



University Center for Social and Urban Research

annual report

July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014

UCSUR

University Center for
Social and Urban Research

Annual Report

July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014

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Who We Are

University Center for Social and Urban Research

The University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) was established in 1972 to serve as a resource for researchers and educators interested in the basic and applied social and behavioral sciences. As a hub for interdisciplinary research and collaboration, UCSUR promotes a research agenda focused on the social, economic, and health issues most relevant to our society. UCSUR maintains a permanent research infrastructure available to faculty and the community with the capacity to:

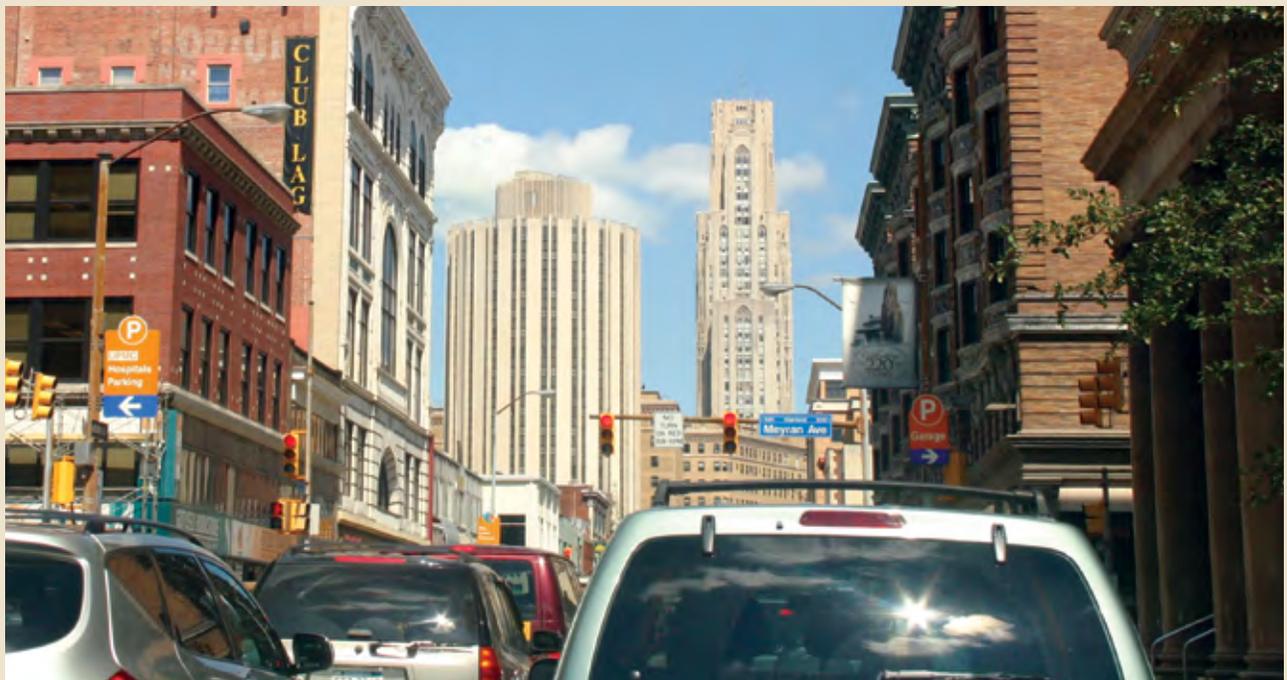
- Conduct all types of survey research, including complex Web surveys;
- Carry out regional econometric modeling;
- Analyze qualitative data using state-of-the-art computer methods;
- Obtain, format, and analyze spatial data;
- Acquire, manage, and analyze large secondary and administrative data sets including Census data;
- Design and carry out descriptive, evaluation, and intervention studies; and
- Provide information technology services for the collection, management, and analysis of sensitive

research data to assure the highest levels of security and privacy.

The long-term goals of UCSUR fall into three broad domains:

1. Provide state-of-the-art research and support services for investigators interested in interdisciplinary research in the behavioral, social, and clinical sciences;
2. Develop nationally recognized research programs within the Center in a few selected areas; and
3. Support the teaching mission of the University through graduate student, post-doctoral, and junior faculty mentoring, teaching courses on research methods in the social sciences, and providing research internships to undergraduate and graduate students.

Achieving these goals requires that we continually upgrade and improve the research infrastructure of the Center, and that we recruit, develop, and maintain a core staff of investigators capable of being leaders in their fields.



Message from the Director



Richard Schulz

Creating a Regional Data Center

Optimal decision making requires accurate, timely, and easily accessible data. Goals, such as improving neighborhood housing quality, social service delivery, and health care access greatly benefit from broadly accessible information, sound analysis, and tools to transform and visualize data. To improve decision making and enhance civic engagement, efforts are needed to improve the availability and quality of public information. In many communities, this information is managed on paper or spreadsheets and is not easily accessible to the public. When data is shared, it is often difficult to find, infrequently updated, and poorly documented. Few if any standards are in place to assure data quality and comparability across time and geography.

The Internet has enabled the creation of tools designed to help people share and use information over computers, tablets, and smartphones. At the same time, a growing number of residents with software development skills are building new tools to collect and disseminate regional data.

For more than two decades, the University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) at the University of Pittsburgh has been the go-to resource for data and analyses to inform regional public policy. In close collaboration with the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County and the support of the local foundation community, UCSUR is poised to launch the Regional Data Center. We propose to build on and enhance existing expertise in the Center to create a comprehensive Regional Data Center that will:

- Make administrative, survey, Census, and geographic data available and easy to use by a wide range of individuals from government officials to ordinary citizens.
- Promote the role of evaluation, benchmarking, indicator analysis, and the use of geographic information systems data to support decision making.
- Enhance civic engagement by improving interaction and collaboration between residents, government, civic organizations, and the University.
- Enhance data literacy in the Region.

To achieve these goals, the Regional Data Center will:

- Integrate publicly available administrative, survey, Census, and geographic data on a single Web-based platform.
- Provide annual summaries on key indicators for the region using multiple data sources.
- Create and manage an open data portal allowing multiple jurisdictions to share municipal data internally and externally.
- Encourage and support local governments to publish data to the open data portal.
- Create a series of events and activities to build community and information tools involving civic-minded programmers, governments, residents, and community organizations.
- Provide training and technical assistance in the application of data, analyses, and the use of data visualization tools.

Programs

In response to faculty interests and current domestic policy issues, UCSUR develops interdisciplinary research programs that address regional and national policy issues. The resources described in the next section are provided by one or more of these programs. As new policy issues emerge, UCSUR is prepared to facilitate and coordinate the development of additional programs identified by interested faculty. Existing research programs include:

Survey Research Program (SRP)

Program Director
Scott Beach

Maintains a highly experienced staff of survey professionals, trained interviewers, and data management specialists. Services are available to faculty, staff, and students throughout the University and to local, state, and federal agencies and others working in the public interest. Offers the capability to execute any or all phases of a survey research project, including sample design, questionnaire construction, data collection, data processing, statistical analysis, and reporting.

Urban and Regional Analysis (URA)

Program Director
Sabina Deitrick

Promotes scholarly analysis of urban and regional development through multidisciplinary research and technical assistance in local, national and international issues. Furthers our understanding of the causes and consequences of regional economic development and social change, enhances the analytic basis for public policy decisions and civic engagement, aids in the evaluation of policy alternatives, and applies GIS and neighborhood indicators to understand community revitalization.

Gerontology

Program Director
Richard Schulz

Associate Program Director
Judith Matthews

Initiates, coordinates, and facilitates research on aging. In collaboration with faculty in more than a dozen different disciplines (e.g., psychiatry, anesthesiology, rheumatology, nursing, epidemiology, Engineering, Computer Science),

program faculty and staff play an active role in developing proposals for research focused on psychosocial, behavioral, cognitive, and physical aspects of aging.

Qualitative Data Analysis Program (QDAP)

Program Director
Donald Musa

Offers a rigorous approach to qualitative data collection and analysis including focus group facilitation; interviewing; analysis of textual or Web site information; audio and video transcription and analysis; data preparation, cleaning, and management; codebook development and testing; coding and multi-coder adjudication; reliability and validity reporting; and results analysis and reporting.

Projects conducted in all these areas illustrate the Center's commitment to enhancing scientific understanding of social phenomena while generating information for improved policy making in both the public and private sectors.



What We Do: Center Resources

Survey Research Services

UCSUR provides survey research services through the Survey Research Program (SRP). SRP maintains a highly experienced staff of survey professionals, trained interviewers, and data management specialists. SRP services are available to faculty, staff, and students throughout the University and to local, state, and federal agencies and others working in the public interest.

SRP is able to carry out any or all phases of a survey research project, including sample design, questionnaire design, data collection, data processing, statistical analysis, and reporting. SRP staff have the training and experience to design scientifically valid studies customized to client research needs. SRP can help clarify study objectives and provide advice on how to obtain the highest quality data within available resource constraints. More specifically, SRP provides assistance in the following areas:

Sample Design

SRP staff provide advice on sampling methodology and sample size to meet study objectives and budget. Services include in-house development of specialized sample frames, or consultation with commercial sampling firms to obtain an appropriate sample. Examples of the types of samples provided include:

- **Random digit dialing (RDD) samples:** particularly suited for telephone surveys of the general population, computer-generated telephone numbers are used to target specific geographic areas, including both listed and unlisted phone numbers. RDD sampling for any region of the United States is available.

