

# UCSUR

University Center for  
Social and Urban Research

## annual report

July 1, 2014–  
June 30, 2015







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Social and Urban Research

## Annual Report

July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015

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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 social, economical, and health-related issues most relevant to our society. UCSUR maintains a permanent research infrastructure available to faculty and the community with the capacity to:

- conduct various 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; and
3. Support the teaching mission of the University through graduate student, postdoctoral, 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 will require 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

This year marks my 32nd with the University Center for Social and Urban Research and my 16th as Director of the Center. When I arrived on the Pitt campus in 1984, UCSUR was a small unit housed on the 16th floor of the Cathedral of Learning. My faculty appointment was in the Department of Psychiatry, but I was physically housed at UCSUR and given the title of Director of Gerontology. My primary responsibility was to develop the University's nascent research program on aging. Both the Center and research on aging have flourished over the past three decades, in large part due to the leadership of Vijai Singh, former director of the Center, and David Kupfer and Lew Kuller, former chairs of the Psychiatry and Epidemiology departments, respectively, and to a lesser degree of my own efforts. The University of Pittsburgh is now recognized as one of the major research centers on aging in the world, and the Center has become a vital resource to social and behavioral science researchers throughout the University as well as in the region. In any given year, UCSUR carries out collaborative research projects with faculty from every school in the University and addresses research needs of most regional government agencies. The Center has become the go to resource for data and analyses of economic, demographic, and quality of life data to inform regional public policy.

At the end of this year I will step down as Director of the Center and return full time to my role as aging researcher and Director of Gerontology. Serving as Director of the Center has been a dream job, a clear case of being at the right place at the right time. Throughout my tenure as Director we have had the support of our faculty, the foundation community, local government agencies, and, most importantly, stable and visionary University leadership at the highest levels. Much of what we achieved would not have been possible without the support and leadership of former Chancellor Nordenberg, former Provost Jim Maher, and Provost Patty Beeson. I feel lucky and grateful to have been part of this era in the history of the University.



# 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:

## 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 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.

## Survey Research

**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

**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.

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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; and
- 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 and incentives.

### Questionnaire Development

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; and
- instrument pretesting.

### 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 50 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 then 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 that uses a recorded voice to administer 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 of 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 analysis of survey data, ranging from simple tabulations to relatively complex statistical modeling using a variety of statistical packages. Analytic capabilities include:

- descriptive statistical analysis of survey responses, including calculations of sampling error and statistical weighting adjustments for unequal selection probabilities and nonresponse;
- cross-classification analysis with demographic or other predictive factors;
- multivariate analysis, including ANOVA, factor analysis, linear and nonlinear regression, logistic regression, categorical methods, and structural equation modeling; and
- longitudinal analysis.

### 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, and
- 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 the 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 [ucsur.pitt.edu/thepub.php](http://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 use our 12 years of experience to apply the model to the Pittsburgh region. This capability to forecast future regional economic conditions and conduct detailed impact analysis of potential changes in the local 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 supports 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 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.

RDC serves as the Pittsburgh region's open data portal and hosts datasets from various governments, public authorities, university research projects, and nonprofit and community organizations. RDC and the portal are hosted and managed at UCSUR and 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 are provided to data publishers and data users. Key partners of UCSUR in this effort include the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.

### Southwestern Pennsylvania Community Profiles

Southwestern Pennsylvania Community Profiles (SWPA Community Profiles) is a new way to collect, analyze, and understand information across a range of domains to look at our neighborhoods and communities in a comprehensive data fashion. SWPA Community Profiles presents community data and indicators in a series of interactive tables and maps. With data and indicators from local, state, and federal government sources, along with a select set of other databases, SWPA Community Profiles allows users to understand and visualize data along a range of geographic areas in our communities and region. Data are organized along 11 domains: arts and culture,

demographics, economy, education, environment, governance and civic vitality, health, housing and properties, human services, public safety, and transportation. Within each domain is important information about understanding the changes, trends, and developments that are affecting our local areas. Data are available by different geographies, from county and municipal levels to neighborhood and census tract and block groupings.

