. Tricia Kasamatsu

(Kinesiology) traveled to Sacramento in February for the California Athletic Trainers' Association meeting and Hit-the-Hill event at the Capitol. Athletic trainers and athletic training students met with legislators to discuss AB 2007 (concussion safety parameters for youth sports) and future efforts to obtain regulation of the athletic training profession in California.

Health Challenges

MPH student Chad Ngo, a graduate research

assistant for HPRI's Allied and other Health Careers Opportunity Program, was among 12 CSUF undergraduate health science and MPH students who recently traveled to the state Capitol. The program took place April 25-27 in Sacramento and included health science students from other CSU campuses. Students met with policymakers and public health leaders, discussed pressing health issues and networked with students from other campuses. The CSUF team was led by HPRI faculty member Dr. Joshua Yang (Health Science).



Chad Ngo pictured in the first row.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Health and Wellness

More than a dozen ESG students volunteered their time and talents at CalOptima's Health and Wellness Community Event, held Nov. 14 at CalOptima's headquarters in Orange. The event featured a variety of free health services, including flu shots; blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol and BMI screenings; and dental and vision screenings for children.



Women's Health

Save the date for the fourth OC Women's Health Summit on Oct. 21, 2016 at Cal State Fullerton. The event is presented by the OC Women's Health Project, in partnership with Cal State Fullerton's Health Promotion Research Institute, Chapman University and UC Irvine. Highlights of the daylong program include research, quality improvement projects and pilot projects related to women's health issues in Orange County. [Read more.](#)

HPRI includes faculty from the Departments of: Anthropology, Asian American Studies, Biological Science, Chemistry & Biochemistry, Chicana & Chicano Studies, Child and Adolescent Studies, Communications, Computer Engineering, Economics, Health Science, Human Communication Studies, Human Services, Information Systems & Decision Sciences, Kinesiology, Mathematics, Mechanical Engineering, Nursing, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology, and Special Education.