



NHS Student Newsletter

May 2019

Dear NHS Students, Faculty, and Alumni,

Summer is here! We are gearing up for ASN Nutrition 2019 Conference in Baltimore, MD. A schedule of posters and oral presentations from NHS students is included in the newsletter.

Best wishes to first-years gearing up for the comprehensive exams in June! In the Fall, we will welcome the new NHS cohort: Yara Beyh, Ben Cousineau, Mica Jenkins, Jane Obi, Brigitte Pfluger, and Euisun (Irene) Pyo.

As always, please let us know about any of your accomplishments and feel free to email us (pnesbet@emory.edu, npoveda@emory.edu) with any feedback or events that you want listed!

Cheers,
Paula and Natalia

CONFERENCES

Nutrition 2019 (American Society for Nutrition)

When: June 8-11, 2019

Where: Baltimore, MD

More information [here](#)

American Diabetes Association 79th Scientific Sessions

When: June 7-11, 2019

Where: San Francisco, CA

More information [here](#)

Society for Epidemiologic Research

When: June 18-21, 2019

Where: Minneapolis, MN

More information [here](#)

FNCE (Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics)

When: October 26-29, 2019

Where: Philadelphia, PA

Late-breaking abstracts: May 1 – 30, 2019

More information [here](#)

American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo

When: Nov 2-6, 2019

Where: Philadelphia, PA

More information [here](#)

Obesity Week

When: November 3-7, 2019

Where: Las Vegas, NV

More information [here](#)

Micronutrient Forum 5th Global Conference 2020

When: March 23-27, 2020

Where: Bangkok, Thailand

Abstracts submission deadline: July 12, 2019

Registration opens: September 2019

More information [here](#)

NHS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Joseph Roberts (4th year)

Joe won a poster competition in December 2018 at the University of Alabama-Birmingham's Comprehensive Arthritis, Musculoskeletal, Bone, and Autoimmunity Center Research day

Poster title: "Probiotic supplements accelerate bone repair and prevent systemic bone loss following femoral fracture"

He also gave a talk at the Emory University Musculoskeletal Research day (April 2019) on his dissertation work. Talk title: "Probiotic supplementation accelerates bone repair and prevents post-traumatic bone loss."

Kristine Dennis (3rd year)

Kristine had a paper published recently:

Dennis KK, Go YM, Jones DP. (2019) Redox systems biology of nutrition and oxidative stress. *Journal of Nutrition*. PMID: 30949678.

She also presented a poster titled: "Characterization of phytochelatins in commonly consumed plant foods with metabolomics". **Dennis KK**, Liu KH, Uppal K, Ma C, Go YM, Jones DP. Gordon Research Conference: Metabolomics and Human Health, February 2019.

Ahlia Sekkarie (3rd year)

Successfully defended her dissertation proposal: "The impact of maternal and early childhood diet on non-alcoholic fatty liver disease".

Reshma Roshania (3rd year)

Successfully defended her dissertation proposal: "Circular Migration and Child Nutrition in Bihar, India".

Rukshan Mehta (3rd year)

Successfully defended her dissertation proposal: "Environmental and Food Systems Exposures during Lactation: Are mycotoxins and pesticides in breastmilk associated with infant growth faltering in Haryana, India?"

Lucas Gosdin (2nd year)

Successfully defended his dissertation proposal: "Iron and folic acid supplementation for anemia control among adolescent girls: effectiveness of school-based delivery".

Lucas gave a short talk entitled "Healthful Diets for a Healthy Planet" at the Eating to Preserve the Globe" at an Emory event, *Eating to Preserve the Globe: A Dinner and Conversation about Your Impact on the World*.

He was also recently selected as a 2019 Laney Graduate School Piedmont TATTO Fellow in Sustainability, Teaching, and Curriculum.

Sonia Tandon (1st year)

Sonia had two papers published recently:

Maternal hemoglobin concentrations across pregnancy and maternal and child health: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Young MF, Oaks BM, **Tandon S**, Martorell R, Dewey KG, Wendt AS. *Ann N Y Acad Sci*. 2019; Review.