### Regional 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

UCSUR continues to support the Southwestern Planning Commission (SPC) in developing its forecast of regional population and employment. This is a primary function of the REMI model, which is essential to regional planning because of its extensive demographic modeling capabilities. UCSUR staff provide 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 in order to 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 including how it is changing and analysis 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 the ongoing study of current economic trends. Recent issues of PEQ addressed these key topics:

- Connecting People and Place—Improving Communities through Integrated Data Systems
- Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center
- Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Allegheny County, Pa., from 1900–2000: Implications for Local Mitigation Planning

- The State of Entrepreneurship in the Mon Valley
- Who Are the Uninsured in Southwestern Pennsylvania?
- Growing Smarter: Reducing Sprawl Slowly Catches on in the Region

## 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 over 20 years. Much of what is known about living with different illnesses has resulted from medical and psychological research conducted by programs like ours. 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 educational 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 about 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. In addition, 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,



## (What We Do: Center Resources, continued)

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.

The general multidisciplinary track is also available at [online.pitt.edu](http://online.pitt.edu), and information about this Graduate Certificate in Gerontology can be found at: [ucsur.pitt.edu/programs/gerontology/certificate-program](http://ucsur.pitt.edu/programs/gerontology/certificate-program).

### Technology and Aging

A major research project led by the gerontology program focuses on how and why community-residing older adults, particularly those with limited access to personal computers and mobile devices, use multiuser health kiosks located in congregate settings to self-monitor and manage several aspects of their health. In addition to tracking user engagement with the assessment and intervention features of the kiosk, the project explores health services utilization during the 18 months of study participation and promotes patient-provider communication regarding personal health and family caregiving concerns. This project is supported by the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research and involves multidisciplinary collaboration among researchers in health professions, social sciences, engineering, computer science, and informatics from several universities.

### Geriatric Education

The Geriatric Education Center of Pennsylvania based at UCSUR leads a consortium comprising the University of Pittsburgh, VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, Pennsylvania State University Center on Healthy Aging, and UPMC Aging Institute. Six initiatives provide training and resources to professional and paraprofessional health care providers, older adults, and family caregivers. Funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration, these initiatives address several regional needs and

national directives regarding geriatric education:

- Improving the care of elderly veterans through education of primary care providers and family members
- Transforming clinical training for Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and providing training to health and social services professionals in rural and underserved urban areas
- Advancing dementia care competency and preparedness across disciplines in multiple primary care settings
- Improving mental health care for older adults in primary care settings
- Improving healthy life styles of older adults by training health and social service providers to implement preventive interventions for older adults in community settings
- Establishing a regional, community-based outreach and resource center

## 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 have 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 and 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 datasets. QDAP staff work 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; NVivo, another widely used qualitative data analysis software package; and Transana, a video-coding software package; and a specialized, in-house program for quality control that calculates inter-coder reliability statistics and simplifies adjudication of coder disagreement. In addition, we offer training seminars and one-on-one training sessions for faculty, staff, and students using ATLAS.ti, NVivo, 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, NVivo, Transana, Coding Analysis Toolkit)

## Geographical Information Systems and Visual Analytics Services

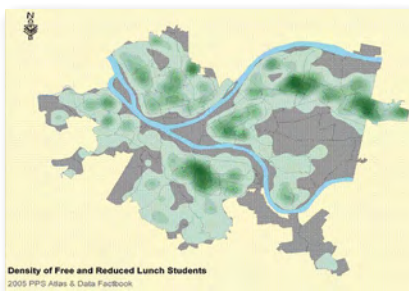
### Geographic Information Services

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 our Web site for specific examples: [ucsur.pitt.edu](http://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; and
- evaluation and interpretation of policy relevant secondary information data for government, business, labor, media, and other organizations.

## (What We Do: Center Resources, continued)

UCSUR also conducts demographic, economic, and policy research, 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 ([ucsur.pitt.edu](http://ucsur.pitt.edu)).

### 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's 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

UCSUR 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 have 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, and
- 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: research development grants to support pilot research in the social, behavioral, and policy sciences; and infrastructure development awards aimed at enhancing faculty capabilities to carry out interdisciplinary research in the social, behavioral, and policy sciences.

- 2015 awardees: Carissa Low, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute; Elizabeth Votruba-Drzal, psychology
- 2014 awardees: Anthony Fabio and Dara Mendez, epidemiology; Lyn Robertson, medicine
- 2013 awardees: Brian Beaton and Rosta Farzan, information sciences; Kathryn Monahan, psychiatry; Ming-Te Wang, 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: Scott F. Kiesling, linguistics; Maureen Porter, administrative and policy studies;
- 2001 awardees: Paul E. Griffiths, history and philosophy; Miriam Hertz, health information management

