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## NHS Student Newsletter

December 2019

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Dear NHS Students, Faculty, and Alumni,

We hope the holidays treated you well and that you were able to spend some quality time with family and friends! We want to start off the New Year by filling you in on all of the accomplishments and upcoming opportunities and events happening in NHS.

Before we get started, we want to share that our editorial committee has two new members, Jane Obi and Ben Cousineau. Thanks to Jane and Ben for joining us!

We also want to thank Dr. Usha Ramakrishnan and Dr. Miriam Vos for their outstanding support and leading positions as Program Director and DGS, respectively. We wish you all the success in your new academic roles!

And finally, we are very pleased to know that Dr. Aryeh Stein and Dr. Jean Welsh will be the new Co-DGS of the NHS Doctoral Program. All the success in these new roles!

As always, please let us know about any of your accomplishments and feel free to email us with any feedback or events that you want listed!

Happy New Year!

Paula, Natalia, Jane, and Ben

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### CONFERENCES

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#### **Micronutrient Forum 5th Global Conference 2020**

**When:** March 23-27, 2020

**Where:** Bangkok, Thailand

More information [here](#)

#### **2020 Georgia Nutrition Council Conference**

**Theme:** The Culture of Food and Nutrition

**When:** February 27-28, 2020

**Where:** Georgia Southern University in Statesboro

More information [here](#)

**Nutrition 2020 (American Society for Nutrition)**

**When:** May 30- June 2, 2020

**Where:** San Diego, CA

Abstracts due **January 31, 2020**

More information [here](#)

Information on travel awards [here](#)

**American Diabetes Association 80th Scientific Sessions**

**When:** June 12-16, 2020

**Where:** Chicago, IL

Abstracts due **January 13, 2020**

More information [here](#)

**Society for Epidemiologic Research**

**When:** June 16-19, 2020

**Where:** Boston, MA

Abstracts due **January 14, 2020**

More information [here](#)

**ANH Academy Week**

**When:** June 29- July 3, 2020

**Where:** Malawi

Abstracts due **January 15, 2020**

More information [here](#)

**Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior**

**When:** July 18-21, 2020

**Where:** San Diego, CA

Abstracts due **January 20, 2020**

More information [here](#)

**FNCE (Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics)**

**When:** October 17-20, 2020

**Where:** Indianapolis, IN

More information [here](#)

**American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo**

**Theme: Creating the Healthiest Nation: Preventing Violence**

**When:** Oct 24-28, 2020

**Where:** San Francisco, CA

Abstracts due **February 20, 2020**

More information [here](#)

**Obesity Week (Obesity Society Conference)**

**When:** November 2-6, 2020

**Where:** Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA

More information [here](#)

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## NHS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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### **Emily Faerber**

Successfully defended her dissertation: "Novel Strategies for Measuring Complementary Feeding and Achieving Behavior Change in East Africa".

### **Joseph Roberts (5th year)**

Joe had two papers accepted recently:

Roberts JL, Drissi H. Advances and promises of nutritional influences on natural bone repair. J Orthop Res. 2019 [Accepted in Press]

Paglia DN\*, Diaz-Hernandez ME\*, Roberts JL\*, Lorenzo J, Drissi H. Deletion of Runx1 in osteoclasts impairs murine fracture healing through progressive woven bone loss and delayed cartilage remodeling. J Orthop Res. 2019 [Accepted in Press] \*Equal contribution

Additionally, Joe had two conference abstracts accepted and will be presenting at the Orthopaedic Research Society meeting next February. Titles of the abstracts are:

1. "Conditional Deletion Of Wnt5a In Committed Osteoclasts Results In Bone Loss Through Decreased Bone Formation"
2. "Probiotic Supplements Protect Against Post-Traumatic Bone Loss By Tightening The Intestinal Barrier"

Joe won an oral competition at ASN 2019 for a project examining fracture repair in mice.

### **Moriah Bellissimo (5th year)**

Moriah was selected as a PEO International Scholar.

Her article titled "Plasma high-resolution metabolomics differentiates adults with normal weight obesity from lean individuals" was selected as a winner of the 7th annual Obesity Journal symposium.

### **Catherine Cioffi (5th year)**

Catherine did an oral presentation at American Diabetes Association annual meeting titled "Hepatic fat is a stronger correlate of key clinical and molecular abnormalities than visceral and abdominal subcutaneous fat in youth"

### **Kristine Dennis (4th year)**

Kristine had a paper published recently:

Dennis KK, Uppal K, Liu KH, Ma C, Liang B, Go YM, Jones DP.

(2019) Phytochelatin database: A resource for phytochelatin complexes of nutritional and environmental metals. Database. doi: 10.1093/database/baz083. PMID: 31267134.

