The Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities and Environment & Sustainability Program Presents:

5th Annual Nutrition Symposium & Inaugural Meeting of the Southeastern University Consortium

Healthy Eating in Context:
Building and strengthening collaborations to address hunger, poverty, and nutrition, in the Southeast

Friday, March 20, 2015
8:15am- 2:00pm- Symposium
2:00pm- 3:30- Session for Students/Partner Organizations
Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center

Keynote Address
“Strong Research Builds Stronger Programs- the Case for Evidence”

Keynote Speaker:
Richard Lucas
Deputy Administrator for Policy Support
United States Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service

SPONSORED BY:
University of South Carolina Environment and Sustainability Program
USC Arnold School of Public Health
USC Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities
USC Office of Research
Agenda

8:15 — 8:50  Registration, Breakfast, Community Exhibitions  
*Lexington Pre-function*

9:00 — 9:20  Welcoming Remarks  
*Richland A/B*

Patricia Moore-Pastides, MPH  
First Lady, University of South Carolina

Sonya Jones, PhD  
Director, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities  
Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior  
Arnold School of Public Health  
University of South Carolina

Gwendelyn Geidel, PhD, J.D.  
Director, Environment and Sustainability Program  
Research Professor, School of the Earth, Ocean, and Environment  
College of Arts and Sciences  
University of South Carolina

Alan Decho, PhD  
Associate Dean for Research  
Professor  
Director, Microbial Interactions Laboratory  
Department of Environmental Health Sciences  
Arnold School of Public Health  
University of South Carolina

Robin D. Bailey, Jr., SES  
Regional Communications Director  
Office of Regional Communications and Partnerships  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Food and Nutrition Service  
Southeast Region
9:20 — 10:20  

**Session I: Communities Guiding Hunger, Poverty, and Nutrition Research**  
*Richland A/B*

**Facilitator**  
Carrie Draper, MSW  
Director of Policy and Partnership Development  
Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities  
Arnold School of Public Health  
University of South Carolina

Robin Verenes  
Director, Division of Administrative Services  
Office of Economic Services  
South Carolina Department of Social Services  
“State Government Actions to Address Barriers to Fresh Produce”

Brendan Buttimer  
Executive Director  
Hub City Farmers’ Market  
“SNAP Access at Local Farmers’ Market: Challenges and Successes”

Larry Shepard  
General Manager  
Sodexo – Richland School District Two  
“A Model for Innovative Summer Feeding – A School District Perspective”

Georgia Coleman  
Director of Library Experience  
Main Richland Library  
“A Model for Innovative Summer Feeding – A Library Perspective”

Katie Welborn  
Community Organizer, COPASCities  
Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities  
Arnold School of Public Health  
University of South Carolina  
“South Carolina Farmer Perspectives & Farm-to-School Insights”
10:20-10:25   **Break**

10:25-11:25   **Session II. Hunger, Poverty, and Nutrition Research, In the Southeast**
*Richland A/B*

**Facilitator** Sonya Jones, PhD
Director, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities
Associate Professor
Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Marsha Spence, PhD, MPH, RDN, LDN
Assistant Professor of Practice
Director of Public Health, Department of Nutrition
University of Tennessee
“Implementation of a Farm to Preschool Program in East
Tennessee: Increasing Access to Locally-Grown Fruits &
Vegetables for Low-Income Households”

Claire Zizza, PhD, RDN
Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition, Dietetics, and
Hospitality Management
Auburn University
“Food insecurity: A snapshot of Alabama to a national mosaic”

Ivette Lopez, PhD
Associate Professor Behavioral Science and Health Education,
Institute of Public Health
Director, Hispanic Health Initiative, Center for Health Equity
Florida A & M University
“Community Is at the Root of the FMPP Solutions”

Angela D. Liese, PhD, MPH
Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina
“Childhood Food Security: A Systems Perspective”
Alice S. Ammerman, DrPH  
Director, Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention  
Professor, Department of Nutrition  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
“RNECE South: the USDA Regional Center of Excellence in Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention”

