



# Cancer Prevention & Control Program

## COLLOQUIUM SERIES

presents

**“Diet-Associated Inflammation: Bridging from public health to clinical practice, academic invention to scholarly productivity, local concern to global relevance, and from the “ivory tower” to commercial application.”**



Faculty Profile

### **James R. Hébert, MSPH, ScD**

Director, Cancer Prevention and Control Program  
Health Sciences Distinguished Professor  
Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics  
University of South Carolina

Founder and Scientific Director  
Connecting Health Innovations, LLC (CHI)

Dr. James R. 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.

FRIDAY

**March**  
**18**

10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Discovery 1 | Rm. 140  
915 Greene Street



Faculty Profile

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

Research Assistant Professor, 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 (CHI)

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.



Faculty Profile

### **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 (CHI)

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.



Faculty Profile

### **Brie Turner-McGrievy, Ph.D., M.S., R.D.**

Assistant Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education and Behavior  
Affiliate Faculty, Cancer Prevention and Control Program  
Principal Investigator, IMAGINE Study  
University of South Carolina

Dr. Brie Turner-McGrievy is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Promotion, Education and Behavior, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina and Principal Investigator of the IMAGINE Study of the CHI R44 Award from the NIDDK. Brie Turner-McGrievy, Ph.D., R.D., completed her doctoral degree in nutrition at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's (UNC's) School of Public Health and received her Master of Science degree in nutrition and Registered Dietitian credentials from the University of Alabama. has published research in the area of vegetarian nutrition and the use of emerging technologies for weight loss. Her doctoral work focused on delivering a weight-loss intervention via podcast. The results of this study were published in the October 2009 issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.



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.



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**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
Arnold School of Public Health