She also presented a poster at the Metabolomics Association of North America conference, titled: "Metabolomics of metal-binding compounds in plant foods: implications for nutrition and environmental health". Dennis KK, Uppal K, Ma C, Liang B, Liu KH, Go YM, Jones DP. Metabolomics Association of North America Conference, November 2019.

Kristine received a PERFECT score on her F31 application.

**Miranda Cook (3rd year)**

Miranda was awarded the Emory Advanced Graduate Teaching Fellowship for the 2019-2020 academic year. AGTF is a program that aims to train STEM Ph.D. students in evidence-based teaching practices.

Her workshop proposal to help train new fruit and vegetable prescription program sites was accepted for the Georgia Organics conference in February 2020.

She was awarded a travel stipend to attend a course on Causal Inference in Behavioral Obesity Research at Indiana University this past August 2019.

Miranda`s proposal defense date is set for January 31st, 2020.

**Larelle Bookhart (3rd year)**

Larelle did a poster presentation at the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior conference:

Bookhart, L. Cook, M., McClintic, E. Reasoner, T., Webb Girard, A. Preliminary Evaluation of the 2018 Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program. Society for Nutrition Education & Behavior. Orlando, Florida. 2019.

**Lucas Gosdin (3rd year)**

Lucas has been accepted to present a poster and give a symposium talk at the Micronutrient Forum in Bangkok, Thailand, next March. The symposium talk is March 24th at 16:35 - 16:50.

**Irene Pyo (1st year)**

Irene has been accepted to present a poster and oral presentation at the Micronutrient Forum in Bangkok, Thailand, next March.

**Mica Jenkins (1st year)**

Mica was one of the winners of the 2019 EGHI Global Health Student Photo Contest. She attended the award ceremony to accept her award and to speak about her photo of a malnourished adolescent mother in Mozambique. The photo can be viewed [here](#).

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UPCOMING NHS DISSERTATION DEFENSES

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- **Catherine Cioffi:** Tuesday, 1/28 at 2 pm
  - **Moriah Bellissimo:** Friday, 1/31 at 12 pm
  - **Rebecca Jones:** Friday, 2/14 at 12 pm
  - **Siran He:** Wednesday, 2/19 at 10 am
  - **Majo Ramirez-Luzuriaga:** Friday, 2/21 at 12 pm
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**George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health  
Postdoctoral Scientist – Global Health and Nutrition**

Position description [here](#)

**Boston University School of Medicine  
NIH T32 Multidisciplinary Postdoctoral Fellowship – Cardiovascular Epidemiology**

- 3 positions available for April 2020
- 2 year fully funded post-doc positions

Position description [here](#)

**FELLOWSHIP IN MICROBIOME, INFECTIONS AND CHILD GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

**The Center for Global Child Health at The Hospital for Sick Children Position  
Postdoctoral Fellowship**

Description: Successful applicants will take a lead role in the design and execution of quantitative research studies covering a wide range of population health topics including the development of the early infant and maternal microbiome, risk factors for infection and/or microbial dysbiosis, and the influence of early life exposures (i.e., infection, exposure to medicines, etc.) on outcomes including linear growth and cognitive development of children in LMICs. Fellows should be able to apply advanced quantitative analysis skills to population derived datasets (i.e., biological and clinical data from longitudinal cohorts). Applications will also be accepted from researchers from laboratory science backgrounds if they have established skill sets in quantitative data analysis.

Fellowships will be full-time, based at The Hospital for Sick Children's Research Institute and Centre for Global Child Health, and for a duration that is flexible (2 to 3 years). Applicants should have: 1) a doctoral graduate degree in epidemiology, biostatistics, bioinformatics, nutritional sciences, or related discipline; AND, have demonstrated exemplary recent scholarship (i.e., first author publications, conference presentations, and/or successful grant applications) within one or more of the following areas of focus: epidemiology, human nutrition, reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child, and adolescent health (RMNCAH), or related discipline. Experience analyzing multi-dimensional or 'omics' data would be considered a major asset. Candidates with training in laboratory sciences will be considered if they have demonstrated an interest and experience in quantitative data analysis; OR, 2) completed a medical degree (e.g., MD, MBBS, etc.); AND, have completed a post-graduate degree in a quantitative discipline (e.g., MSc Epidemiology, MSc Biostatistics, or related discipline); AND, have demonstrated significant research scholarly progress (i.e., first author publications, conference presentations, and/or successful grant applications). Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. Guidelines on how to apply can be found [here](#).

**University of Wisconsin-Madison  
NIH T32 Metabolism and Nutrition Training Program (MANTP) – Postdoctoral Fellowship**

- Postdoctoral funding is available for up to three years.

