

Research Activities Newsletter

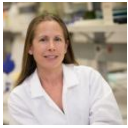
The latest news and announcements



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In the News: Congratulations to the following awardees!!!



Kelly Baker, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health (EEH) is PI on a transfer award from GoDX Incorporated/NIH for the project entitled, *SBIR: Rapid, Low-Cost, Point-of-Care Diagnostic to Detect Enteric Pathogens and Antibiotic Resistance*. The purpose of this project is to develop a novel, simple, easy-to-use and affordable, paper strip tool for the identification of pathogens that cause diarrheal disease in LICs to help guide appropriate treatment.



Erin Brunelle, Director, Client Services for the SPHHP's Center for Assistive Technology (CAT), received a renewal award from the NYS Office and Family Services for the project entitled, *NYSCB Equipment Loan Closet*. The renewal award from the NYS Office of Children and Family Services allows clients with visual impairments to enhance their educational and vocational goals while being provided with assistive hardware and software.



Akua Gyamerah, Assistant Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior (CHHB), received a reinstatement of her K award from the National Institute of Mental Health/NIH for the project entitled, *Intersectional Minority Stress, Mental Health, and HIV Treatment and Care Among MSM Living with HIV in Ghana*. The project will continue to integrate intersectionality and minority stress theory and operationalize measures to examine how intersectional social stressors affect mental health and HIV treatment outcomes among Ghanaian MSM living with HIV. The program of research also includes development of an intervention to mitigate factors on this pathway, to improve health.



Gregory Homish, Professor and Chair of the Department of Community Health and Health Behavior CHHB) is Co-PI (with Co-PI: Ken Leonard, Psychiatry) on a continuation award from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism/NIH, for the T32-training grant entitled, *Research Training on Alcohol Etiology and Treatment*. **Heather Orom**, Associate Professor in CHHB and SPHHP Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, is a member of the training committee. Established in 2000, the interdisciplinary training program provides postdoctoral and predoctoral trainees with research training related to alcohol problems.



Michael LaMonte, Research Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health (EEH) is MPI on a continuation award from the University of California at San Diego/NIH for the project entitled, *Objective Physical Activity and Cardiovascular Health in Older Women: OPACH2*. The project builds on the success of OPACH1 and to further characterize the type, amount, and intensity of physical activity (PA) needed to maintain cardiovascular health in older adults. The findings could lead to transformed and refined guidelines for accurate and realistic PA goals for older Americans.



Douglas Landsittel, Professor and Chair of Biostatistics, is PI on a continuation of an award from the University of Pittsburgh/NIH for the project entitled, *Regulatory Dendritic Cell Therapy in Live Donor Renal Transplant Recipients*. This study will continue to conduct a first-in-human, open label, single center phase 1 dose escalation safety study in adult recipients of de novo, live donor renal transplants and conduct sequential immunological analyses of the DCREG recipients.



Jeffrey Miecznikowski, Professor of Biostatistics, is Co-I on the continuation award from the National Cancer Institute/NIH (PI: Remi Adelaiye-Ogala, Medicine) for the project entitled, *Therapeutic Targeting of Master Regulators in Non-Canonical AR Driven Advanced Lethal Prostate Cancers*. The project will continue to test the role of identified master regulatory TFs in modulating non-canonical AR activity that aids enzalutamide resistance and determine optimal therapeutic options to overcome resistance using preclinical models.



Amy Millen, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health (EEH), is PI on a new award from the National Eye Institute/NIH, for the project entitled, *Nutritional Metabolomics in Age-Related Macular Degeneration and Retinal Integrity*. The project will use data from the Carotenoids in Age-Related Eye Disease Study (CAREDS), an ancillary study of the Women's Health Initiative, to examine the effects of: (a) MetDietPS; (b) individual metabolites; and (c) metabolic pathways on AMD related outcomes. **Lina Mu**, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health and **Rachael Hageman Blair**, Associate Professor of Biostatistics are Co-I's on this research.





Ekaterina Noyes, Professor and Associate Dean for Translational and Team Science, is PI on a new award from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences/NIH, for the project entitled, *CTSA K12 Program State University of New York at Buffalo*. This project will provide research training and professional development to a new diverse cadre of translational researchers to address health inequalities that disproportionately impact the populations of Buffalo, Western New York, and beyond.



Drs. Noyes, **Heather Orom**, Associate Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior (CHHC), and **Gregory Wilding**, Professor of Biostatistics, are Co-Is on two continuation awards from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities/NIH. The first project entitled, *Igniting Hope in Buffalo New York Communities: Training the Next Generation of Health Equity Research* (PI: Timothy Murphy, Medicine) will continue to train and develop the next generation of health disparities investigators to perform innovative research in minority health and health disparities, in partnership with the local community. The second project entitled, *Project ASTHMA – Aligning with Schools to Help Manage Asthma and Improve Outcomes* (PI: Lucy Holmes, Pediatrics), will continue to assess the effectiveness of school-based health centers (SBHCs) as a cost effective health care delivery model to reduce asthma symptoms, exacerbations, ED visits, and hospitalizations in children with uncontrolled asthma who live in communities with health inequities.



John Violanti, Research Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health (EEH), is PI on a continuation award from Albert Einstein college of Medicine/CDC for the research project entitled, *Cancer Survival in WTC First Responders vs. Comparable Occupational Cohorts*. The project will continue to compare cancer survival and survival related factors of the treated group of responders to an occupationally similar group of non-WTC-exposed responders. Specifically, Dr. Violanti will provide a sample of police officers to use for this comparison of factors that contribute to cancer.