## Board of Visitors

**Michael A. Bryson**  
University of Pittsburgh

**Sara J. Czaja, PhD**  
University of Miami

**James House, PhD**  
ISR, University of Michigan

**Larry C. Ledebur, PhD**  
Cleveland State University

**Cynthia L. Roth**  
West Virginia University Foundation

**Anderson Dodd Smith, PhD**  
Georgia Institute of Technology

# Core Staff

## Administration

Director

**Richard Schulz**

Associate Director

**Scott Beach**

Business Manager

**Greg Six**

Administrators

**Anna Aivaliotis**

**Donna M. King**

Administrative Assistants

**Philip Crain**

**Carrie Rodzvicz**

## Administration— Technology Services

IT Director/Database Administrator

**Robert Keene**

Systems Administrator

**Eric Wolfe**

Research Programmer

**Steven Saylor**

## Survey Research

Program Director

**Scott Beach**

Research Associate

**Donald Musa**

Senior Research Specialists

**Janet Schlarb**

**Stephen Strotmeyer**

Senior Fieldwork Supervisor

**Lynda Connelly**

Fieldwork Supervisors

**Olivia Kirsch**

**Olivia Wilson**

Fieldwork Supervisor/Research

Specialist

**Amber Barton**

**Carrie Rodzvicz**

Research Specialists

**Christine Byerly**

**Victoria Casilli**

**Patricia Lietz**

## Urban and Regional Analysis

Program Director

**Sabina Deitrick\*\***

Regional Data Center Director

**Robert Gradeck**

Regional Economist

**Christopher Briem**

Research Specialist

**Elizabeth Monk**

Research Development Manager

**Michael Blackhurst**

PittsburghTODAY Director

**Douglas Heuck**

PittsburghTODAY Research Staff

**Julia Fraser**

**Isabel Orozco**

## Gerontology

Program Director

**Richard Schulz**

Associate Program Director

**Judith Matthews**

Associate Program Director, Geriatric

Education Center

**John Hennon**

Project Coordinators

**Amber Barton**

**Jennifer Bissell**

**Sally Hostein**

**Julie Klinger**

## Qualitative Data Analysis

Program Director

**Donald Musa**

Program Assistant Director

**Laurel Person Mecca**

Research Specialists

**David Halpern**

**Kevan Schultz**

## Generations Together

Emeritus Director/Journal Editor

**Sally Newman**

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\*\* 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                                      | Terry Miller               | Institute of Politics                            | Kristin Ray             | Pediatrics                                  |
| John P. Williams        | Anesthesiology                                      | Amber Barnato              | Internal Medicine                                | Abhay Vats              | Pediatrics                                  |
| Richard Scaglione       | Anthropology  | Kathleen McTigue           | Internal Medicine                                | Selma F. Witchel        | Pediatrics                                  |
| Steven Albert           | Behavioral and Community Health Sciences            | Christine Kush             | Katz Graduate School of Business                 | Pouran Famili           | Periodontics                                |
| Jessica Griffin Burke   | Behavioral and Community Health Sciences            | Carrie R. Leana            | Katz Graduate School of Business                 | Olufunmilola Abraham    | Pharmacy                                    |
| Mary Hawk               | Behavioral and Community Health Sciences            | Marick F. Masters          | Katz Graduate School of Business                 | Pam Smithburger         | Pharmacy                                    |
| Edmund Ricci            | Behavioral and Community Health Sciences            | John E. Prescott           | Katz Graduate School of Business                 | Jessie VanSwearingen    | Physical Therapy                            |
| Ravi Sharma             | Behavioral and Community Health Sciences            | Ronald A. Brand            | Law  | Barry Ames              | Political Science                           |
| Gary M. Marsh           | Biostatistics                                       | Mary Crossley              | Law  | John Hurwitz            | Political Science                           |
| Stanley J. Kabala       | Center for Environmental Research and Education     | Vivian Curran              | Law  | Boris Birmaher          | Psychiatry                                  |
| Melissa Bilec           | Civil and Environmental Engineering                 | Lawrence A. Frolik         | Law  | David Brent             | Psychiatry                                  |
| Amy Landis              | Civil and Environmental Engineering                 | David Herring              | Law  | Charlotte Brown         | Psychiatry                                  |
| Ronald D. Neufeld       | Civil and Environmental Engineering                 | Alan Meisel                | Law  | Tammy Chung             | Psychiatry                                  |
| Catherine V. Palmer     | Communication Science and Disorders                 | Richard P. Correnti        | Learning Research and Development Center         | Duncan Clark            | Psychiatry                                  |
