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UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Arnold School of Public Health

Center for Research in Nutrition & Health Disparities

Newsletter: Summer 2015

**Enhanced nutrition and health
disparities research synergy**

UNDERGRADUATE MINOR IN NUTRITION AND FOOD SYSTEMS

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The National Prevention Strategy provides a framework and specific recommendations for food systems change, and although the nation understands that nutrition and food systems are inextricably linked to the health of our communities, there is a shortage of trained professionals to lead and direct these efforts. Therefore, students that receive a Minor in Nutrition and Food Systems through the Department of Health Promotion Education and Behavior at USC will possess competencies that will enable them to guide communities in transforming our food system to promote environmental sustainability, improve nutritional health, and address social justice. The minor will not only meet student interests in food and nutrition, but also build USC's institutional expertise in nutrition and food systems change for childhood obesity prevention by offering courses that focus on the production, processing, retail, consumption, and disposal of food.

PROGRAM GOALS

Upon completion of minor coursework, students will:

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USC PR to Conduct

- Understand political, social, and economic contexts for changes in world food systems; and
- Understand connections between soil, water, and air health, the food supply, and human health and chronic disease.

UNDERGRADUATE MINOR

The minor in Nutrition and Food Systems requires a minimum of 18 credit hours. This minor will meet student interests in nutrition and food systems by offering courses that focus on the production, processing, retail, consumption, and disposal of food. The Nutrition and Food Systems minor is compatible with various majors such as, but not limited to: exercise science, psychology, sociology, anthropology, political science and international studies, nursing, women's studies, physical education, and instruction and teacher education. A minimum of 18 credit hours is required from the following curriculum. Students must complete courses with a grade of 'C' or higher.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS (18 Hours)

- HPEB 502-Applied Aspects of Human Nutrition
- HPEB 488- Food Systems
- HPEB 489- Food Systems Capstone Seminar

Please select one of the following courses OR another approved course on the topic of "Food & Environment"

- ENVR 101- Intro to Environment
- ENHS 223/ENVR 223- Introduction to Global Environmental Health

Please select the following course OR another approved course on the topic of "Nutrition"

- ANTH 212- Food and Culture

Please select one of the following courses OR another approved course on the topic of "Sustainability"

- HRTM 428- Sustainable Foodservice Systems
- ENVR 331- Integrating Sustainability

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Nutrition Center demonstrates the need for a state-wide SNAP Healthy Bucks Program [\(Back to Top\)](#)

Media Training Overview

USC PR to conduct a 1 hour media training overview, scheduled for Wednesday, July 15 at noon. A description is forthcoming and an email announcement will be sent, as it gets closer to the event date.

This will be a brown bag seminar that provides an overview/introduction for talking with the media. There will be no role play or anything else where participants are put on the spot or worked with individually (though there will be time for questions. The seminar will be filmed so that the link can be emailed to anyone who wanted to attend but missed it.

Those that are interested in further/more specific training or more details can contact Erin Bluvas, Public Information Coordinator
Office of Research
Arnold School of Public Health
bluvase@sc.edu

United Way, in Partnership with Palm Beach County, Announces Collaborative, Community-Wide Hunger Relief Research & Strategic Plan

June 1, 2015 – Boynton Beach, FL – Palm Beach County is one of the



Sonya Jones, associate professor of health promotion, education, and behavior and director of the Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, is the principal investigator of the COPASCities study—a study funded through the USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative’s Childhood Obesity Program, aimed at building community capacity for creating food systems change. SNAP healthy incentives programs are becoming more common around the country. Also known as “SNAP Double Bucks,” these programs provide financial incentives for SNAP (i.e., Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as the Food Stamp Program) recipients to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at local farmers markets and some grocery stores. During the fall of 2014, Carrie Draper (Nutrition Center director of policy and partnership development), Holly Pope (Nutrition Center director of evaluation) and other COPASCities team members* conducted a PhotoVoice study to assess the successes, facilitators and barriers for implementing South Carolina’s own version of a SNAP healthy incentives program, S.C. SNAP Healthy Bucks. The S.C. SNAP Healthy Bucks program is administered by the S.C. Department of Social Services with bonus funds the state received from the federal government.

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wealthiest counties in the nation, however, on any given day more than 210,000 residents don’t know where their next meal will come from. Close to 64,000 of those individuals are children. In response to these and other startling statistics, United Way of Palm Beach County and the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners have partnered to develop a community-wide strategic plan to alleviate hunger. The Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) in collaboration with the University of South Carolina’s Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities (The USC Center) have been contracted to execute the research needed and develop the Hunger Relief Plan.

Specifically, the research will identify: the challenges of those in need; the strengths and weaknesses in the current process for reducing hunger; what the community-at-large needs to know; how to respond to urgent needs; the long-term efforts required to expand the food supply and alleviate hunger.

Recent Nutrition Center Grant Funding

COPASCities: Childhood Obesity Prevention in SC Communities (Continuation) -- USDA-NIFA

Hunger Relief Strategic
Plan for Palm Beach -
Sub contract to FRAC
(Food Research Action
Center) -- Food Research
and Action Center/United
Way of Palm Beach
County

DSS SNAP - ED
Evaluation -- SC
Department of Social
Services/USDA

Upcoming Events

Media Training Seminar
Noon, July 15, 2015
Discovery 331

6th Annual Nutrition
Symposium
March 25, 2016

Contact Details

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