- **Targeted/listed samples:** samples to reach specific subgroups or rare populations. These are useful for telephone recruitment of participants for larger studies. They are also used for supplementing RDD samples with over-samples of rare populations.

Data Collection Methodology

SRP staff can provide:

- Advice on the most productive and cost-effective method of data collection (mail, telephone, in-person, or Internet/Web-based), and the effective use of technology for surveys.
- Specification of procedures for maximizing response rates within the framework of available resources. For example, recommended number of attempts to contact respondents, securing initial cooperation, following-up incomplete interviews, converting refusals into acceptances, and use of mixed-mode designs.

Questionnaire Development

SRP staff can provide assistance with all aspects of the development of a reliable and valid instrument, including

- Writing, formatting, and ordering questions
- Asking sensitive questions
- Instrument pre-testing

Interviewing and Data Collection

SRP conducts local, regional, and national telephone and mail surveys with both general and special populations, as well as in-person surveys in the Southwestern

Pennsylvania region. SRP also conducts Internet/Web-based surveys.

SRP relies on a pool of experienced interviewers for telephone and in-person surveys. These include both undergraduate and graduate students, as well as non-students under the management of senior fieldwork supervisors.

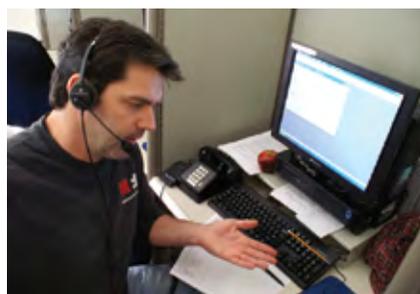
Interviewer training and quality control:

Interviewers are trained in general and project-specific interviewing techniques, such as maintaining objectivity, reading questions as written, and securing respondent cooperation. Training involves a combination of lecture, written handouts, video instruction, and role-playing. Interviewers are continuously monitored during data collection for quality assurance, and periodic retraining sessions occur as necessary.

Computer-assisted telephone

interviewing (CATI): A 45-line phone bank at UCSUR is dedicated to a computer-assisted telephone interviewing system. Interviewers read questions as they appear on the screen and enter the respondents' answers directly into the computer. CATI allows complex question contingencies, sample management, and call scheduling to be handled automatically.

RDD cell phone surveys: UCSUR has experience conducting random digit dialing (RDD) cell phone surveys in order to supplement traditional landline RDD telephone surveys. This methodology insures inclusion of cell-phone only households, estimated at 40 percent of the U.S. population (and growing). Cell-phone only households are typically younger, more likely to be employed, and more ethnically diverse, and their exclusion can result in significant biases in landline-only surveys.



Computer-assisted personal

interviewing (CAPI): With this type of interview an interviewer, using a laptop computer, reads questions to the respondent and then enters the answers directly into a database on the laptop computer. CAPI is programmed similar to computer-assisted telephone interviewing, and provides the same advantages (automated skips, randomized experiments, etc.).

Audio computer-assisted self

interviewing (ACASI): With this application a respondent operates a computer, the computer displays the questions on screen and plays recordings of the questions to the respondent who enters answers directly into a database on the computer. A respondent typically uses headphones with our ACASI solutions in order to maintain response privacy. ACASI enhances perceived privacy for sensitive questions and is ideal for less literate populations. ACASI is similar to CATI, CAPI, and CASI in programming requirements and function.

Interactive voice response (IVR): IVR is an automated system where a recorded voice administers survey questions/scripts and detects voice and keypad inputs from a home phone or cell phone. Privacy is enhanced by switching to IVR from a live interviewer for the administration of sensitive questions. IVR is also ideal for ecological momentary assessment (EMA).

Web-based data collection: SRP has the capability to conduct Web-based surveys and other online data collection and management. UCSUR operates secure servers that host such activities.

Mobile device data collection: SRP has capabilities to design applications for the collection of data on smart phones and other mobile devices. These include tools for the collection and integration of self-reported survey, location tracking, and physiological monitoring data for real-time ecological momentary assessment studies.

Additional data collection services:

Telephone surveys using paper/pencil methodology, mail surveys, and in-person surveys in the Southwestern Pennsylvania region are also available.

Surveys of Special and Hard-to-reach Populations

UCSUR has conducted numerous surveys of special, hard-to-reach populations, including numerous clinical populations, children, and ethnically and linguistically diverse samples. UCSUR has conducted interviews in Spanish, Chinese, and Korean and has the capability to conduct international surveys.

Research Registry

UCSUR has developed and maintains an IRB-approved research registry currently containing more than 4,000 local residents who have agreed to be contacted for possible surveys and other research studies. The participants are recruited to the registry on an ongoing basis from the pool of respondents to UCSUR-conducted population-based telephone surveys. The registry includes detailed contact information and demographic information including age, gender, race, education level, marital status, household composition, employment status, and income. This allows for targeting of participants for studies with specific eligibility requirements. External investigators can contract with SRP to access the registry for study recruitment.

Data Management

Using a variety of computer programs, languages, database management software, and operating systems, SRP staff are available to perform a number of data management functions, including database development, editing, coding, and survey data processing. SRP staff also have the capability to integrate survey respondent data with GIS-based spatial data, and with other secondary data sources.

Statistical Analysis of Survey Data

SRP staff can perform statistical analyses of survey data, ranging from simple tabulations to relatively complex statistical modeling using a variety of statistical packages. Analytic capabilities include:

- Descriptive statistical analyses of survey responses, including calculations of sampling error, and statistical adjustments for unequal selection probabilities and non-response
- Cross-classification analyses with demographic or other predictive factors
- Multivariate analyses, including ANOVA, factor analysis, linear and non-linear regression, logistic regression, categorical methods, and structural equation modeling
- Longitudinal analyses

Report Preparation and Presentation

SRP staff have experience in the production of a variety of reports, including:

- Simple tabulations
- Executive summaries
- In-depth narrative reports
- Oral presentations of results to interested parties



What We Do: Center Resources, continued

Urban and Regional Analysis Services

UCSUR's Urban and Regional Analysis Program (URA) analyzes major economic and demographic trends in the Pittsburgh region in national and international contexts. URA brings together faculty, research staff, and graduate students to examine important urban and regional issues, with the results disseminated widely to state and regional policymakers, local officials, and community and economic development organizations. URA also partners with other researchers and organizations across the globe to advance urban and regional knowledge. URA's research extends from regional development to community change and examines their consequences for regional restructuring, equity implications, and policy analysis. In addition to the performance of the regional economy, specific strategic economic sectors are examined through in-depth studies and their implications for workforce development and job creation. The program also fosters the development of new methods of data collection and analysis. URA research is published in scholarly journals and technical reports and has been an important element of UCSUR's commitment to providing regional economic development analysis to both the academic community and the Pittsburgh region. Through URA's work, UCSUR is one of two research affiliates of the Pennsylvania State Data Center, the official source of demographic and economic data for the state. UCSUR maintains a repository for electronic and printed Census data and publications. For the latest urban and regional developments, visit The Pittsburgh Urban Blog (The PUB) at www.ucsur.pitt.edu/thepub.php.

The Pittsburgh Regional Economic Model

The Pittsburgh Regional Economic model is a large-scale regional econometric model developed by Regional Economic Models Inc. (REMI) and

supported by UCSUR in partnership with the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission. The REMI model provides a powerful framework for economic analysis related to structural change in the Pittsburgh region and complements a variety of activities undertaken by the Center. The Center continues to maintain this model and provide support to local agencies as needed as part of the need for quality regional economic forecasting and impact analysis in the region. UCSUR staff calibrates the Pittsburgh REMI model based on local conditions and our 12 years of experience applying the model to the Pittsburgh region. This capability to forecast future regional economic conditions and conduct detailed impact analysis of potential changes in the regional economy is unique in the region. The model includes the seven county Metropolitan Statistical Area (Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Washington, and Westmoreland) plus Greene and Indiana counties. This model enables us to analyze economic and demographic impacts across the SWPA region. Recently, the REMI model was used for projects for the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Allegheny Places - The Allegheny County Comprehensive Plan, and the Taxpayer Return on Investment in Pennsylvania Public Libraries Study.

Regional Data Center

The Regional Data Center (RDC) at UCSUR is being created to support regional initiatives through the provision of timely and useful information and related services. Political fragmentation and the lack of effective public information systems in many communities provide an opportunity to build shared systems for managing regional information. Such systems allow for the establishment of effective data standards, provide publicly accessible and timely information in real-time, create a legal framework for information sharing, and increase the efficiency and effectiveness

of local government. Shared systems and common standards will also increase opportunities for cross-community, cross-jurisdictional, and cross-sector collaboration. We want Pittsburgh to serve as a global model for collaborative data infrastructure to support research, analysis, decision making, and community engagement.

The RDC will serve as the Pittsburgh region's open data portal, and will begin to host datasets from various governments, public authorities, university research projects, non-profit and community organizations in 2015. The RDC and portal will be hosted and managed at UCSUR and will provide a resource for interested organizations to contribute their data to a central location and create a data-rich environment in the Pittsburgh Region. Training and technical assistance will also be provided to data publishers and data users. Key partners of UCSUR in this effort include the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.

Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System (PNCIS)

The Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System (PNCIS) is a property-based information system that has collected, curated, and shared over one hundred indicators from more than twenty data sets vital to community planning and revitalization efforts in Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh. Data available through the PNCIS include land use, vacancy, property ownership, crime, foreclosure, tax delinquency, and real estate sales. The data are made available to over 800 trained users representing 200 different organizations through the PNCIS Website. Training is also provided in-class to students at local universities, many of whom have continued to use PNCIS in their careers. PNCIS promotes and assists in neighborhood development and revitalization through research and analysis to reduce blight,

promote neighborhood investment, and improve communities. UCSUR operates PNCIS in agreement with the Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development (PPND) and the City of Pittsburgh. PNCIS is also a partner in the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership, a consortium of over 35 local partners across the USA, based at the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C.

Pittsburgh Indicators Project: PittsburghTODAY.org

PittsburghTODAY.org is an in-depth journalism and regional indicators program that compares Greater Pittsburgh with 14 other regions on hundreds of measures. The statistical indicators provide reliable and timely information that shows this region's strengths and weaknesses and how it compares with other regions. Additionally, PittsburghTODAY.org undertakes in-depth journalistic projects in subjects that are important to the region's future.

Support of the Southwestern Planning Commission (SPC)

UCSUR continues to support the Southwestern Planning Commission (SPC) in developing its forecast of regional population and employment for the region for SPC's long range planning. This is a primary function of the REMI model, which is essential to regional planning because of its extensive demographic modeling capabilities. UCSUR staff provides both technical and research consulting to SPC through the use of the REMI model and its applications to produce an accurate forecast for the region. SPC uses these baseline forecasts from the REMI model to evaluate a range of long term transportation projects for the region and decide on funding priorities. SPC is also required by federal mandate to provide 30-year projections of population and employment to the U.S. Department of Transportation as part of their planning process.



Pittsburgh Economic Quarterly

UCSUR publishes the *Pittsburgh Economic Quarterly* (PEQ) to support organizations and staff involved with economic development throughout the region. PEQ highlights important economic and demographic trends that impact the regional economy and the competitiveness of the regional economy. PEQ is an extension of the continuing work done at UCSUR. Each issue includes the latest data on regional employment and economic conditions. Feature articles cover a variety of issues relating to the regional economy and how it is changing, along with analyses of other economic and social factors that directly impact the future of the region. Significant positive response to PEQ has resulted in substantial press coverage and has filled a major need in the region for ongoing study of current economic trends. Recent issues of PEQ addressed these key topics:

- The State of Aging in Allegheny County
- Residential Segregation and Changes within Allegheny County, 1970-2010
- Labor Force Participation Trends in the Pittsburgh Region
- Economic and Community Impacts of Colleges and Universities in Smaller Communities in Western Pennsylvania

- Resident Workplace Location, Commuting Flows, and the City of Pittsburgh

Gerontology Services

Gerontology Research Registry

The Gerontology Program at the University of Pittsburgh has been conducting federally-funded research on critical issues related to health, aging, and family caregiving for the past 20 years. Much of what is known about living with different illnesses has resulted from medical and psychological research such as that conducted in our program. This program is recognized as one of the leading social gerontology research programs in the nation.

As part of our mission, we have created the Gerontology Program Research Registry, which is made up of individuals who are willing to be contacted for participation in future research studies on various issues.

Graduate Certificate in Gerontology

This program is designed to serve individuals from diverse educational, employment, and professional backgrounds who are interested in acquiring basic knowledge about gerontology and geriatrics and specialized knowledge of aging and aging processes. Students may focus broadly on a course of study in a general multidisciplinary track, or they may select a track focused on prevention and healthy aging. They may instead choose to concentrate in areas of specialization including dentistry, gerontechnology, law, mental health, nursing, occupational therapy/rehabilitation, public health, and social work.

Whether to gain credentials and skills for a competitive advantage in the marketplace or to enhance understanding of aging to inform the delivery of services, programs, or products, students may solely enroll in this certificate program or they may pursue the certificate in conjunction with a degree program. Credits earned for the certificate may often be applied toward a degree program.

What We Do: Center Resources, continued

The general multidisciplinary track is also available through Pitt Online (visit www.online.pitt.edu), and more information about this Graduate Certificate in Gerontology can be found at: www.ucsur.pitt.edu/gerontology_certificate.php.

Technology and Aging

Several projects within the Gerontology Program are examining the utility and acceptability of emerging technologies intended to enable older adults to live as independently as possible and to support family caregivers. With input from potential end-users and other stakeholders, social scientists and health professionals are partnering with technology developers to ensure the usability of intelligent systems and devices for these target populations. These efforts are supported by the National Institute of Nursing Research and the Quality of Life Technology Center, an engineering research center funded by the National Science Foundation which involves multidisciplinary collaboration among a cadre of researchers from the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University.

In addition to privacy concerns and policy issues related to collection of personal data and technology adoption, our team investigates how target users interact with novel hardware and software for monitoring safety, health, and functional status, as a basis for intervention. Technologies being studied include a multiuser health kiosk for community-residing older adults with limited access to personal computers for health monitoring and information and wearable computer vision technology that enables in-home assessment of functional capabilities and caregiving quality.

Qualitative Data Analysis Services

The Qualitative Data Analysis Program (QDAP) at UCSUR provides a resource to the University community in all aspects of qualitative data collection and analysis. Experienced QDAP staff can carry out or assist with all phases of a qualitative research project including study design, project management and coordination, data collection utilizing interviews, focus groups, and document or Web site analysis, audio and video transcription, data coding and analysis, and results reporting.

Data Collection and Management

QDAP staff has the expertise to collect and manage a range of qualitative data utilizing a variety of methods and sources. This includes conducting in-depth interviews, facilitating focus groups, and collecting qualitative data from both traditional and innovative sources such as document and textual material, videos, images and other visual material, and Web sources such as Web sites, blogs and e-mails. QDAP provides high quality transcription of audio and video recordings for further analysis. QDAP staff can provide management services ranging from full project management to assistance in the management of data collection including recruitment, screening, and scheduling of participants, depending on project needs. Using qualitative data analysis and management software, QDAP staff can also organize and manage qualitative data in preparation for analysis.

Value-Added Coding

Accurate and reliable coding is central to qualitative and mixed methods analysis. QDAP offers a rigorous approach to analyzing a variety of qualitative materials. Experienced coders deliver the data you

need in a timely and expert manner from a wide variety of sources. Original material for analysis might include in-depth interviews, open-ended survey answers, field notes, transcripts from focus groups, Web blogs, e-mails, Web site content, videos and images, results from database searches (such as LexisNexis™), congressional testimony, historical texts, and a host of other unstructured but digitized data sets. QDAP staff works with your research team to craft an analysis plan and codebook with a tailored methodology designed to code the material for key concepts and relationships. Multiple coders can quickly and reliably extract the data you need to reach valid inferences.

QDAP employs University of Pittsburgh students and UCSUR professional staff trained in data collection and in using qualitative analysis software. We maintain a 15-station transcription and qualitative data coding lab which utilizes Olympus transcription software; ATLAS.ti, a widely used qualitative data analysis software package that supports project management, enables multiple coders to collaborate on a single project, and generates output that facilitates the analysis process; Transana, a video coding software package; and a specialized, in-house program for quality control which calculates inter-coder reliability statistics and simplified adjudication of coder disagreement. On the QDAP Web site, we support the Coding Analysis Toolkit (CAT), a Web-based suite of tools that facilitates post-coding analysis of qualitative data. In addition, we offer training seminars and one-on-one training sessions for faculty, staff and students in using ATLAS.ti, Transana, and other qualitative data analysis software.

Services Provided

- Study design, management and coordination
- Interviewer training and management
- Participant recruitment

- Data collection including focus group facilitation, in-depth interviewing and document analysis
- Transcription of audio and video recordings
- Data preparation, cleaning, and management
- Codebook development and testing
- Coding and coding adjudication
- Coder reliability and validity reporting
- Results analysis and expression
- Software training for qualitative data analysis software (ATLAS.ti, Transana, Coding Analysis Toolkit)

Geographical Information Systems and Visual Analytics Services

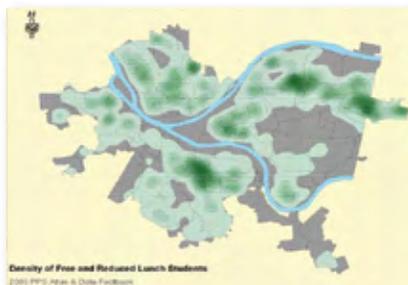
Geographic Information Services

A Geographic Information System (GIS) is an information system designed to work with data referenced by spatial or geographic coordinates. GIS technology has proven to be invaluable in many areas of application, including municipal and federal government operations, health care, business management, and the social and natural sciences. It is a complex technology with many subtle nuances that requires considerable training, tools, and experience to fully exploit.

Visual Analytics

Visual Analytics (VA) is the use of graphical, image, and other pictographic techniques to display and navigate large sets of data for the purpose of discovering relationships among the data. Analysts are quickly overwhelmed by large listings or tables of data. Through visualization techniques, millions of data points can be summarized in displays such as dashboards, maps, and diagrams. Color, size, position, orientation, and other features are used to represent characteristics of the data. Specialized tools have been

developed to highlight relationships and changes in relationships. Anomalies are easily detectable. Real time and varying data can be shown by animation.



Sample analytic map showing where impoverished students reside.

Services Provided

- GIS needs analysis
- GIS system design and implementation
- Custom GIS programming
- Digital spatial database design, development and maintenance
- Network analysis
- Global positioning systems
- Web-based systems
- Spatial and simulation modeling
- Integration of artificial intelligence techniques
- Consulting
- Training
- Education
- System integration
- Real time GIS

Experience

UCSUR has decades of experience in applying GIS technology to many situations. Our efforts have consistently withstood the test of time and post-project scrutiny. Refer to Web site for specific examples: www.ucsur.pitt.edu.

