

University of
South Carolina



ARNOLD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

***The Center for Research in Nutrition
and Health Disparities and
Environment & Sustainability Program
Presents:***

***5th Annual Nutrition Symposium &
Inaugural Meeting of the Southeastern
University Consortium***

Healthy Eating in Context:

**Building and strengthening collaborations to
address hunger, poverty, and nutrition,
in the Southeast**



Friday, March 20, 2015

8:15am- 2:00pm- Symposium

2:00pm- 3:30- Session for Students/Partner Organizations

Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center

Keynote Address

“Strong Research Builds Stronger Programs- the Case for Evidence”

Keynote Speaker:



Richard Lucas

Deputy Administrator for Policy Support

United States Department of Agriculture

Food and Nutrition Service

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USC Arnold School of Public Health

USC Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities

USC Office of Research

Agenda

8:15 — 8:50 **Registration, Breakfast, Community Exhibitions**
Lexington Pre-function

9:00 — 9:20 **Welcoming Remarks**
Richland A/B

Patricia Moore-Pastides, MPH
First Lady, University of South Carolina

Sonya Jones, PhD
Director, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities
Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion,
Education, and Behavior
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Gwendelyn Geidel, PhD, J.D.
Director, Environment and Sustainability Program
Research Professor, School of the Earth, Ocean, and
Environment
College of Arts and Sciences
University of South Carolina

Alan Decho, PhD
Associate Dean for Research
Professor
Director, Microbial Interactions Laboratory
Department of Environmental Health Sciences
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Robin D. Bailey, Jr., SES
Regional Communications Director
Office of Regional Communications and Partnerships
United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service
Southeast Region

9:20 —10:20

**Session I: Communities Guiding Hunger, Poverty,
and Nutrition Research**
Richland A/B

Facilitator

Carrie Draper, MSW
Director of Policy and Partnership Development
Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Robin Verenes
Director, Division of Administrative Services
Office of Economic Services
South Carolina Department of Social Services
“State Government Actions to Address Barriers to Fresh
Produce”

Brendan Buttimer
Executive Director
Hub City Farmers’ Market
“SNAP Access at Local Farmers’ Market: Challenges and
Successes”

Larry Shepard
General Manager
Sodexo – Richland School District Two
“A Model for Innovative Summer Feeding – A School
District Perspective”

Georgia Coleman
Director of Library Experience
Main Richland Library
“A Model for Innovative Summer Feeding – A Library
Perspective”

Katie Welborn
Community Organizer, COPASCities
Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina
“South Carolina Farmer Perspectives & Farm-to-School
Insights”

10:20-10:25 **Break**

10:25-11:25 **Session II. Hunger, Poverty, and Nutrition Research,
In the Southeast**
Richland A/B

Facilitator Sonya Jones, PhD
Director, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities
Associate Professor
Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Marsha Spence, PhD, MPH, RDN, LDN
Assistant Professor of Practice
Director of Public Health, Department of Nutrition
University of Tennessee
“Implementation of a Farm to Preschool Program in East
Tennessee: Increasing Access to Locally-Grown Fruits &
Vegetables for Low-Income Households”

Claire Zizza, PhD, RDN
Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition, Dietetics, and
Hospitality Management
Auburn University
“Food insecurity: A snapshot of Alabama to a national mosaic”

Ivette Lopez, PhD
Associate Professor Behavioral Science and Health Education,
Institute of Public Health
Director, Hispanic Health Initiative, Center for Health Equity
Florida A & M University
“Community Is at the Root of the FMPP Solutions”

Angela D. Liese, PhD, MPH
Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina
“Childhood Food Security: A Systems Perspective”

Alice S. Ammerman, DrPH
Director, Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
Professor, Department of Nutrition
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
“RNECE South: the USDA Regional Center of Excellence in
Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention”

11:30-12:10 **Lunch**
Lexington

12:10-12:30 **Community Exhibitions**
Lexington and Meeting Room Pre-function Area

12:35-1:35 **Keynote Address**
Lexington

Richard Lucas
Deputy Administrator for Policy Support
United States Department of Agriculture
Food & Nutrition Service
**“Strong Research Builds Stronger Programs- the Case for
Evidence”**