11:30-12:10 Lunch  
Lexington

12:10-12:30 Community Exhibitions  
Lexington and Meeting Room Pre-function Area

12:35-1:35 Keynote Address  
Lexington

Richard Lucas  
Deputy Administrator for Policy Support  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Food & Nutrition Service  
“Strong Research Builds Stronger Programs- the Case for Evidence”

1:40-2:00 Next Steps and Closing Remarks  
Lexington

2:00-2:30 Community Exhibitions  
Lexington and Meeting Room Pre-function Area

2:00-3:30 We Want StUdent Engagement to Build CommUNITY!  
Closed Session for Students and Community Partners  
Hosted by: the Office of Student Engagement (OSE), the Office of Practice and Community Engagement (PACE), and the Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities (Nutrition Center)  
Lexington
Richard Lucas is the Deputy Administrator for Policy Support at USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service. In that capacity, he is responsible for research and analysis that informs policymaking for and management of the federal nutrition assistance programs. These programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the school meals programs, and the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, are currently budgeted at over $100 billion annually and serving 1 in 4 Americans in the course of a year.

Rich’s team in FNS’s Office of Policy Support (OPS) includes professionals from a wide range of disciplines, including economists, statisticians, program evaluators, sociologists, nutritionists, and others. They work closely with policymakers and program officials to find answers to critical questions to make nutrition assistance programs more effective, estimate cost and participation impacts of legislative, budgetary and regulatory changes, evaluate the impacts of programs and program components on food security, diet quality, and other outcomes, analyze extant data to better target strategies and track performance, and demonstrate and test potential program improvements.

Over his fifteen years of experience in OPS, Rich has helped to build one of the strongest applied policy research and analysis programs in government, including:

- Leadership of the largest evaluation of food security and food spending among SNAP participants to date, using an innovative “double difference” study design that found that participating in SNAP for 6 months was associated with a substantial decrease in food insecurity – about 5 to 10 percentage points.

- Evaluation of the Healthy Incentives Pilot, demonstrating that once fully implemented a daily investment of about 15 cents per person in incentives at the point of sale can result in a 26% increase in fruit and vegetable consumption among SNAP participants.

- The Summer EBT for Children demonstration and evaluation, which established that an EBT-based household benefit provided to low-income children during the summer can substantially reduce the prevalence of very low food security among children by about one-third.

- Launch of research centers to apply the discipline of behavioral economics to promote healthy eating in the school meals programs and among SNAP participants, and to encourage thrifty shopping by WIC clients.

- Development of university-based research programs to better understand the causes, characteristics and consequences of childhood hunger, and to explore innovative strategies to better utilize the Federal child nutrition programs to reach poor children with nutritious food.

Rich has worked at FNS since 1994. He holds degrees from Brown University and Stanford University, and lives in Bethesda, Maryland with his wife and children.
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Planning Committee

Sonya Jones, PhD
Director
Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities
Associate Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Planning Committee Chair
Mary Wilson, MPH
Director of Capacity Building
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Planning Committee Co-chair
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Planning Committee Co-chair
Holly Pope, PhD, MSPH
Director of Evaluation
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Planning Committee Members
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina

Christine Blake, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education and Behavior

Casey Childers, PhD Student
Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior
Communications Liaison, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities

Rachel Davis, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior

Nancy Fleischer, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Planning Committee Members (Continued)

Edward Frongillo, Jr., PhD
Professor & Department Chair, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior

Gwendelyn Geidel, PhD
Director, Environment and Sustainability Program
Research Professor, School of the Earth, Ocean, and Environment

Angela Liese
Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Gabrielle Turner-McGrievy, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior

A Very Special Thank You

Carrie Draper, MSW
Policy & Community Outreach Director, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

James Hibbert
Geographer, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

Wendy McKenzie
Business Manager, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

Jason Craig, PhD Student
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Graduate Research Assistant, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

Katie Welborn
Community Organizer, Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

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Graduate Research Asst., Center for Research in Nutrition and Health Disparities, USC

The Office of Student Engagement (OSE)
The Office of Practice and Community Engagement (PACE)
Southeastern University Consortium
United States Department of Agriculture, Food & Nutrition Service (USDA FNS)