Acquisition and Management of Secondary Data

UCSUR provides assistance for secondary data acquisition and management to the academic community and to the Pittsburgh region as a whole. As an affiliate of the Pennsylvania State Data Center, the official source of demographic and economic data for the state, UCSUR is a repository for electronic and printed Census information, including Census 2010 data. UCSUR also acquires and maintains a variety of government statistics, economic and labor market data, and other types of secondary information on a regular basis. This information is available to the academic community and to the general public.

The data acquisition and management services UCSUR provides include:

- Assistance in acquiring secondary data stored at UCSUR to interested individuals and organizations
- Assistance in locating and acquiring a variety of other types of secondary information
- Expertise and consultation in the appropriate use and understanding of various secondary data sources
- Evaluation and interpretation of policy relevant secondary information data for government, business, labor, media and other organizations

UCSUR also conducts demographic, economic, and policy research and analysis and reports on secondary data and data trends relevant to the Pittsburgh region, both alone and in combination with various primary data sources. This research is reported through a number of venues, including research reports and newsletters, such as the Pittsburgh Economic Quarterly, and up-to-date neighborhood information on the UCSUR Web site (www.ucsur.pitt.edu).

What We Do: Center Resources, continued

Information Technology Infrastructure

For the programs housed at UCSUR, the Technology Services Department provides robust data management systems and services that focus on security, data integrity, and reliability.

By partnering with the University, UCSUR is able to utilize contemporary technology in order to provide staff and researchers the tools needed to meet cutting-edge information technology standards. Our collective systems are redundant, reliable, and secure. The technology that UCSUR uses to support its mission is enterprise level software. UCSUR uses the latest techniques in data storage, virtualization, and remote access, enabling the Center to cut costs, increase security, and provide the greatest flexibility to continue to support research in a fluid environment.

Relying on the University of Pittsburgh infrastructure provided by Computing Services and Systems Development (CSSD) is key to ensuring that the latest security and network standards are met. Also, leveraging sophisticated software and other resources offered by CSSD is fundamental to UCSUR's overall technology strategy.

Program Evaluation Services

The University Center for Social and Urban Research can assist faculty at the University of Pittsburgh and community agencies with their program evaluation needs. We provide assistance in developing and designing evaluation plans, collecting and analyzing data, and writing evaluation reports. Depending on the focus of the project, these services can be provided by the Survey Research Program, Qualitative Data Analysis Program, Urban and Regional Analysis Program, or Gerontology Program.

UCSUR's interdisciplinary staff has evaluation experience in a wide range of content areas, including social service programs, behavioral and mental health

services, public health programs, and educational services. UCSUR has conducted evaluations on family support, home visiting, after-school and youth development, conflict resolution, developmental disabilities, maternal and child health, fatherhood, and parent education programs, among many others.

In addition, UCSUR has expertise in developing and implementing management information systems and needs assessments. UCSUR provides training and technical assistance to increase the capacity of staff to carry out evaluations, either independently or in collaboration with program evaluation specialists. Specific evaluation services offered include:

- Development of evaluation designs, including process and outcome evaluations
- Assistance with program design, focusing on connecting program activities to expected outcomes (program logic models)
- Needs assessments
- Selection of appropriate outcomes and measurement methods
- Identification of assessment instruments
- Development of surveys for program evaluation
- Data analysis consultation and research design
- Referral to evaluation consultants with expertise in specific content areas

Faculty Development Awards



Steven D. Manners

In memory of Steven D. Manners, who began working at the Center in 1974 and served as its Assistant Director from 1989 until his death in September 2000, UCSUR initiated a Faculty Development Awards program in recognition of Mr. Manners' contributions to the Center and the University community. UCSUR offers annually two awards of up to \$10,000 each. Faculty may apply for awards in two categories: (1) Research Development Grants to support pilot research in the social, behavioral and policy sciences; and (2) Infrastructure Development Awards aimed at enhancing faculty capabilities to carry out interdisciplinary research in the social, behavioral and policy sciences.

- 2014 awardees: Anthony Fabio and Dara Mendez, Epidemiology; Lyn Robertson, Medicine
- 2013 awardees: Brian Beaton and Rosta Farzan, School of Information Sciences; Kathryn Monahan, Psychiatry; Ming-Te Wang, School of Education
- 2012 awardee: Nicholas Castle, Graduate School of Public Health
- 2011 awardees: Jane Clougherty, Graduate School of Public Health; Fengyan Tang, School of Social Work
- 2010 awardees: Shanti Gamper-Rabindran, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs; Jennifer H. Lingler, School of Nursing; Werner Troesken and Randall Walsh, Economics; Jennifer Nicoll Victor, Political Science
- 2009 awardees: Irina Murtazashvili, Economics; Brian A. Primack, Medicine and Pediatrics
- 2008 awardees: Peter J. Gianaros and J. Richard Jennings, Psychiatry; Keith Morgenlander, Medicine
- 2007 awardees: Patricia Isabel Documet, Behavioral and Community Health Sciences; Jeffrey Shook and Michael Vaughn, School of Social Work
- 2006 awardees: Shanti Gamper-Rabindran and Aaron Swoboda, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs; Larissa Myaskovsky, VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System
- 2005 awardees: Charlotte Brown, Center on Race and Social Problems; Bruce S. Ling, Institute for Doctor-Patient Communication; Eva Marie Shivers, School of Education
- 2004 awardees: Ellen Olshansky, School of Nursing; Seung-Hyun Yoo, Graduate School of Public Health; Susan Zickmund, Medicine
- Due to the large number of 2003 applications, UCSUR funded six awards: Pamela Peele, Health Economics; William Klein, Psychology; Daniel Rosen, School of Social Work; Lisa Brush, Sociology; Audrey Murrell, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business; Jeannette Trauth, Graduate School of Public Health
- 2002 awardees: Maureen Porter, Administrative and Policy Studies; Scott F. Kiesling, Linguistics
- 2001 awardees: Miriam Hertz, Health Information Management; Paul E. Griffiths, History and Philosophy

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John Hennon

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Program Director

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Laurel Person Mecca

Research Specialists

David Halpern, Kevan Schultz

Generations Together

Emeritus Director/Journal Editor

Sally Newman

** Indicates participating faculty, not UCSUR staff



Faculty Associates

The following individuals serve as faculty associates, representing numerous schools, departments, institutes, and centers.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| Charles David Boucek | Anesthesiology | Kathleen McTigue | Internal Medicine | Selma F. Witchel | Pediatrics |
| John P. Williams | Anesthesiology | Christine Kush | Katz Graduate School of Business | Pouran Famili | Periodontics |
| Richard Scaglione | Anthropology | Carrie R. Leana | Katz Graduate School of Business | Olufunmilola Odukoya | Pharmacy |
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| Jessica Griffin Burke | Behavioral and Community Health Sciences | John E. Prescott | Katz Graduate School of Business | John Hurwitz | Political Science |
| Mary Hawk | Behavioral and Community Health Sciences | Ronald A. Brand | Law | Boris Birmaher | Psychiatry |
| Edmund Ricci | Behavioral and Community Health Sciences | Mary Crossley | Law | David Brent | Psychiatry |
| Ravi Sharma | Behavioral and Community Health Sciences | Vivian Curran | Law | Charlotte Brown | Psychiatry |
| Gary M. Marsh | Biostatistics | Lawrence A. Frolik | Law | Tammy Chung | Psychiatry |
| Stanley J. Kabala | Center for Environmental Research and Education | David Herring | Law | Duncan Clark | Psychiatry |
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| Amy Landis | Civil and Environmental Engineering | Richard P. Correnti | Learning Research and Development Center | Ronald Dahl | Psychiatry |
| Ronald D. Neufeld | Civil and Environmental Engineering | Mary Kay Stein | Learning Research and Development Center | Mary Amanda Dew | Psychiatry |
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| Gene Gruver | Economics | Anne B. Newman | Medicine | Bruce Pollock | Psychiatry |
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| Joyce T. Bromberger | Epidemiology | Eileen Chasens | Nursing | Mary Goldberg | Rehabilitation Science and Technology |
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| Andrea Kriska | Epidemiology | Annette DeVito Dabbs | Nursing | Vladimir Padunov | Slavic Languages and Literatures |
| Joel L. Weissfeld | Epidemiology | Heidi Donovan | Nursing | Larry E. Davis | Social Work |
| Jonathon Erlen | Falk Library/Public Health | Willa M. Doswell | Nursing | Rafael J. Engel | Social Work |
| William B. Kory | Geography | Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob | Nursing | Rachel Fusco | Social Work |
| Carolyn Ban | Graduate School of Public and International Affairs | Sandra Engberg | Nursing | Catherine Greeno | Social Work |
| Louise Comfort | Graduate School of Public and International Affairs | Judith A. Erlen | Nursing | Lovie Jackson | Social Work |
| Sabina Deitrick | Graduate School of Public and International Affairs | Jennifer Lingler | Nursing | Helen Petracchi | Social Work |
| David Y. Miller | Graduate School of Public and International Affairs | Faith Luyster | Nursing | Mary Rauktis | Social Work |
| Jennifer Brach | Health and Rehabilitation Sciences | Ann M. Mitchell | Nursing | Tracy M. Soska | Social Work |
| Nicholas Castle | Health Policy and Management | Lorraine Novosel | Nursing | Hide Yamatani | Social Work |
| Howard B. Degenholtz | Health Policy and Management | Mijung Park | Nursing | Joyce Bell | Sociology |
| Judith R. Lave | Health Policy and Management | Margaret Rosenzweig | Nursing | Kathleen M. Blee | Sociology |
| Beaufort B. Longest, Jr | Health Policy and Management | Elizabeth A. Schlenk | Nursing | Lisa D. Brush | Sociology |
| Margaret Potter | Health Policy and Management | Susan Sereika | Nursing | Waverly Duck | Sociology |
| Seymour Drescher | History | Paula Sherwood | Nursing | Akiko Hashimoto | Sociology |
| Laurence A. Glasco | History | Aletha Akers | Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Services | Vijai P. Singh | Sociology |
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| Lisa S. Parker | Human Genetics | Pam Toto | Occupational Therapy | James D. Luketich | Surgery |
| Rory Cooper | Human Engineering Research Laboratories | Patricia Beeson | Office of the Provost | Ron Shapiro | Surgery |
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| | | Bruce S. Rabin | Pathology | | |
| | | Parmjeet Randhawa | Pathology | | |
| | | Raymond Pitetti | Pediatrics | | |
| | | Dianna Ploof | Pediatrics | | |
| | | Kristin Ray | Pediatrics | | |
| | | Abhay Vats | Pediatrics | | |