Jean Wactawski-Wende, SUNY Distinguished Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health (EEH) and Dean of SPHHP is Co-I on a continuation award from the National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research/NIH (PI: Keith Kirkwood, Oral Biology) for the project entitled, *Immunometabolic Regulation of MDSCs in Periodontitis*. The study will continue to work toward understanding the mechanisms that underpin the links between degree of obesity and the incidence of periodontal disease.



Gregory Wilding, Professor of Biostatistics is Co-I on two continuations awards. The first is from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/NIH, (PI: Jonathan Lovell, Biomedical Engineering), for the research project entitled, *Developing a Multivalent Subunit Particle Vaccine Against Tuberculosis*. The project will continue work to design a vaccine with TB antigens using a next-generation adjuvant system and will benchmark the vaccine against the established BCG vaccine.



The second award is from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences/NIH (PI: Larry Hawk, Psychology), for the research project entitled, *Improving Efficiency, Quality, and Equity: Randomized Controlled Evaluations of Remote vs. In-Person Clinical Trial Methods*. In the project, data from RCTs will be analyzed jointly to assess the degree to which the findings for remote vs. in-person trial methods generalize across conditions and treatment modalities.




Jihneeh Yu, Professor of Biostatistics is PI on a new award from Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) for the project entitled, *Establishment of a Trauma Surgery Registry*. The research targets procuring and maintaining ECMC's trauma registry data and creating research capacity for trauma research in the SPHHP's Population Health Observatory.

Dr. Yu also serves as Co-I of a reinstated award from the National Institute of Aging/NIH (PI: Carleara Weiss, School of Nursing) for the project entitled, *The Benefits of Nicotinamide Riboside Upon Cognition and Sleep in Older Veterans*. The project will investigate the role of sleep disturbances as a candidate mechanism of cognitive impairment and neurodegeneration as well as the relationship between NAD⁺ serum levels and biomarkers of neurodegeneration.



Grant Clinic

CHECK THIS OUT!



[Common Proposal Elements - Health Sciences - University at Buffalo](#)

To assist in your application submissions, UB's Health Sciences department has created an archive that highlights the university's nationally recognized research, curricular, and community outreach programs across all the health science schools. The secure link above will direct you to downloadable files for common proposal elements such as Facilities, Resources, and Research Environment sections.

Requests for Proposal

[NOT-OD-25-091](#) **Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Clinical Researchers (LRP-CR)**

[NOT-OD-25-092](#) **Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Pediatric Research (LRP-PR)**

[NOT-OD-25-093](#) **Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Health Disparities Research (RP-HDR)**

[NOT-OD-25-094](#) **Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Research in Emerging Areas Critical to Human Health (LRP-REACH)**

[NOT-OD-25-095](#) **Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Clinical Researchers from Disadvantaged Backgrounds (LRP-CRDB)**

These Notices provide program-specific information for Extramural Loan Repayment Programs. The NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs) are a set of programs established by Congress and designed to recruit and retain highly qualified health professionals into biomedical or biobehavioral research careers. For additional detailed information about each LRP and to apply, please click the following link: www.lrp.nih.gov. The deadline for the applications period will be November 20, 2025.

Notice of Changes to Funding Opportunities

[NOT-MD-25-009](#)

Notice of NIMHD Participation in PA-25-306, NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Project Grant (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Required)

The purpose of this Notice is to inform potential applicants that effective immediately the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) will participate in [PA-25-306](#), "NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Project Grant (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Required)" issued by the National Institute of Health.

[NOT-MD-25-010](#)

Notice of NIMHD Participation in PA-25-304, NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Project Grant (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

The purpose of this Notice is to inform potential applicants that effective immediately the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) will participate in [PA-25-304](#), "NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Project Grant (Parent R21 Clinical Trial Required)" issued by the National Institute of Health.

NIH Funding Opportunities Request for Applications (RFA)

Miscellaneous

[RFA-OD-25-008](#) – (R03 Clinical Trial Optional)

Tobacco Regulatory Science Small Grant Program for New Investigators

This Notice aims to support new biomedical, behavioral, and social science investigators who are in the early stages of establishing independent careers in tobacco regulatory research. The R03 grant mechanism supports different types of projects, including pilot and feasibility studies, secondary analysis of existing data, small, self-contained research projects, development of research methodology, and development of new research technology. Applicants are encouraged to conduct projects that ultimately have the potential to inform regulations on tobacco product manufacturing, distribution, and marketing. Research projects must address one or more High-Priority Research Topic(s) related to the regulatory authority of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Tobacco Products (CTP) as mandated by the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (FSPTCA), Public Law 111-31. **Application Due Dates:** November 18, 2025 **and** July 14, 2026. **Expiration:** July 15, 2026.



Limited Submissions

Only one application per institution is allowed for the following FOAs and prior approval from the OVPR is required to be the sole applicant. If interested in applying, please provide the OVPRED with notification 60 days prior to the deadline to ovpr.limitedsubmission@research.buffalo.edu before proceeding with the application.

[Limited Submission Funding Opportunities](#)

Prior Research Opportunities can be found on the SPHHP RAS website and by clicking the link below:

[Research Opportunities from Past Newsletters](#)

Words to Live By

Knowledge is power.

Francis Bacon, English philosopher

For more information on RAS services, visit our website at sphhp.buffalo.edu/ras