Position description [here](#)

## **Rotation Opportunities**

### **Rotation Opportunities with Dr. Rani H Singh, Ph.D., RD**

Professor, Director of Emory Metabolic Nutrition Program

**Location:** Metabolic Nutrition Program within the Department of Human Genetics

**Project:** We have many opportunities for clinical, public health, and epidemiology projects which integrate the relationship between diet and nutrients, health outcomes and rare hereditary metabolic disorders (HMD) that require nutritional therapy. We have a supportive team to offer assistance and mentoring throughout the rotation.

Potential projects include investigating dietary outcomes and interventions for patients with phenylketonuria (PKU), analyzing data from diverse metabolic disorders, assisting with disease-specific guideline projects, - omics research, biomarker analysis of stored biological samples, chart reviews relevant to dietary interventions and outcomes, analysis of data from Emory Genetics Annual Metabolic Camp databases, volunteers opportunities with the Annual Metabolic Camp, engagement in a bridge program (MNT4P) that improves metabolic patient access to needed formulas and specialty foods; measures of physical activity, energy metabolism, and cardiopulmonary health in metabolic disorder patients; and development of online training and education programs for practitioners and treating patients with HMD.

There may be opportunity for additional project themes as time and funding allow.

If students wish to talk further about customizing a rotation with project please contact Dr. Teresa Douglas via Emory email (Teresa.d.douglas@emory.edu).

### **Rotation Opportunities with Dr. Jean Welsh (Email: [jwelsh1@emory.edu](mailto:jwelsh1@emory.edu))**

1. Pediatric nutrition clinical trial –clinical/primary data collection rotation. We have a new randomized comparative effectiveness methods pilot study, just funded by the Pediatric Center, to assess the effectiveness in reducing dietary sugars through a grocery shopping based low sugar diet intervention compared to traditional food provision in teens who have non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. Skill building opportunities possible through this rotation include working with the team to finalize the SOPs, participant recruitment, provision of nutrition education/counseling, dietary assessment, and data analysis. The student will have the opportunity to lead development (and serve as first author) of a manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

2. Qualitative evaluation of dietary intervention among teens This mixed-methods project involves a qualitative assessment of the intervention and a quantitative evaluation of the long-term impact of a RCT/dietary intervention previously implemented among 20 adolescents (10 in Atlanta and 10 in San Diego) with fatty liver disease, overweight or obesity. This project will involve doing guided interviews with the teens and their parents, analysis of the data collected, and manuscript preparation (first authorship opportunity available). Clinic records will be used to assess the long-term biological impact of the intervention. To express your interest or for more information, please contact Dr. Jean Welsh at: [jwelsh1@emory.edu](mailto:jwelsh1@emory.edu).

### **Rotation Opportunity with Alvarez/Ziegler lab**

**Description:** High-resolution plasma metabolomics analysis from a completed pilot study of bone health in post-menopausal women was done by the Emory's Clinical Biomarkers Laboratory. A cross-sectional, observational analysis of metabolite abundances and metabolic pathway enrichment comparisons can be made by bone mineral density and other body composition measures (which are already collected). The project will involve R coding and packages developed by the Emory Clinical Biomarkers Laboratory (xmsPANDA, mummichog).

**Contact:** Dr. Thomas Ziegler ([tzieg01@emory.edu](mailto:tzieg01@emory.edu)) or Dr. Jessica Alvarez ([jessica.alvarez@emory.edu](mailto:jessica.alvarez@emory.edu))

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## GRANT AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

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### **First Nations – GATHER Food Sovereignty Grant**

Organization: First Nations Development Institute (Foundation)

Application Deadline: Thursday, February 27, 2020, no later than 5 p.m. Mountain Time

More information [here](#)

### **Summer programs at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Grant**

Organization: National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Federal/State)

SIP (Summer Internship Program) Subprograms: Graduate Summer Opportunity to Advance Research (G-SOAR) and Graduate Data Science Summer Program (GDSSP)

The application for summer 2020 is now [open](#).

### **ORISE - Current CDC Research Opportunities**

All opportunities can be found [here](#). Below are some CDC research opportunities that might be of interest:

#### **CDC Public Health Fellowship**

Organization: Center for Preparedness and Response (CPR)

Opportunity number: CDC-CPR-2020-0054

Academic Level: Post-Master`s

Application deadline: 2/12/2020 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

[More info](#)

#### **CDC Global Health Policy Fellowship**

Organization: Center for Global Health (CGH)

Opportunity number: CDC-CGH-2020-0053

Academic Level: Post-Masters

Application deadline: 2/12/2020 3:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

[More info](#)

#### **CDC Epidemiology and Information Science Fellowship**

Organization: Influenza Division (ID)

Opportunity number: CDC-ID-2020-0050

Academic Level: Postdoctoral

Application deadline: 1/29/2020 3:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

[More info](#)

#### **CDC Health Communications Fellowship**

Organization: National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP)