Projects*

A Multi-Institutional Study of Hematopoietic Stem Cell Donor Safety

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR
Galen Switzer, Medicine

Funder: National Institutes of Health
Period: 12/08-11/15

Telephone surveys of 400 adult and child stem cell donors before and after donation to assess quality of life and other donation-related outcomes.

Adult to Adult Living Donor Liver (A2ALL) Transplantation Study: Health-Related Quality of Life Sub-Study

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR
Mary Amanda Dew, Psychiatry
Andrea Dimartini, Psychiatry

Funder: National Institutes of Health
Period: 09/10-08/15

Telephone interviews of 900 liver donors to explore health-related quality-of-life outcomes associated with donation over three years.

Antibiotic Prescribing for Acute Respiratory Infections: Impact of Shifts in Care

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR
Ateev Mehrotra, Medicine

Funder: National Institutes of Health
Period: 03/12-02/14

Web surveys of 160 nurse practitioners and physicians from UPMC and retail clinics using a vignette methodology to examine antibiotic prescribing behaviors.

Community Stressors and Susceptibility to Air Pollution in Urban Asthma

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR
Jane Clougherty, Environmental and Occupational Health

Funder: EPA STAR
Period: 03/11-02/15

Telephone interviews with 700 residents of New York City to study relationships between stressors (individual & community) and health-related outcomes.

Does a New Supermarket Improve Dietary Behaviors of Low-Income African Americans?

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR
Tamara Dubowitz, RAND Corporation

Funder: National Institutes of Health
Period: 05/10-03/15

Interviewer training, data management, and collection of 24-hour dietary recall telephone data in a study of the impact of a new grocery store on dietary behavior in 1,600 residents of low-income neighborhoods.

EFRI-SEED: BUILD – Barriers, Understanding, Integration – Life Cycle Development

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR
Melissa Bilec, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Funder: National Science Foundation
Period: 08/10-07/15

Design and conduct of a Web-based survey of 2,000 architects, engineers, and construction professionals focused on knowledge and attitudes toward Life Cycle Assessment methodology as a tool for sustainable design.

Enroll Pittsburgh Pilot Telephone Survey of Households without Health Insurance

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR
Patrick Dowd, Allies for Children

Funder: Allies for Children
Period: 03/14-05/14

Telephone survey of 381 City of Pittsburgh households to locate families with uninsured children to provide pilot data for a City federal grant application.

E-Prescribing Web and Phone Pilot Surveys

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR
Olufunmilola Odukoya, Pharmacy

Funder: School of Pharmacy
Period: 01/14-04/14

Web surveys of 154 nurse practitioners and phone surveys of 75 adults age 50 and older regarding experiences and issues with use of electronic medication prescribing.

*In alphabetical order by UCSUR principal investigator

Esophageal Cancer Patient Survey

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR
Katie Nason, Medicine

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Period: 09/13-08/16

Telephone interviews of 200 patients either diagnosed with or at risk for esophageal cancer exploring risk factors and patient interactions with the health care system.

Examining Contraceptive Use and Unmet Need among Women Veterans

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR
Sonya Borrero, Medicine

Funder: Department of Veterans Affairs
(VA Merit Grant)

Period: 01/13-12/15

Telephone interview with 2,300 female veterans to examine contraceptive use patterns among women veterans using the VA for primary care; determine which subpopulations of women veterans are at particularly high risk for unintended pregnancy; and identify key barriers to contraceptive use by various subpopulations.

Factors Contributing to Oral Health Disparities in Appalachia

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR
Mary Marazita, Dental Medicine

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Period: 04/11-03/15

Conduct prenatal and five post-birth follow-up telephone interviews of 1,000 new mothers—500 in Pittsburgh and 500 in West Virginia—to explore factors related to childhood oral health disparities.

Impact of Greenspace Improvement on Physical Activity in a Low-Income Community

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR
Tamara Dubowitz, RAND Corporation

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Period: 07/12-04/17

Interviewer training, data management, and technical support in a study of the impact of neighborhood greenspace renovation and other sustainable development on physical activity in 1,600 residents of low-income neighborhoods.

International Comparisons of the Role of Race and Ethnicity in HSC Donation Decisions—US and UK

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR
Galen Switzer, Medicine

Funder: Anthony Nolan Trust

Period: 02/13-01/16

Telephone interviews with up to 500 potential stem cell donors to explore the role of culturally-based traditions/beliefs (e.g., medical mistrust, religious beliefs) in potential donors' decisions of whether or not to donate.

Measuring and Improving Colonoscopy Quality Using Natural Language Processing

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Ateev Mehrotra, Harvard Medical School

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Period: 12/13-02/15

Web surveys of 150 physicians performing at least 30 colonoscopies per year assessing attitudes, beliefs and practices regarding the procedure. Survey data is linked with adenoma detection rates at the physician level from administrative records.

National Consortium on Alcohol and NeuroDevelopment in Adolescence: Pittsburgh

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR
Duncan Clark, Psychiatry

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Period: 09/12-06/17

Recruitment of 160 community families (a parent and adolescent) to study the effects of alcohol use on brain development.

Pittsburgh Project on Brain Pathways to Heart Health

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR
Peter Gianaros, Psychology

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Period: 02/12-01/17

Recruitment of 120 community controls for a study on blood pressure reactivity to psychological stress and greater preclinical carotid atherosclerosis.

Projects, continued

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Satisfaction with VA Care

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR
Susan Zickmund, Medicine

Funder: VA Health Services Research and Development
Period: 11/11-10/14

Telephone surveys of 1,350 veterans from a national sample focused on racial disparities in satisfaction with care received through the VA Health Care System.

Social Integration, Daily Social Interaction, and Health Risk Pathways in Midlife

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR
Thomas Kamarck, Psychology

Funder: National Institutes of Health
Period: 04/14-03/19

Telephone recruitment of 400 healthy adults to participate in a study about social interactions, stress, and health.

The Pittsburgh Regional Environment Survey

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR
Douglas Heuck, PittsburghTODAY, UCSUR

Funder: PittsburghTODAY, UCSUR
Period: 05/13-12/13

Random digit dial telephone survey of 805 residents in the 7-county Pittsburgh metropolitan statistical area about environment-related attitudes and behaviors.

The Pittsburgh Regional Quality of Life Survey

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR
Douglas Heuck, PittsburghTODAY, UCSUR

Funder: PittsburghTODAY, UCSUR
Period: 07/11-09/13

Telephone interviews of 2,200 residents in the 32-county region surrounding Pittsburgh about a variety of topics to assess quality of life.

Undergraduate Student Satisfaction and Retention Study

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Juan Manfredi, Office of the Provost

Funder: Office of the Provost
Period: 09/97-present

Conduct telephone and Web-based surveys of University of Pittsburgh undergraduate students (n=1,800 per year) and withdrawing students (n=400 per year) to determine factors related to student satisfaction and retention.

Understanding Race and Culture in Living Donor Kidney Transplantation

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR
Larissa Myascovsky, Pittsburgh VA Healthcare System

Funder: National Institutes of Health
Period: 09/09-08/14

Telephone interviews with 1,200 kidney transplant candidates focusing on attitudes, knowledge, and family factors in transplant decision-making.

UPMC Work Partners Survey

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR
Maria Henderson, HDM Solutions

Funder: UPMC
Period: 01/05-present

Web survey of UPMC employees who have filed a disability claim—evaluations of staff and experiences related to disability claim.

USE: User Security Behavior

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR
Rahul Telang, Carnegie Mellon University

Funder: National Security Agency
Period: 07/12-06/16

Telephone recruitment of 600 participants over three years for a panel study of real world Internet computer security behavior.

Wheelchair Registry

Principal

Investigators: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR
Rory Cooper, Human Engineering Research Laboratories

Funder: Human Engineering Research Laboratories

Period: 01/14-ongoing

This project helps the Human Engineering Research Laboratories (HERL) at the University of Pittsburgh efficiently and securely register and track participants in a wheelchair registry for research participation. The system involves a custom database working in conjunction with an online survey instrument for data collection and maintenance.