| Connie A. Tompkins      | Communication Science and Disorders                 | Mary Kay Stein             | Learning Research and Development Center         | Patricia Cluss          | Psychiatry                                  |
| J. Scott Yaruss         | Communication Science and Disorders                 | James M. Roberts           | Magee-Women's Research Institute                 | Ronald Dahl             | Psychiatry                                  |
| Rami Melhem             | Computer Science                                    | Derek C. Angus             | Medicine   | Mary Amanda Dew         | Psychiatry                                  |
| Daniel Mosse            | Computer Science                                    | Robert M. Arnold           | Medicine   | Andrea Dimartini        | Psychiatry                                  |
| Taieb Znati             | Computer Science                                    | Sonya Borrero              | Medicine   | Linda J. Ewing          | Psychiatry                                  |
| Jeremy Kahn             | Critical Care Medicine                              | Cindy L. Bryce             | Medicine   | Amy Herschell           | Psychiatry                                  |
| Douglas White           | Critical Care Medicine                              | Daniel Buysse              | Medicine   | Jordan Karp             | Psychiatry                                  |
| James Guggenheimer      | Dental Medicine                                     | Jill Radtke Demirci        | Medicine   | Robert S. Marin         | Psychiatry                                  |
| Mary Marazita           | Dental Medicine                                     | Michael Fine               | Medicine   | Mike Marshal            | Psychiatry                                  |
| Titus Schleyer          | Dental Medicine                                     | Wishwa Kapoor              | Medicine   | Karen A. Matthews       | Psychiatry                                  |
| Robert Weyant           | Dental Medicine                                     | John Kellum Jr.            | Medicine   | Lisa A. Morrow          | Psychiatry                                  |
| Frank Giarratani        | Economics   | Katie Nason                | Medicine   | Richard Morycz          | Psychiatry                                  |
| Gene Gruver             | Economics   | Anne B. Newman             | Medicine   | Edward P. Mulvey        | Psychiatry                                  |
| Linda DeAngelo          | Education   | P. Sudhakar Reddy          | Medicine   | Vishwajit Nimgaonkar    | Psychiatry                                  |
| Carl I. Fertman         | Education   | Linda Robertson            | Medicine   | Paul Pilkonis           | Psychiatry                                  |
| Michael Gunzenhauser    | Education   | Eric Rodriguez             | Medicine   | Bruce Pollock           | Psychiatry                                  |
| Meryl K. Lazar          | Education   | Robert E. Schoen           | Medicine   | Charles F. Reynolds III | Psychiatry                                  |
| Steven R. Lyon          | Education   | Stephanie Studenski        | Medicine   | Neal Ryan               | Psychiatry                                  |
| Amber Pabon             | Education   | Galen Switzer              | Medicine   | Sarah Stahl             | Psychiatry                                  |
| Maureen Porter          | Education   | Debra K. Weiner            | Medicine   | Magda Stouthamer-Loeber | Psychiatry                                  |
| Joan I. Vondra          | Education   | Susan Zickmund             | Medicine   | Peter Gianaros          | Psychology                                  |
| Vince N. Mosesso Jr.    | Emergency Medicine                                  | Andrew N. Weintraub        | Music  | Christina Groark        | Psychology                                  |
| Paul M. Paris           | Emergency Medicine                                  | Edward Stricker            | Neuroscience                                     | Thomas Kamarck          | Psychology                                  |
| Marcia Landy            | English   | Catherine Bender           | Nursing  | John Levine             | Psychology                                  |
| Jane Clougherty         | Environmental and Occupational Health               | Lora E. Burke              | Nursing  | Robert McCall           | Psychology                                  |
| Steven H. Belle         | Epidemiology  | Denise Charron-Prochowinik | Nursing  | Kathryn Roecklein       | Psychology                                  |
| Joyce T. Bromberger     | Epidemiology  | Eileen Chasens             | Nursing  | Daniel Shaw             | Psychology                                  |
| Jane A. Cauley          | Epidemiology  | JiYeon Choi                | Nursing  | Katherine Wisner        | Psychology                                  |
| Andrea Kriska           | Epidemiology  | Rose E. Constantino        | Nursing  | Steven E. Stern         | Psychology-Johnstown                        |