Effects of Supplemental Calcium and Vitamin D on Expression of Toll-Like Receptors and Phospho-IKK α/β in the Normal Rectal Mucosa of Colorectal Adenoma Patients. Hodge R, Mandle HB, Ray S, **Tandon S**, Peterson M, Henry A, Jahan FA, Bostick RM, Baron JA, Barry EL, Yacoub R, Rutherford RE, Seabrook ME, Fedirko V. *Cancer Prev Res (Phila)*. 2018;11 (11):707-716.

Paula Nesbeth (1st year)

Paula was selected as a 2019 Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship Honorable Mention.

NHS @ ASN NUTRITION 2019
Posters/Oral presentations

Saturday, June 8, 2019

Presenter Name	Oral or Poster Presentation	Time	Location
Moriah Bellissimo	Poster #490	12:00-1:00 pm	Halls A & B/ The Hub
Lucas Gosdin	Oral presentation	9:30 - 9:45 am	Room 317
Lucas Gosdin	Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition	6:00 - 7:00 pm	Hall B
Joe Roberts	Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition	6:00 - 7:00 pm	Hall B
Reshma Roshania	Poster #36	12:00 - 1:00 pm	Halls A & B/ The Hub
Whitney Leet	Emerging Leaders in Nutrition Science Poster Competition	6:00 - 7:00 pm	Hall B

Sunday, June 9, 2019

Joe Roberts	Poster theater flash session	2:00 – 3:00 pm	Poster Theater 1
Becca Jones	Poster		

Monday, June 10, 2019

Lucas Gosdin	Poster #319	12:45 - 1:45 pm	Halls A & B/ The Hub
Siran He	Poster		Halls A & B/ The Hub
Alysse Sekkarie	Poster	1:45 - 2:45 pm	Halls A & B/ The Hub
Rukshan Mehta	Poster theater flash session	8:00 - 9:30 am	Poster Theater 2

Kristine Dennis

Poster

1:45 - 2:45 pm

Halls A & B/ The Hub

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Whitney Leet

Oral presentation

8:00 - 10:00 am

Room 319/320

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

(AGGREGATED HERE SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEARCH THROUGH HUNDREDS OF ARCHIVED EMAILS)

USDA Mcgovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program

Organization: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-FAS-MCGOVERN-DOLE-PROGRAM-19

Application Deadline: **May 29, 2019 at 5:00 P.M**

More information [here](#).

CDC Early Care and Education - Obesity Prevention Fellowship

Organization: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Reference code: CDC-NCCDPHP-2019-0118

Application Deadline: **May 15, 2019 at 3:00 P.M.**

More information [here](#).

Laney Graduate School

JPE Mini Grants

Application Deadline: **June 1, 2019**

The Jones Program in Ethics is pleased to announce a series of mini-grants for Laney Graduate School PhD student research projects. Thinking broadly about how ethics intertwines with your research, a successful proposal will highlight particular ways your project engages in ethics. This could include, but is not limited to, a philosophical question, a pragmatic application, or a challenge to, or support of, cultural and societal norms.

These grants will be awarded to individuals (or a group) who are engaged in the stated research project. Additionally, preference will be given to those who reach across programs and disciplines with colleagues to explore ethical questions. Winners will be required to make a short public presentation of their work as a JPE 610 in Spring 2020. Applicants must be in good standing with the Laney Graduate School and their programs at the time of application and the award period.

Research Dietitian

Organization: U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)

Reference code: USAMRMC-RIEM-2019-0003

More information [here](#)

Nutrigenetics and Nutrigenomics Approaches for Nutrition Research (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

Organization: National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Reference code: R01 Research Project Grant

Open Date: January 6, 2018

Expiration Date: **September 8, 2019**

More information [here](#)

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Yaw Addo



Yaw Addo PhD, Doctoral Faculty NHS, Asst Prof of Global Health at RSPH and Emory GHI, Epidemiologist with CDC-Nutrition Branch (joint appointment with Emory).