Advancing Entrepreneurship in the Mon Valley

Principal

Investigator: Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce

Period: 09/13-06/16

UCSUR and the Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence provide consulting, education, connections, and research to existing small business owners and emerging entrepreneurs in the Mon Valley Region.

Connecting People and Place: Improving Communities Through Integrated Data Systems

Principal

Investigator: Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Annie E. Casey Foundation

Period: 09/13-06/15

Collaborate with the Allegheny County Department of Human Services and their integrated data system, the DHS Data Warehouse, to focus on school absenteeism in three area school districts.

Data Use and Evaluation Project

Principal

Investigator: Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR

Funder: The Pittsburgh Foundation

Period: 09/14-07/15

UCSUR is working with LISC, Success Measures, and three neighborhood organizations on a pilot study of neighborhood indicator use and implementation

Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System (PNCIS)

Principal

Investigator: Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR

Funders: Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development, multiple funders

Period: ongoing

Enhance and expand access to data and information to help Pittsburgh and Allegheny County residents, organizations, and governments improve their communities.

Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System (PNCIS) Support - Hazelwood Neighborhood

Principal

Investigator: Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR

Funder: The Heinz Endowments

Period: 05/13-04/14

PNCIS will develop new data sets, assist with data collection and storage, provide data analysis, and construct prototype evaluation frameworks for a number of projects being conducted in the Hazelwood neighborhood.

Southwestern Pennsylvania Community Profiles

Principal

Investigator: Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Allegheny County Department of Human Services Integrated Fund

Period: ongoing

Web-based software tool to present community data and indicators through visualizations, including tables, maps, graphs, and charts for 10 counties of Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Penn Hills Neighborhood Stabilization Team

Principal

Investigator: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Municipality of Penn Hills

Period: 11/13-03/14

Use Neighborhood Stabilization Team approach to coordinate actions of government and community partners to prevent blight and property abandonment and guide community improvement efforts in the Frankstown West neighborhood.

Pittsburgh Public Schools

Principal

Investigator: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Pittsburgh Public Schools

Period: 09/13-12/13

Provide assistance in redrawing school assignments for the latest round of planned changes and reconfiguring GIS software developed for redistricting.

Projects, continued

A Tailored Technology Intervention for Diverse Family Caregivers of AD Patients

Principal

Investigators: Judith Matthews, *Gerontology, UCSUR*
Sara Czaja, *University of Miami*
Richard Schulz, *Gerontology, UCSUR*

Funder: National Institute of Nursing Research
Period: 04/13-03/18

This investigation focusing on gathering systematic data on the acceptability and efficacy of a unique technology-based, culturally-tailored psychosocial intervention program that targets ethnically/culturally diverse family caregivers of patients with Alzheimer's Disease.

Development and Refinement of a Multiuser Health Kiosk

Principal

Investigators: Judith Matthews, *Gerontology, UCSUR*
Scott Beach, *SRP, UCSUR*
Karen Courtney, *University of Victoria Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR*
Richard Schulz, *Gerontology, UCSUR*
Daniel Siewiorek, *Carnegie Mellon University*
Asim Smailagic, *Carnegie Mellon University*

Funder: National Science Foundation
Period: 06/10-05/15

The focus of this project is the iterative design and testing of a prototype multiuser health kiosk designed to enable community-residing older adults to self-monitor selected physical, physiologic, and psychological parameters, and to engage in evidence-based interventions that promote communication with health care providers and improved sleep, lifestyle, mobility, bladder health, and chronic disease self-management behaviors.

First Person Vision for Objective Evaluation of Caregiving Quality

Principal

Investigators: Judith Matthews, *Gerontology, UCSUR*
Jennifer Lingler, *Nursing*
Martial Hebert, *Carnegie Mellon University*
Scott Beach, *SRP, UCSUR*
Laurel Person Mecca, *QDAP, UCSUR*
Richard Schulz, *Gerontology, UCSUR*

Funder: National Institute of Nursing Research
Period: 03/12-02/15

This project explores the use of first person vision (FPV) technology to assess the interaction between persons with moderate to severe dementia and their family caregivers, as a basis for nurse-delivered intervention as well as development of an automated, intelligent assessment and intervention tool to reduce problem behaviors and decrease caregiver burden

Hub for Excellence in eHealth Research

Director: Lora E. Burke, *Nursing*

Principal

Investigators: Judith Matthews, *Gerontology, UCSUR*
Susan Sereika, *Nursing*
Annette DeVito Dabbs, *Nursing*
Denise Charron-Prochownik, *Nursing*
Eileen Chasens, *Nursing*
Heidi Donovan, *Nursing*

Funder: University of Pittsburgh, School of Nursing
Period: 07/13-08/15

The eHealth Hub provides an infrastructure for sharing dissimilar methodologies and perspectives among novice and established researchers, to advance their efforts toward scientific discovery in this highly dynamic field.

Self-management via Health Kiosk among Community-residing Older Adults

Principal

Investigators: Judith Matthews, *Gerontology, UCSUR*
Scott Beach, *SRP, UCSUR*
Daniel Buysse, *Medicine*
Karen Courtney, *University of Victoria*
Sandra Engberg, *Nursing*
Rachel Hess, *University of Utah*
Jennifer Lingler, *Nursing*
Kathleen McTigue, *Internal Medicine*
Lisa Morrow, *Psychiatry*
Richard Schulz, *Gerontology, UCSUR*
Marjorie Skubic, *University of Missouri*
Asim Smailagic, *Carnegie Mellon University*
Jessie Van Swearingen, *Physical Therapy*

Funder: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
Period: 09/14-09/19

This project will study older adults' views, motivations, and patterns of use of an adaptive, community-based, multiuser health kiosk over 18 months of study participation. The goal is to understand how and why older adults use a health kiosk to live a healthier lifestyle and monitor and manage selected chronic conditions.

Identification of Resources Around Dementia

Principal

Investigators: Laurel Person Mecca, *QDAP, UCSUR*
Kevan Schultz, *QDAP, UCSUR*
Howard Degenholtz, *Health Policy and Management*

Funder: Aging Institute
Period: 01/13-09/13

Facilitation, transcription, coding, analysis, and reporting of focus groups with family caregivers of persons with dementia in the Pittsburgh area to explore the supports needed to meet the demands of the caregiving role.

Quality of Life Technology Enrichment (QuOTE)

Principal

Investigators: Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Dan Ding, Rehabilitation Science and Technology

Funder: National Science Foundation

Period: 01/12-05/14

The QuOTE project systematically focuses on transitioning students with disabilities (SWDs) from four-year college to graduate school and/or the workforce. QDAP's role entails conducting program evaluations of the QuOTE project, including collection, transcription, coding, analysis, and reporting of interviews with directors, staff, and participants regarding their experience with the project.

A Comparison of the Effect of Two Complementary and Alternative Therapies on the Perception of Low Breast Milk Supply

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Jill Radtke Demirci, Medicine

Funder: Ruth Perkins Kuehn Research Award

Period: 05/13-06/14

Transcription of interviews with mothers who deliver late preterm and early term infants regarding their experiences participating in an intervention study examining the effect of meditation versus an herbal supplement on the perception of low breast milk supply.

A Promise to Succeed: A Study of the Educational Experiences of African American Male High School Students in a Mentoring Program

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Amber Pabon, School of Education

Funder: Start-up Funds

Period: 05/14-05/14

Transcription of interviews and meetings to understand the experiences of African American males in a mentoring program in order to generate additional strategies and support mechanisms for helping these students prepare for post-secondary education.

A Statewide Trial to Compare Three Training Models for Implementing an Evidence-Based Treatment

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Amy Herschell, Psychiatry

Funder: National Institute of Mental Health

Period: 01/13-present

Transcription and coding of interviews with Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) master trainers to develop a state-of-the-art training protocol to be tested with clinicians across the state, and to identify "expert consensus" on PCIT training methods. Qualitative methods consultation and transcription of interviews with administrators regarding lessons learned as they have implemented PCIT training programs across their respective states to inform implementation of a PCIT training system throughout Pennsylvania.

Addressing Depression in Routine Primary Care Visits

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Lorraine Novosel, School of Nursing

Funder: School of Nursing Start-up Funds

Period: 12/13-05/14

Transcription and coding of primary care office visits made by older adults with nurse practitioners during which patients were screened for depression.

Adolescent Photovoice Project

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Mike Marshal, Psychiatry

Funder: Psychiatry Hard Money Fund

Period: 05/14-08/14

Transcription of focus groups with adolescents and their mothers regarding psychosocial health issues associated with being transgender or gender questioning. Participants used digital cameras to take pictures of objects/events associated with different gender-related topics that they then used as cues for discussion with the group.

Projects, continued

An Educational Intervention for Patients with Invasive Bladder Cancer

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Nihal Mohamed, Mount Sinai Hospital

Funder: American Cancer Society

Period: 07/13-09/13

Transcription of focus groups and interviews with invasive bladder cancer patients regarding treatment decisions, self-care behavior, and subsequent quality of life.

Assessing the Benefits of Alternative Spring Break Programs on College Students

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Linda DeAngelo, School of Education

Funder: Faculty and Student Research Grant

Period: 08/13-08/13

Transcription of pre- and post-trip focus groups with students concerning their experiences on alternative spring break programs run by the Office of Student Civic Engagement at Robert Morris University.

Breakfast Consumption and Childhood Obesity Among Low-income, Ethnically Diverse Youth

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Gary Foster, Temple University

Funder: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Period: 07/12-08/12

Transcription of focus groups with 4-6th grade students and parents from two K-8 public schools in Philadelphia regarding breakfast habits, including existing barriers and facilitators to classroom feeding.