Opportunity number: CDC-NCHHSTP-2020-0048

Academic Level: Post-Master`s

Application deadline: 1/27/2020 3:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

[More info](#)

#### **CDC Diabetes Education and Prevention Fellowship**

Organization: National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP)

Opportunity number: CDC-NCCDPHP-2020-0046  
Academic Level: Post-Master`s  
Application deadline: 1/20/2020 3:00:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

[More info](#)

**CDC Health Communications Fellowship**

Organization: Center for Preparedness and Response (CPR)  
Opportunity number: CDC-CPR-2020-0045  
Academic Level: Post-Bachelors, Post-Masters  
Application deadline: 1/20/2020 3:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

[More info](#)

**CDC Applied Research and Translation Fellowship**

Organization: Division of Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention (DHDSP)  
Opportunity number: CDC-DHDSP-2020-0044  
Academic Level: Post-Bachelor`s, Post-Master`s, Postdoctoral  
Application deadline: 1/31/2020 3:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

[More info](#)

**CDC Epidemiology of Chronic Kidney Disease Fellowship**

Organization: National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP)  
Opportunity number: CDC-NCCDPHP-2020-0040  
Academic Level: Graduate Students, Postdoctoral  
Application deadline: 1/14/2020 3:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

[More info](#)

**CDC Program Implementation and Evaluation Fellowship**

Organization: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)  
Opportunity number: CDC-NCIPC-2020-0042  
Academic Level: Post-Masters, Postdoctoral  
Application deadline: 2/14/2020 3:00 PM Eastern Time Zone

[More info](#)

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

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***Dr. Parmi Suchdev***

(Associate Director of Emory Global Health Institute, Joint faculty in Department of Pediatrics, Hubert Department of Global Health, and Nutrition and Health Sciences, Medical Epidemiologist at CDC, and Pediatric Hospitalist at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta)



**Background and Career Path**

Dr. Suchdev completed his undergraduate at the University of Arizona, where he majored in biochemistry and molecular biology. He developed a passion for public health during a dual MPH/MD program at Northwestern University in Chicago. After completing his residency in Seattle at the University of Washington, he moved to Atlanta for the CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service Fellowship, eventually becoming faculty at Emory in 2007. He currently splits his time working as a medical epidemiologist for the CDC, a pediatric hospitalist for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and as an Emory faculty member for the Department of Pediatrics, the Hubert Department of Global Health, and the Nutrition and Health Sciences Program.

Dr. Suchdev's research interests center around improving nutrition and micronutrient status globally. His research targets populations at high risk for micronutrient malnutrition. He is an expert on home-food fortification programs and has worked on projects both domestically and internationally. He is also interested in the interconnectedness between infection and nutrition status, with the belief that nutrition can serve as a vital sign. His research involves investigating the influence of infection on nutritional biomarkers.

**What was your favorite part of your graduate school experience?**

"I really enjoyed the MPH component of my training at Northwestern. I valued its hands-on learning style and the diversity of the program. It really sought to encompass and expose you to all aspects of public health. I made a lot of great mentors and was able to network with many of the leaders at the CDC, which helped lead me to my EIS Fellowship there."

**Do you have any professional development advice for NHS students?**

"Seek out opportunities. Emory is a big place but small enough that the faculty are approachable. The nutrition program is unique in that the faculty sits across campus so it really diversifies the opportunities. If there is something you are really passionate about, find a way to make it happen and don't take no for an answer."

**What is the most challenging and exciting aspects of your career?**

"One of the biggest challenges is putting all of the pieces together. Having so many different roles is great but it can come at a cost. I check in with myself regularly to make sure that I am happy and still enjoy what I am doing.

I love being able to do all of my passions in one location. Everything I do happens to fall on Clifton Road; I don't think there is any place else that could offer something like that. I also love working with the Ph.D. Students. It opens up many doors and allows me to achieve things I couldn't do on my own."

**How do you spend your free time?**

"I spend a lot of time with my two kids. They enjoy gymnastics and soccer. I try to do a lot of traveling, and I enjoy playing tennis and soccer. One of my favorite things is cooking; I love taking a blank slate and being able to make something delicious out of it."

**Rotation Opportunities**

Dr. Suchdev offers a great connection for students interested in working with the CDC on a rotation. The CDC has obesity, physical activity, and nutrition branches that he is happy to link students with. He says there lots of opportunities to work with data analysis and also jump on board with some of the international work his group is currently doing. In addition, he works as a co-PI with Dr. Melissa Young on the BRINDA Project (Biomarkers Reflecting Nutritional Determinants of Anemia). Together they are looking at relationships between nutritional biomarkers and inflammation with a goal of improving nutritional assessment. He is also open to brain-storming opportunities for clinical rotations that can incorporate his role as a pediatric clinician.

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Join our Alumni and Student Group on LinkedIn!

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