| Joel L. Weissfeld       | Epidemiology  | Annette DeVito Dabbs       | Nursing  | Dan Ding                | Rehabilitation Science and Technology       |
| Jonathon Erlen          | Falk Library/Public Health                          | Heidi Donovan              | Nursing  | Mary Goldberg           | Rehabilitation Science and Technology       |
| William B. Kory         | Geography   | Willa M. Doswell           | Nursing  | Nancy Condee            | Slavic Languages and Literatures            |
| Carolyn Ban             | Graduate School of Public and International Affairs | Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob    | Nursing  | Vladimir Padunov        | Slavic Languages and Literatures            |
| Louise Comfort          | Graduate School of Public and International Affairs | Sandra Engberg             | Nursing  | Larry E. Davis          | Social Work                                 |
| Sabina Deitrick         | Graduate School of Public and International Affairs | Judith A. Erlen            | Nursing  | Rafael J. Engel         | Social Work                                 |
| David Y. Miller         | Graduate School of Public and International Affairs | Jennifer Lingler           | Nursing  | Rachel Fusco            | Social Work                                 |
| Jennifer Brach          | Health and Rehabilitation Sciences                  | Faith Luyster              | Nursing  | Catherine Greeno        | Social Work                                 |
| Nicholas Castle         | Health Policy and Management                        | Ann M. Mitchell            | Nursing  | Lovie Jackson           | Social Work                                 |
| Howard B. Degenholtz    | Health Policy and Management                        | Lorraine Novosel           | Nursing  | Helen Petracchi         | Social Work                                 |
| Judith R. Lave          | Health Policy and Management                        | Mijung Park                | Nursing  | Mary Rautkis            | Social Work                                 |
| Beaufort B. Longest Jr. | Health Policy and Management                        | Margaret Rosenzweig        | Nursing  | Tracy M. Soska          | Social Work                                 |
| Margaret Potter         | Health Policy and Management                        | Elizabeth A. Schlenk       | Nursing  | Hide Yamatani           | Social Work                                 |
| Seymour Drescher        | History   | Susan Sereika              | Nursing  | Joyce Bell              | Sociology                                   |
| Laurence A. Glasco      | History   | Paula Sherwood             | Nursing  | Kathleen M. Blee        | Sociology                                   |
| Edward K. Muller        | History   | Aletha Akers               | Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Services | Lisa D. Brush           | Sociology                                   |
| Lisa S. Parker          | Human Genetics                                      | Joan C. Rogers             | Occupational Therapy                             | Waverly Duck            | Sociology                                   |
| Rory Cooper             | Human Engineering Research Laboratories             | Pam Toto                   | Occupational Therapy                             | Akiko Hashimoto         | Sociology                                   |
| Anthony J. Silvestre    | Infectious Diseases/Microbiology                    | Patricia Beeson            | Office of the Provost                            | Vijai P. Singh          | Sociology                                   |
| Mary Besterfield-Sacre  | Industrial Engineering                              | Juan Manfredi              | Office of the Provost                            | Daniel Hall             | Surgery                                     |
| Kenneth Sochats         | Information Sciences                                | Mark Redfern               | Office of the Provost                            | James D. Luketich       | Surgery                                     |
|                         |   | Alberta Sbragia            | Office of the Provost                            | Ron Shapiro             | Surgery                                     |
|                         |   | James J. Irrgang           | Orthopedic Surgery                               | Ralph Bangs             | University Center for International Studies |
|                         |   | Bruce S. Rabin             | Pathology  | Larry Feick             | University Center for International Studies |
|                         |   | Parmjeet Randhawa          | Pathology  | Carolyn J. Carson       | Urban Studies Program                       |
|                         |   | Raymond Pitetti            | Pediatrics                                       |                         |   |
|                         |   | Dianna Ploof               | Pediatrics                                       |                         |   |