Center for Rehabilitation Sciences Research-University of Pittsburgh Symposium

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Brad Isaacson, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

Funder: Henry M. Jackson Foundation

Period: 12/13-06/14

Transcription of presentations from a conference entitled "Women's health issues: Rehabilitation from Combat Wounds".

Client-Centered Assessment for Geriatric Primary Care: A Feasibility Study

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Pamela Toto, Occupational Therapy

Funder: Aging Institute

Period: 10/12-12/13

Transcription of interviews with medically complex clients in a multidisciplinary geriatrics care center to identify themes emerging from the Goal Attainment Scaling (GAS) process in relation to coordinated care planning.

Clinicians' Views of a New Model for Pharmacists Providing Direct Geriatric Patient Care Across Multiple Sites of Care

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Amy Haver, School of Pharmacy

Funder: Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association Educational Foundation

Period: 01/14-02/14

Transcription of focus groups with geriatric health care providers regarding a new model that incorporates the pharmacist in providing direct patient care throughout multiple sites of care (inpatient setting, outpatient setting, nursing homes, etc.) and follows geriatric patients as they transition across these settings.

Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative: Practice Team

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Grace Ferry, Mathematica Policy Research

Funder: Mathematica Policy Research

Period: 07/13-12/13

Transcription of interviews with representatives from health plans, initiative contractors, health care organizations, and other quality initiatives regarding implementation of the Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative

Content Analysis of Applied Learning from High Fidelity Patient Simulation (HFPS) Orientation to Critical Care

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Patricia Span, CUNY, The Graduate Center

Funder: Doctoral Student Research Grant

Period: 12/13-05/14

Transcription of interviews with advanced beginner critical care nurses regarding their application of knowledge and skills gained from HFPS to critical care nursing practice.

Depression and Cardiovascular Disease in Older Adults

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Lorraine Novosel, School of Nursing

Funder: School of Nursing Start-up Funds

Period: 10/14-10/14

Transcription of interviews with nurse practitioners regarding barriers to older adult depression care in primary care and depression-cardiovascular disease comorbidity.

Evaluation of Horizon Healthcare Innovations' (HHI) Patient-Centered Medical Homes

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Jeanne Ferrante, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

Funder: Horizon Healthcare Innovations

Period: 05/12-10/13

Transcription of interviews with clinical staff regarding the process of transforming primary care practices into Patient-Centered Medical Homes and use of HHI's intervention.

Evaluation of Improving Management of Health Care Super-Utilizers Program

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Oliver Lontok, Rutgers University

Funder: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Period: 08/13-present

Transcription of interviews with health care providers to generate new knowledge of value to communities interested in adopting super-utilizer care management strategies.

Event Planning

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Shawn Ahearn, Student Affairs

Funder: Student Affairs

Period: 02/13-09/13

Transcription of interviews with students who have graduated from Pitt within the past 5 years and are employed to determine how the skills they developed in planning events as an undergraduate at Pitt have helped them have success in the workplace.

Event-level Customer and Employee Service Interactions

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
David Walker, University of British Columbia Okanagan

Funder: UBC Okanagan Office of the Provost/Start-up

Period: 09/13-01/14

Transcription of customer service telephone exchanges in order to examine the interactions between customers and employees and the calls' different outcomes.

Exploring Distance Education Delivery at a Top-Tier School of Engineering

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Harold Aughton, School of Education

Funder: Self-funding

Period: 01/14-present

Transcription of interviews with School of Engineering administrators and faculty regarding the development and implementation of the School's Web-based master of nuclear engineering program.

Exploring the Roles and Responsibilities of Community Pharmacy Shared Faculty and its Contribution to the Pharmacy Curriculum, Practice Advancement, and Research

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Tolu Akinwale, National Association of Chain Drug Stores

Funder: NACDS Foundation

Period: 06/14-6/14

Transcription of interviews with community pharmacy shared faculty to define the current landscape of their practice setting; highlight their roles and responsibilities to showcase their impact on pharmacy curriculum, practice advancement, and research; and provide information to aid considerations for academic institutions and community pharmacy partners that are interested in collaborating to develop shared faculty programs.

Projects, continued

Feasibility and Acceptability of Adding Family Components to Evidence-Based Collaborative Care Model for Older Adults with Depression and Chronic Medical Conditions

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Mijung Park, School of Nursing

Funder: Aging Institute

Period: 11/13-08/14

Transcription of interviews with older adults with depression and chronic medical conditions to examine the feasibility of family-centered collaborative care.

Identifying Effective Strategies to Disclose Prognosis: Physician-Family Communication in Patients with Acute Lung Injury

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Douglas White, Critical Care Medicine

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Period: 08/12-12/13

Transcription of interviews with clinicians and patient surrogates to identify disclosure strategies that effectively and sensitively convey prognostic information to family of critically ill patients, and to identify barriers to implementing these strategies into clinical practice.

Identifying Key Factors Associated with Successful Integration of Patient Care Services into Dispensing Workflow

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Sarah Krahe Dombrowski, Pharmacy

Funder: American Pharmacists Association Foundation

Period: 02/13-07/13

Transcription of interviews with staff of pharmacies that have been identified as being successful in providing patient care services regarding integration of care into dispensing workflow.

Implementation of the Patient-Centered Medical Home

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Rebecca Etz, Virginia Commonwealth University

Funder: VCU Faculty Excellence Funds

Period: 05/14-present

Transcription of recordings from a conference with clinicians and patients regarding two key elements for implementation of the Patient-Centered Medical Home: the incorporation of health information technology and the ways in which practices connect to the communities in which they are located.

Internet Governance Forum

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Victoria Nash, Oxford Internet Institute

Funder: Oxford Internet Institute

Period: 04/13-11/13

Transcription of a policy forum, bringing together leading figures in multi-stakeholder Internet governance to discuss the future of the multi-stakeholder model in the aftermath of the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) 2012 in Dubai.

Long-term Use of Standards-based Instructional in Mathematics Classrooms in Southwestern Pennsylvania

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Jackie Removcik, Westmoreland Intermediate Unit 7

Funder: Self-funding

Period: 01/14-02/14

Coding of interviews with teachers who participated in a professional development program 8–10 years ago to explore the degree to which the programming has been sustained in the classroom.

Maternal Skills for Communicating with Adolescents About Sex

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Penelope Morrison, Center for Research on Health Care

Funder: Amy Roberts Health Promotion Research Fund

Period: 11/12-07/13

Project coordination, data collection and transcription of conversations between mothers and their adolescent children to learn how mothers communicate with their adolescent children about sex.

Mobile Application Features Sought After by Patients of a Grocery Store Chain Pharmacy

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Elizabeth McCartney, School of Pharmacy

Funder: Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association

Period: 04/14-06/14

Transcription of interviews to explore the specific features of a mobile application that patients are more interested in utilizing from their pharmacy.

Parent Involvement

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Shawn Ahearn, Student Affairs

Funder: Student Affairs

Period: 02/13-09/13

Transcription of interviews with both students who are on the verge of graduation and one of their parents about their college experience and the impact that parents may have had in helping them overcome challenges.

Parish Nurses Providing Diabetes Education and Preconception Counseling to African American Women with Diabetes

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Jessica Devido, Duquesne University

Funder: American Association of Diabetes Educators & Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

Period: 09/13-10/13

Transcription of focus groups with parish nurses to explore their experiences and to examine their knowledge and confidence in providing diabetes education and preconception counseling to women (especially to African American women) with Type 1 Diabetes and Type 2 Diabetes.

Perceptions of and Needs for Adolescent Mental Health Services in Primary Care

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Lovie Jackson Foster, School of Social Work

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Period: 02/14-04/14

Transcription of focus groups with adolescents, adult caregivers and health care providers to identify barriers to and facilitators of adolescent mental health care.

Pilot Testing a Simulation to Study How Physicians Elicit and Incorporate Incapacitated Patients' Values into Life Support Decisions

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Leslie Scheunemann, Critical Care Medicine

Funder: Douglas White's Endowed Chair

Period: 03/14-present

Transcription of simulated conferences between physicians and actors portraying surrogates for incapacitated patients to help physicians learn communication skills for talking with families about the patient's attitudes, beliefs, hopes, and concerns for the future related to the treatment decisions at hand; also, transcription of interviews with the physicians reflecting on the experience of participating in the simulation.

Project SOL

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Elliot Coups, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Funder: Johnson & Johnson on behalf of Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation

Period: 03/14-present

Transcription and translation of focus groups with Hispanic outdoor laborers, who spend a large amount of their work exposed to ultraviolet radiation, regarding their knowledge about risks of sun exposure in order to develop and test a peer-led educational program for this population.

Qualitative Interviews About Adolescent Depression

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Ana Radovic, Clinical and Translational Science Institute

Funder: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Period: 05/13-present

Transcription of interviews with adolescents and parents to explore barriers to obtaining treatment for adolescent depression.

Projects, continued

Racial Comparison of Symptoms and Outcomes During Chemotherapy for Breast Cancer

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Margaret Rosenzweig, School of Nursing

Funder: School of Nursing Office of the Dean

Period: 02/14-present

Transcription and coding of conversations between breast cancer patients and their oncology health care provider pertaining to the patients' experiences with chemotherapy side effects and the decisions made as to how to best manage those side effects.

