



# Cancer Prevention & Control Program

## COLLOQUIUM SERIES

presents

### “The Creation and Evolution of the Dietary Inflammatory Index”



#### **James R. Hébert, MSPH, ScD**

Director, Cancer Prevention and Control Program  
University of South Carolina

Founder and Scientific Director  
Connecting Health Innovations, LLC

[Faculty Profile](#)

FRIDAY

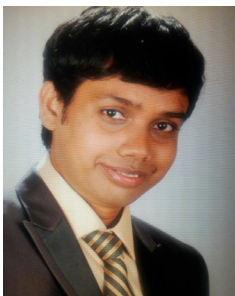
# February

# 20

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Discovery 1 | Rm.  
140

Dr. James J. Hébert is a Health Sciences Distinguished Professor of Epidemiology in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. His formal graduate training is in environmental health and nutritional epidemiology and he has spent most of his professional career functioning as an epidemiologist on inter-disciplinary programs, large-scale studies of cancer and other outcomes, and multi-center studies ranging from intervention trials to observational studies.



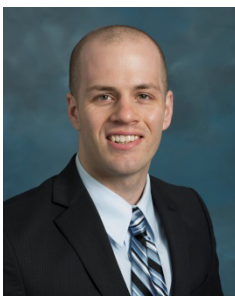
#### **Dr. Nitin Shivappa, MBBS MPH, PhD**

Post-Doc, Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics  
Adjunct Faculty, Cancer Prevention and Control Program  
University of South Carolina

Co-Principal Investigator & Senior Research Scientist  
Connecting Health Innovations, LLC

[Faculty Profile](#)

Dr. Nitin Shivappa began his research career as a graduate research assistant at South Carolina Statewide Cancer Prevention and Control Program from June of 2010 with a strong interest in nutrition and inflammation and diseases related to inflammation. Under the mentorship and advisement of Dr James Hébert and other members of the research group at Cancer Prevention and Control Program, Dr. Shivappa has been highly successful in modifying and improving an already developed dietary inflammatory index (DII). Dr. Shivappa has been instrumental in establishing cooperative agreements with over 100 research centers from around the world who seek to utilize the DII in their studies. Along with Dr. Michael Wirth, he is Co-Principal Investigator on an R44 Award from the National Institute for Diabetes, Digestive, and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) to modify the DII for clinical use.



#### **Dr. Michael Wirth, MSPH, PhD**

Research Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics  
Core Faculty, Cancer Prevention and Control Program  
University of South Carolina

Co-Principal Investigator & Senior Research Scientist  
Connecting Health Innovations, LLC

[Faculty Profile](#)

Dr. Michael Wirth is a Research Assistant Professor in the Cancer Prevention and Control Program and Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina and Co-Principal Investigator on the R44 Award from the NIDDK. For his doctoral work, which was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Jim Burch and focused on circadian biology, Michael was awarded a Behavioral-Biomedical Interface Program (BBIP) NIH/NIGMS T32 pre-doctoral research training grant. Under the ASPIRE-II Award from the USC Office of the Vice-President for Research, Michael assumed a leadership role in getting >20 peer-review papers completed and was first author on the majority of these manuscripts.



**Connecting Health Innovations (CHI)** was founded with a focus on leveraging the work spearheaded by Dr. James Hébert on the effects of inflammatory diets on health in the commercial markets. The first innovation of CHI is its patent-pending DII for which they have actively been recruiting partners among the healthcare, insurance, research and technology sectors to move the DII to the marketplace. The Affordable Care Act brings a unique opportunity to fund the promotion of healthier eating in the US population as a whole, and among medically underserved populations in particular.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
Arnold School of Public Health