# Projects\*

## 10 Keys to Healthy Aging— An Innovative Community-based Program

### Principal

**Investigators:** **Scott Beach**, SRP, UCSUR  
**Robert Keene**, SRP, UCSUR  
**Steven Albert**, Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

**Funder:** Research Development Fund

**Period:** 07/14-present

UCSUR is using Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system to track balance, falls, activity, and hospital visits monthly over the course of six months

## 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.

## ACEMS/CONNECT EMS Web Survey

### Principal

**Investigators:** **Scott Beach**, SRP, UCSUR  
**Janet Schlarb**, SRP, UCSUR  
**Christopher Dell**, Elizabeth Township Area EMS

**Funder:** ACEMS

**Period:** 01/15-03/15

Web survey of the 60 EMS chiefs in Allegheny County to use as: (1) a baseline assessment, (2) a tool for government officials to evaluate EMS, and (3) a tool for EMS agencies to evaluate themselves.

## 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.

## Brazilian Bureaucracy Web Survey

### Principal

**Investigators:** **Scott Beach**, SRP, UCSUR  
**Stephen Strotmeyer**, SRP, UCSUR  
**Barry Ames**, Political Science

**Funder:** Andrew Mellon Professorship of the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences

**Period:** 10/14-06/16

Web survey to explore Brazilian bureaucrats' perceptions of problems, obstacles, job-related networks, and appointment criteria.

## 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, N.Y. to study relationships between stressors (individual and 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.

\*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 Veterans Administration 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, Pa., and 500 in West Virginia—to explore factors related to childhood oral health disparities.

## Healthy Steps for Older Adults: A Statewide (Pennsylvania) Approach to Preventing Falls

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR  
Steven Albert, Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

**Funder:** Research Development Fund

**Period:** 07/14-present

UCSUR is using an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system to track balance, falls, activity, and hospital visits monthly over the course of six months.

## 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 green space renovation and other sustainable development on physical activity in 1,600 residents of low-income neighborhoods.

## Increasing Equity in Transplant Evaluation and 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:** 09/14-07/19

A telephone interview data collection effort of kidney transplant patients. The goals of the study are to help pave the way for transplant centers to implement a fast-track system at their sites, improve quality of care by transplanting a larger number of vulnerable patients, and help address stark race/ethnic disparities in rates of LDKT.

## International Comparisons of the Role of Race and Ethnicity in HSC Donation Decisions—United States and United Kingdom

### 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.

## (Projects, continued)

### National Consortium on Alcohol and Neurodevelopment in Adolescence: Pittsburgh, Pa.

**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.

### Northside Survey

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR

*Funder:* Buhl Foundation

*Period:* 05/14-10/14

A mailout survey of residents of Northside neighborhoods. Outcomes of this survey will be used to better support the people who live, work, and visit the Northside.

### Older Adult Sleep Medication Survey

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR  
Olufunmilola Abraham, School of Pharmacy

*Funder:* School of Pharmacy

*Period:* 02/15-06/15

A mailout and telephone survey of older adults about their behaviors regarding the use of sleep medications. The goal of the study is to provide information to aid in the development of effective interventions to ensure safe and appropriate use of these medications.

### On the Move: Optimizing Participation in Group Exercise

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR  
Jennifer Brach, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

*Funder:* Patient-centered Outcomes Research Institute

*Period:* 10/14-present

SRP is using Interactive Voice Response (IVR) among group exercise participants to track falls, activity, and hospital visits monthly over the course of one year.

### Pittsburgh Diversity Survey

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Melanie Harrington, Vibrant Pittsburgh

*Funder:* Vibrant Pittsburgh

*Period:* 04/15-12/15

Web survey of approximately 3,500 local employees and residents of the Pittsburgh region focusing on diversity issues in the workplace and broader community.

### 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.

### 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 Healthcare 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.

### 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 the 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 Barriers to Access, Adoption and Effective Use of Patient Portals by Older Adults to Promote Engagement in Their Health Care

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Annette De Vito Dabbs, School of Nursing

**Funder:** Aging Institute/Health Policy Institute

**Period:** 06/15-05/16

Telephone survey of 100 older adults about general issues related to engagement in their health care and use of technology for health care. A subset of the respondents was recruited for in-depth follow-up focus groups.

## Understanding Millennial Volunteer Stem

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR  
Galen Switzer, Medicine

**Funder:** Anthony Nolan Trust

**Period:** 05/14-10/14

This is a one-time focus group being compiled in order to better understand the decisions, opinions, preferences and experiences of new members of the Be the Match Registry. UCSUR has created an online consent form to automate the participant tracking process.

## 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 and 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.

## Neighborhood Attraction Factors Impacting the Young Professional African American Population in the City of Pittsburgh

### Principal

**Investigators:** Christopher Briem, URA, UCSUR  
Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR

**Funder:** POISE Foundation

**Period:** 07/15-02/16

A study of factors influencing the choice of residence of young, professional African Americans in the City of Pittsburgh.

## Advancing Entrepreneurship in the Mon Valley

### Principal

**Investigator:** Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR

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

**Period:** 09/13-03/16

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:** 09/13-09/15

Collaborate with the Allegheny County Department of Human Services and its 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:** 09/14-08/15

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

## (Projects, continued)

### 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.

### Southwestern Pennsylvania Community Profiles

**Principal****Investigator:** Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR**Funder:** PNC**Period:** 01/15-12/15

UCSUR secured support from PNC to continue to collect, update, transform, and aggregate data for use in the profiles, promote the availability of the tool, and provide training and technical assistance to support use of the tool.

### Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center

**Principal****Investigator:** Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR**Funders:** R.K. Mellon Foundation; University of Pittsburgh**Period:** Ongoing

The data center supports key community initiatives by making public information easier to find and use. The data center is managed by UCSUR and is in partnership with Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh.

### Regional Indicators Project: PittsburghToday.org

**Principal****Investigator:** Douglas Heuck, URA, UCSUR**Funders:** Hillman Foundation, Anonymous, Richard King Mellon Foundation, Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation**Period:** Ongoing

The Regional Indicators Project: PittsburghToday.org is an in-depth journalism and regional indicators program that compares Greater Pittsburgh with 14 other regions on hundreds of measures. Since its inception, hundreds of reports have been published on key regional quality of life issues.

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

### Development and Refinement of a Multi-user 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, multi-user 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.

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

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR

Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR

Amy Herschell, Psychiatry

**Funder:** National Institute of Mental Health

**Period:** 01/13-12/14

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.

## Collaborative Research: Assessing the Spectrum of International Undergraduate Engineering Educational Experiences

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR

David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR

Mary Besterfield-Sacre, Industrial Engineering

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

**Period:** 05/15-09/15

Transcription of interviews with engineering undergraduate students to explore how international experiences both in and outside of formal curricula impact their global competency.

## ConnECCT: Contributors to Effective Critical Care Telemedicine

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR

Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR

Jeremy Kahn, Critical Care Medicine

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health

**Period:** 02/15-06/15

Transcription of interviews and focus groups to identify clinical and organizational factors associated with ICU telemedicine effectiveness at high- and low-effectiveness hospitals throughout the United States.

## Consumer Engagement to Promote Advance Care Planning

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR

Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR

Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR

Amber Barnato, Internal Medicine

**Funders:** Robert Wood Johnson Foundation,  
The Donaghue Foundation

**Period:** 12/14-04/15

English to Spanish translation and back translation of materials employed in a study testing different types of patient education about advance care planning.

## Eighteen Smaller Short-term Transcription Projects with a Variety of Investigators and Funders

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR

Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR

Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR

David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR

**Period:** 07/14-06/15

Eighteen smaller, short-term transcription projects with a variety of investigators and funders.

## Engaging Pediatric Patients in Counseling and Medication Therapy Management Services; and OTC Sleep Aids: Older Adult Medication-taking Behavior and Safety Risks

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR

Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR

Olufunmilola Abraham, Pharmacy

**Funders:** Community Pharmacy Foundation;  
Inaugural Health Academy New Investigator  
Small Grant Program (NISGP)

**Period:** 05/15-present

Transcription and coding of interviews with pediatric patients, their caregivers, and pharmacists regarding barriers and facilitators to engaging children in Medication Therapy Management (MTM) services.



## (Projects, continued)

### 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:** 08/13-11/14

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

### Exploring the Understanding of and Preparedness for the Palliative Care Experience of Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kathy Lindell, Dorothy P. & Richard P. Simmons Center for Interstitial Lung Disease at UPMC

**Funder:** Leslie Hoffman Award, School of Nursing  
**Period:** 02/15-07/15

Transcription and coding of focus groups with IPF patients, current caregivers, and caregivers of decedents regarding their understanding of and preparedness for the course of this life-limiting illness.

### 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.

### Feasibility Testing of a Decision Aid to Support Shared Decision Making about Invasive Mechanical Ventilation in Severe COPD

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Negin Hajizadeh, North Shore Long Island Jewish Health System

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health  
**Period:** 02/15-10/15

Transcription of interviews and focus groups with COPD patients and caregivers about using a Web-based tool as a decision aid and information needed for end of life/advance care planning decisions.

### High Utilizer Care Teams Project

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Michael Yedidia, Rutgers University

**Funder:** Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
**Period:** 11/14-present

Transcription of interviews with health care workers who provide integrated care to complex, high-utilizing patients to address team composition, training, and workforce issues.

### Identifying Patient-centered Sexual Health Outcomes in Midlife Women

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Wishwa Kapoor, Medicine

**Funder:** Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality  
**Period:** 12/14-07/15

Transcription of interviews and focus groups with midlife women regarding their definitions of sexual satisfaction and the sexual health outcomes that they find most important.

### Implementing Personal Health Records to Promote Evidence-based Cancer Screening

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Alexander Krist, Virginia Commonwealth University

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health  
**Period:** 08/14-05/15

Transcription of recordings from a conference with clinicians and patients regarding implementation of the Patient-centered Medical Home.