Redesigning Medicaid Payment Policies: A New Pathway for Achieving High-Value Care for Medically Complex Children

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Dianna Ploof, Pediatrics

Funder: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Period: 06/13-09/13

Transcription of focus groups with parents regarding their views of consumer-directed accounts to pay for their medically complex children's health care.

South Oakland Community Action Project

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Rafael Engel, School of Social Work

Funder: School of Social Work Office of the Dean

Period: 02/14-02/14

Transcription of interviews with residents and other community stakeholders about the identity of the South Oakland neighborhood, Oakcliffe.

The European Commission's Response to Budget Cuts

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schulz, QDAP, UCSUR
Carolyn Ban, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

Funder: Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

Period: 06/14-08/14

Transcription of interviews with European Commission staff regarding the reasons for significant budget cuts and the strategies the organization is employing to cope with them.

The Lived Experiences of Nurses Who Care for Dying Pediatric Patients

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Danna Curcio, City University of New York

Funder: Self-funding

Period: 04/13-08/13

Transcription of interviews with nurses regarding their experiences working with dying children and their families.

Understanding the Role of Medicaid Managed Care Organizations in the New Jersey Medicaid Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Demonstration Project

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Oliver Lontok, Rutgers University

Funder: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Period: 07/13-08/13

Transcription of interviews with key stakeholders involved in the formation and enactment of the NJ Medicaid ACO legislation and in the implementation of the law.

Understanding the Role of Telemedicine in Pediatric Care Coordination: A Qualitative Study of Primary Care Providers

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR
Kristin Ray, Pediatrics

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Period: 08/13-12/13

Transcription of interviews with pediatric primary care providers regarding their preferences and needs around connecting patients to subspecialists and the use of telemedicine and other technologies to meet these needs.

Weight Loss Maintenance in Perimenopausal Women

Principal

Investigators: Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR
Karren Liebert, CUNY, The Graduate Center

Funder: Self-funding

Period: 10/12-02/14

Transcription of interviews with women who lost ten percent or more of their body weight during midlife when perimenopause had begun and maintained at least a ten percent weight loss for a year or longer regarding the lifestyle changes they made to lose and maintain weight.

A Tailored Technology Intervention for Diverse Family Caregivers of AD Patients

Principal

Investigators: Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR
Sara Czaja, University of Miami

Funder: National Institute of Nursing Research

Period: 04/13-03/18

The aims of this project are to evaluate the acceptability and efficacy of a culturally tailored technology-based psychosocial intervention for reducing the stress and burden and enhancing quality of life of diverse family caregivers of AD patients. The target population is Black/African American, Hispanic, and White non-Hispanic family caregivers of AD patients.

Daily Individual and Marital Processes in Osteoarthritis

Principal

Investigators: Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR
Lynn Martire, Penn State University

Funder: National Institute on Aging

Period: 09/07-08/13

This study focuses on the effects of spousal social support and control on older osteoarthritis patients' daily functioning, illness cognitions, and physical activity.

Geriatric Education Center of Pennsylvania (GEC/PA)

Principal

Investigator: Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

Funder: Health Resources and Services Administration

Period: 07/10-06/15

The GEC/PA is a consortium of the University of Pittsburgh, Penn State University, and UPMC, with Pitt as the lead institution. The GEC/PA focuses on training to enhance geriatric mental health expertise throughout the state.

Intervention to Facilitate Family Caregiver Adaptation to Nursing Home Transition

Principal

Investigator: Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

Funder: National Institute of Nursing Research

Period: 07/07-05/13

Assess the effects of an intervention designed to enhance health and quality of life of caregivers and their placed relatives by focusing on caregivers who recently placed their relative in a long-term care facility.

Quality of Life Technology Engineering Research Center (QoLT ERC)

Principal

Investigators: Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

Daniel Siewiorek, Carnegie Mellon University

Funder: National Science Foundation

Period: 06/06-05/15

By integrating information technologies and biomedical innovations, the QoLT ERC will allow people to independently perform valued and necessary activities of daily living so that they can more fully participate in society.

Return of Amyloid Imaging Research Results in MCI

Principal

Investigators: Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

Jennifer Lingler, Nursing

Funder: National Institute on Aging

Period: 06/14-05/15

The purpose of this study is to use a series of qualitative interviews and content analysis to identify the information and support needs of MCI care dyads who are offered amyloid imaging research results.

Smartcare: Innovations in Caregiving Interventions

Principal

Investigators: Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

Paula Sherwood, Nursing

Funder: National Institute of Nursing Research

Period: 09/12-06/17

The study addresses research priorities set by both NCI and NINR to improve the quality of life of patients and their families and NINR's emphasis on integrating bio-behavioral science and adopting, adapting and generating new technologies.

Social Behaviors and Health in Older Adulthood: A Secure Base from which to Thrive

Principal

Investigators: Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

Brooke Feeney, Carnegie Mellon University

Funder: National Institutes of Health

Period: 04/10-03/15

The purpose of this study is to identify specific social behaviors that are responsible for the effects of social relations on health and well-being in older adulthood. In particular, focus on social behaviors that occur within the closest relationships of older adults and involve the support of older adults' exploration, goal strivings, and continued self-growth.

State of Aging in Allegheny County

Principal

Investigators: Richard Schulz, *Gerontology, UCSUR*

Donald Musa, *QDAP, UCSUR*

Scott Beach, *SRP, UCSUR*

Chris Briem, *URA, UCSUR*

Funder: UCSUR, *Aging Institute, Allegheny County Area Agency on Aging, United Way of Allegheny County*

Period: 04/13-06/14

Project to update UCSUR's 2003 study of older adults and the state of aging in Allegheny County. Project characterizes older adults across a broad range of dimensions including demographics, income and poverty, health, work and retirement, living arrangements, housing and neighborhood conditions, caregiving and volunteering, aging service use, and overall well-being. Includes both secondary analysis of multiple data sources and primary data collection through a population-based survey and follow-up, in-depth interviews.

The Advanced Center for Intervention and Services Research, Research Methods Core

Principal

Investigators: Richard Schulz, *Gerontology, UCSUR*

Charles F. Reynolds III, *Psychiatry*

Funder: *National Institute of Mental Health*

Period: 07/11-06/16

Focus on the social, psychological, and behavioral factors relevant to understanding the interactive nature of physical illness and depression in late life.

Symptom Management and Psychosocial Needs of Patients with Acute Leukemia

Principal

Investigators: Kevan Schultz, *QDAP, UCSUR*

Tara Albrecht, *Virginia Commonwealth University*

Funder: *Sigma Theta Tau International*

Period: 11/10-10/12

Transcription of interviews with acute leukemia (AL) patients to examine the symptoms experienced by patients diagnosed with AL across the disease trajectory and to explore recommendations for nurse-provided support.

Competiveness Research

Principal

Investigators: Vijai Singh, *Office of the Chancellor*

Funders: *Heinz Endowments, Consolidated Natural Gas*

Period: *ongoing*

Projects include analysis of factors which promote regional competitiveness of the biotech industry in Pittsburgh. Partner in a research network with Transatlantic Comparison of Continental Innovation Models. Project Director: Professor Ulrich Hilpert, University of Jena, Germany.

Publications 2013–14

Journals

- Abdel-Kader, K., Jhamb, M., Mandich, L.A., Yabes, J., Keene, R., Beach, S., Buysse, D., & Unruh, M. (2014). Ecological momentary assessment of fatigue, sleepiness, and exhaustion in ESKD. *BMC Nephrology*, 15: 29.
- Beach, S.R., Schulz, R., Matthews, J.T., Courtney, K., & Dabbs, A.D. (2014). Preferences for technology versus human assistance and control over technology in the performance of kitchen and personal care tasks in baby boomers and older adults. *Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology*, 9(6), 474-486.
- Birenboim, A., Reinau, K.H., Shoval, N., & Harder, H., (in press). High resolution measurement and analysis of visitor experiences in time and space: The case of Aalborg Zoo in Denmark. *The Professional Geographer*.
- Castle, N., & Beach, S. (2013). Elder abuse in assisted living. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 32, 248-267.
- Cheung, S.K., Lau, B.H., Leung, Y.A., Wong, W.P., Lou, W.V., Chan, M.G., & Schulz, R. (in press). Multicomponent intervention on enhancing dementia caregiver well-being and reducing behavioral problems among Hong Kong Chinese: A translational study based on REACH II. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*.
- Choi, J., Hoffman, L.A., Schulz, R., Ren, D., Donahoe, M.P., Given, B., & Sherwood, P. R. (2013). Health risk behaviors in family caregivers during patients' stay in intensive care units: A pilot analysis. *American Journal of Critical Care*, 22(1), 41-45.
- Choi, J., Hoffman, L.A., Schulz, R., Tate, J.A., Donahoe, M.P., Ren, D., Given, B., & Sherwood, P.R. (2014). Self-reported physical symptoms in intensive care unit (ICU) survivors: Pilot exploration over four months post- ICU discharge. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 47(2), 257-270.
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- Engel, R., Thang, L.L., & Newman, S. (2014). Introducing the editors and the special issue. *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*, 12(4), 299-303.
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- Gere, J., Martire, L.M., Keefe, F.J., Stephens, M.A., & Schulz, R. (2014). Spouse confidence in self-efficacy for arthritis management predicts improved patient health. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 48, 337-346.
- Glynn, N.W., Santanasto, A.J., Simonsick, E.M., Boudreau, R.M., Beach, S.R., Schulz, R., & Newman, A.B. (in press). The Pittsburgh Fatigability Scale for older adults: Development and validation. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*.
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