Dr. Addo's academic path to current position

Dr. Addo received his BSc Hons Nutrition/Food Science (double major, Ghana), and then went on to pursue MS Nutritional Sciences (with Epidemiology) at University of Cincinnati, OH and then PhD in Nutrition & Epidemiology at University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, MN USA. He had his post-doc training in Maternal and Child Nutrition at Emory and has since stayed on as a faculty.

He has research interests in maternal child health, nutritional epidemiology, health surveillance systems, and factors and/or 'insults' that impact growth and health of children in different environments. This research interest in child growth was piqued by his exposure to the WHO Multicenter Growth Reference Study (MGRS) on which his undergrad advisor served as a site-PI for Ghana. Coming from a developing country to study in the US, the nutrition research he started with was not on child under-nutrition but rather an exposure to research in industrialized setting and on nutrition as related to chronic disease outcomes. He went directly into a doctoral program after MS degree with key goal of gaining experience in nutrition, child growth, and health surveillance datasets from industrialized (both free living and clinical longitudinal) settings.

To be able to develop skills of handling data, he continued taking elective methods courses, which have proven to be handy throughout the years. By way of this data heavy doctoral training, he also got to work with research and practicing pediatricians on several child growth projects – further enriching experiences. Postdoc at Emory was a great follow-on to his previous research as it added another dimension of training, and, he got to look at impact of early life growth over the lifecourse and intergenerational analyses of large international prospective birth cohort data from low to middle income countries. Additionally, he got the opportunity to work on impact evaluation programs in nutrition and infectious disease with the Emory Global Health Institute. Towards the end of post-doc at Emory, he got involved with several CDC projects concerning international micronutrient malnutrition in and currently serves as an Epidemiologist on this team at CDC (a joint appointment with Emory).

What did you enjoy the most about your graduate school experience?

The flexibility of his doctoral training. Due to his interest in child growth, his doctoral advisor designed independent/directed study credit hours for several semesters. This enabled him to read works of others, mostly textbooks, learning about content and growth research methods, and practicing them on his own with real dataset. He got to work with interesting dataset from very specialized populations clinical, community living and orphanage/adoption settings. He learned a great deal from these research exposures and has several research projects from these interactions to date. The NHS rotation program is akin to the independent study plan he was privileged to pursue.

Do you have any professional development advice for NHS students?

Take advantage of your rotation experience! It gives a great opportunity to think about a different research question, diversify your scope, learn a new skill, build a network of colleagues, all of which will be priceless. Furthermore, your dissertation work might just come out of your rotation. While diversifying is good, it also great to have niche of research of interest of your own. If you have the time, don't shy away from taking methods classes (biostatistics or epidemiology) and big data.

Describe any challenging and exciting parts of your current position

To able to contribute to scientific knowledge in publications and generating tools for growth monitoring that are being used by clinicians for patient care, being involved the public health implementation programs in countries that have yielded results and tools for advocacy and program scalability to ministries of health are to name just a few things that induce excitement.

My greatest challenge is being so excited about my work that I often overload myself with projects and responsibilities. I find these contributions humbling and they keep me eager about what's next.

What do you like to do in your free time?

Spending time with family and going to different parks, festivals, and fairs is one of

his favorite activities. He also enjoys reading novels, tends to look for authors by each continent. He is currently reading works by Asian authors (it's taking him 4 months to complete his latest novel!). He loves sports: track, soccer (he is a diehard Arsenal fan), he also follows a few national football(soccer) teams.

Potential Rotation Opportunities with Dr. Yaw Addo

- 1. Question pertaining to implementation and impact evaluation of rotavirus vaccine introduction against diarrhea in children under 5years in Kenya – Emory GHI*
- 2. BRINDA –Malaria, hemoglobinopathies and Erythropoiesis in Children Under 5 years*

SPRING SEMESTER PHOTOS



Dr. Miriam Vos, Director of Graduate Studies, was awarded NHS Faculty Mentor Award during Recruitment Weekend February 2019. Catherine Cioffi (4th year) presented the award.



NHS End of Semester Dinner on April 25, 2019.



NHS students at RSPH PhD student mixer May 1, 2019.



Join our Alumni and Student Group on LinkedIn!

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|May 2019 Newsletter|

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