### Intensive Care Unit Patient Visitor Perceptions on Involvement with Delirium Prevention Activities

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Pam Smithburger, Pharmacy

**Funder:** Department of Pharmacy and Therapeutics  
**Period:** 05/15-present

Transcription of interviews with individuals visiting critically ill patients in the ICU regarding their impression of involvement with care and improving visitor comfort and interaction with their loved one.

## Making a Difference: Community Assets Associated with Improved Life Expectancy in California

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Steven Cohen, Virginia Commonwealth University

**Funder:** The California Endowment

**Period:** 09/14-05/15

Transcription of interviews with key informants in California communities that have higher than expected life expectancy given their place-based characteristics, particularly poverty.

## Pharmacologic and Non-pharmacologic Management of Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia (BPSD)

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Bill Kerns, Virginia Commonwealth University

**Funder:** Virginia Center on Aging

**Period:** 09/14-present

Transcription of semi-structured interviews with dementia patients' POAs, nurses, and physicians to assess their experiences of decision-making processes concerning pharmacologic approaches.

## 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:** 02/14-8/15

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.

## Review of Grant Proposal Summary Sheets

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, Nursing

**Funder:** School of Nursing Hard Money Funds

**Period:** 02/15-present

Coding of grant proposal summary sheets to see if there are any systematic problems with proposals that are being submitted by Pitt's School of Nursing faculty.

## Self-care Practices in a High-risk Obstetric (HROB) Population in Middle Georgia

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Jennifer Barkin, Mercer University

**Funder:** MedCen Foundation

**Period:** 06/14-04/15

Transcription and coding of focus groups with Middle Georgian women who have high risk pregnancies regarding self care practices, home visiting, and nutritional practices.

## Strategies to Improve Medical Care

### Principal

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

**Funders:** National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases;  
Virginia Commonwealth University Faculty Excellence Funds

**Period:** 05/14-09/15

Transcription for five projects addressing medical care improvement issues: patient-centered medical home, care coordination, neighborhood engagement, hotspotting, and registry-based care.

## Texting to Reduce Alcohol Consumption (TRAC)

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Brian Suffoletto, Emergency Medicine

**Funder:** National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

**Period:** 09/14-04/15

Moderation, transcription, and coding of focus groups with young adults with past binge drinking to identify preferences for a mobile-phone delivered intervention and barriers and solutions to text message dialogue supporting self-regulation with young adults during drinking episodes.

## 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:** 06/14-06/15

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.

## (Projects, continued)

### Transcription for Patient-centered Medical Homes Projects

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Benjamin Crabtree, Rutgers University

**Funders:** National Cancer Institute;  
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

**Period:** 03/15-10/15

Transcription for two projects addressing issues concerning patient-centered medical homes.

### Transcription Projects for Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Cara Orfield, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.  
Jesse Crosson, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.  
Linda Barterian, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.  
Leslie Foster, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.

**Funders:** The Atlantic Philanthropies; Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; David and Lucile Packard Foundation

**Period:** 05/13-present

Transcription for seven projects addressing a variety of policy and health care issues.

### 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-present

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.

### A Randomized Pilot Study of Behavioral Self-monitoring to Promote Mental Health Among Spousally Bereaved Older Adults

**Co-Mentor:** Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Sarah Stahl, Psychiatry

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health

**Period:** 02/15-01/19

The purpose of this research is to gather evidence for the feasibility of a behavioral intervention to prevent the onset or delay the progression of depression, anxiety, and/or complicated grief disorder(s) in adults who experience late-life spousal bereavement.

### 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 African American, Hispanic, and White non-Hispanic family caregivers of AD patients.

### 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, Pennsylvania 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.

### Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program

**Principal**

**Investigator:** Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

**Funder:** Health Resources and Services Administration

**Period:** 07/15-06/18

The Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) is a consortium of the University of Pittsburgh, the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, Pennsylvania State University, and UPMC, with Pitt as the lead institution. Through this collaboration, we are able to provide interprofessional training and access to resources for older adults and their families throughout HHS Region III.

### 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 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. UCSUR SRP is also using EMA methodology to track adverse events.

## 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.

## 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.

## Competiveness Research

### Principal

**Investigator:** Vijai Singh, *Office of the Chancellor*

**Funders:** Heinz Endowments,  
Consolidated Natural Gas

**Period:** Ongoing

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

# Publications 2014–15

## 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.
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- De Cantis, S., Ferrante, M., Kahani, A., & Shoval, N. (in press). Cruise passengers' behavior at the destination: Investigation using GPS technology. *Tourism Management*.
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