1:40-2:00 **Next Steps and Closing Remarks**
Lexington

2:00-2:30 **Community Exhibitions**
Lexington and Meeting Room Pre-function Area

2:00-3:30 **We Want StUdent Engagement to Build CommUNITY!**
Closed Session for Students and Community Partners
*Hosted by: the Office of Student Engagement (OSE), the Office of
Practice and Community Engagement (PACE), and the Center for
Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities (Nutrition Center)*
Lexington

Richard Lucas is the Deputy Administrator for Policy Support at USDA's Food and Nutrition Service. In that capacity, he is responsible for research and analysis that informs policymaking for and management of the federal nutrition assistance programs. These programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the school meals programs, and the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, are currently budgeted at over \$100 billion annually and serving 1 in 4 Americans in the course of a year.

Rich's team in FNS's Office of Policy Support (OPS) includes professionals from a wide range of disciplines, including economists, statisticians, program evaluators, sociologists, nutritionists, and others. They work closely with policymakers and program officials to find answers to critical questions to make nutrition assistance programs more effective, estimate cost and participation impacts of legislative, budgetary and regulatory changes, evaluate the impacts of programs and program components on food security, diet quality, and other outcomes, analyze extant data to better target strategies and track performance, and demonstrate and test potential program improvements.

Over his fifteen years of experience in OPS, Rich has helped to build one of the strongest applied policy research and analysis programs in government, including:

- Leadership of the *largest evaluation of food security and food spending among SNAP participants to date*, using an innovative "double difference" study design that found that participating in SNAP for 6 months was associated with a substantial decrease in food insecurity – about 5 to 10 percentage points.
- Evaluation of the *Healthy Incentives Pilot*, demonstrating that once fully implemented a daily investment of about 15 cents per person in incentives at the point of sale can result in a 26% increase in fruit and vegetable consumption among SNAP participants.
- The *Summer EBT for Children demonstration and evaluation*, which established that an EBT-based household benefit provided to low-income children during the summer can substantially reduce the prevalence of very low food security among children by about one-third.
- Launch of *research centers to apply the discipline of behavioral economics to promote healthy eating* in the school meals programs and among SNAP participants, and to encourage thrifty shopping by WIC clients.
- Development of *university-based research programs* to better understand the causes, characteristics and consequences of childhood hunger, and to explore innovative strategies to better utilize the Federal child nutrition programs to reach poor children with nutritious food.

Rich has worked at FNS since 1994. He holds degrees from Brown University and Stanford University, and lives in Bethesda, Maryland with his wife and children.

**5th Annual Nutrition Symposium & Inaugural Meeting of the
Southeastern University Consortium
Planning Committee**

Sonya Jones, PhD
Director

Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities
Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Planning Committee Chair

Mary Wilson, MPH
Director of Capacity Building
Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Planning Committee Co-chair

Ranina Outing, MHA
Director of Communications
Center for Research in Nutrition and
Health Disparities
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Planning Committee Co-chair

Holly Pope, PhD, MSPH
Director of Evaluation
Center for Research in Nutrition and
Health Disparities
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Planning Committee Members

**Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina**

Christine Blake, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education and Behavior

Casey Childers, PhD Student

Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
Communications Liaison, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities

Rachel Davis, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior

Nancy Fleischer, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Planning Committee Members (Continued)

Edward Frongillo, Jr., PhD

Professor & Department Chair, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior

Gwendelyn Geidel, PhD

Director, Environment and Sustainability Program
Research Professor, School of the Earth, Ocean, and Environment

Angela Liese

Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Gabrielle Turner-McGrievy, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior

A Very Special Thank You

Carrie Draper, MSW

Policy & Community Outreach Director, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

James Hibbert

Geographer, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

Wendy McKenzie

Business Manager, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

Jason Craig, PhD Student

Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior, USC
Graduate Research Assistant, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

Katie Welborn

Community Organizer, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

Nick Younginer, PhD Student

Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior, USC
Graduate Research Asst., Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

The Office of Student Engagement (OSE)

The Office of Practice and Community Engagement (PACE)

Southeastern University Consortium

United States Department of Agriculture, Food & Nutrition Service (USDA FNS)

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