

# Research Quarterly Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2012  
Volume 3, Issue 1 & 2  
July 1-December 31, 2012



## RESEARCH FORUMS

### Patient Reported Outcomes Research

Wednesday, February 27,  
11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Presenter: Dr. Bryce Reeve, Associate  
Professor, Gillings School of Public Health

### A Conversation with Dr. Barbara Entwisle, UNC Vice Chancellor for Research

Wednesday, March 27,  
11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

### Health Services Research

Wednesday, April 24,  
11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Presenter: Dr. Janet Freburger,  
Scientist, Institute on Aging

Forums held in Bodurant Hall 2025

All DAHS faculty, post-docs, and  
PhD students are welcome

Lunch is included!

## MITCHELL SYMPOSIUM

Featuring Dr. Betty Risteen Hasselkus,  
Emeritus Professor of Kinesiology/  
Occupational Therapy at the  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

### Discussion with Faculty and PhD Students

Tuesday, March 5, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Location TBA

### Public Lecture

Wednesday, March 6, 5:30 p.m.  
Location TBA

## ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

### RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Grace Baranek	Karen McCulloch
Katie Belardi	Susan Schulz
Brian Boyd	Linda Watson
Karen Erickson	Sharon Williams
Mark Klinger	Wesley Winkelman
Mike Lewek	

## TIGRR Provides Guidance for Funding Success

UNC Chapel Hill will host the Training in Grantsmanship for Rehabilitation Research (TIGRR) workshop January 15-19, 2013, at the Rizzo Center in Chapel Hill.

Building on the proven model used by the Enhancing Rehabilitation Research in the South (ERRIS) workshops, TIGRR brings together mentors with a history of successful grant funding and junior and mid-level faculty in all rehabilitation research disciplines who are on the cusp of success in NIH-funded or similarly funded research.

The Principal Investigator for TIGRR is Dr. Rick Segal and his Leadership Team consists of Drs. Daniel M. Corcos (University of Illinois Chicago) and William Z. Rymer (Northwestern University). UNC faculty members Drs. Brian Boyd, Malcolm Cutchin, Janet Freburger, and Carol Giuliani will serve as mentors for the 2013 session, along with other outstanding

faculty members from universities and research centers across the country including NC State. In addition, representatives from NIH, NIDRR, VA, and private foundations will participate.

Competition for slots as mentees was intense with 80 applications for 36 positions. UNC mentees selected include Drs. Lauren Little, Karen McCulloch, and Eniko Rak.

TIGRR is funded by a \$623,420 National Institutes of Health grant titled "Intensive Rehabilitation Research Grant Writing Workshops in the United States" to Dr. Segal. The workshop also received support from the UNC-NC State Rehabilitation Engineering Center, NCTraCS, and gifts from the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA).

Visit <http://tigrb.bme.unc.edu> for more information about the workshop.

## From Dr. Grace Baranek, Associate Chair for Research

It's been a very productive six months here in the Department of Allied Health Sciences since our last newsletter! We have added two new features that spotlight student scientists in the thick of their dissertations, as well as staff working "behind the scenes" to bring research to fruition. A big note of thanks to the members of the Communications Subcommittee, especially Katie Belardi, second-year doctoral student in Speech and Hearing Sciences, for conducting a personal interview with Sumita Rege, fourth-year doctoral student in OS/OT studying the occupation of blogging; and Skip Ryan, Research Pages Web Manager, for conducting a personal interview with Christene Tashjian, Project Coordinator for the Early Development Project.



Grace Baranek

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## Bailliard Awarded Funding to Help Study Immigration Experiences

Dr. Antoine Bailliard, Assistant Professor, has received a Junior Faculty Development Award and a grant from the University Research Council to study immigration experiences of the Latino community in North Carolina.



Antoine Bailliard

The Junior Faculty Development Award of \$7,500 will support a pilot project titled "Mexican Immigrants' Participation in Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and Associated Mental Health." The project will administer the Canadian Occupational Performance Measure and the Duke Health Profile in three phases to measure change over the first year after immigration. Approximately 20 participants will be interviewed to provide a phenomenological perspective of the impact of changes in ADL.

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## Letter from the Associate Chair (from page 1)

The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) has witnessed many fruits of their labor. We welcomed Dr. Haibo Zhou, Professor in the Department of Biostatistics at UNC, to provide additional consultative supports to our faculty for grants and publications this year. Faculty can request services through our new online e-request form ([www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/research/biostats-support-request-form](http://www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/research/biostats-support-request-form)).

We're also pleased to welcome Susan Lloyd Schulz, PA, MPH, as Research Coordinator/Grant Editor. Susan has a background in public health research including many years at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Susan will work 20 hours per week (primarily Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), and can be reached at [slschulz@med.unc.edu](mailto:slschulz@med.unc.edu) or in her office, Room 3008, Bondurant Hall. DAHS faculty may request coordination/editing support for grant applications using the online form at [www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/research/dahs-grant-support-request-form](http://www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/research/dahs-grant-support-request-form).



Susan Schulz

Thanks to funding from the Provost's office, we are thrilled to open a search for two new faculty positions for research methodologists that will help us build our research mission and team science approach (read the description at [www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/research/files/ResearchMethodologist.pdf](http://www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/research/files/ResearchMethodologist.pdf)). We have also established a new policy for

the Grant/Research re-Investment Fund (GRIF), which can be accessed at [www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/research/policies-and-procedures-1/GRIF.pdf](http://www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/research/policies-and-procedures-1/GRIF.pdf), to facilitate the work of productive teams. I thank the DAHS administration/business office and RAC for all their support to make this happen.

Between July 1 and December 31, 2012, department research grant submissions numbered 21 and \$3,311,313 was generated in total awards from grants. We had two interdisciplinary research forums this fall, featuring Joy Bryde on "Conflict of Interest and the new Federal Regulations" (September), and a panel on "Instrument Development: Lessons Learned" that included Mary Lynn, Lauren Turner-Brown, Karen McCulloch, Katarina Haley, and Jenny Womack (October). Check our calendar postings on the research Web page ([www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/research](http://www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/research)) for upcoming forum speakers, scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of each month from 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. in the spring semester.

We also sponsored an in-service by Dennis Schmidt (October) on Data Security for Researchers, coordinated by John Bulluck. A video of this presentation (<http://echo2.med.unc.edu:8080/ess/echo/presentation/71741748-8643-403c-be5d-9f670062c45e>) as well guidelines for researchers ([www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/ahs/research/security](http://www.alliedhealth.unc.edu/ahs/research/security)) are posted for those that missed it or need a refresher.

In December, DAHS launched the next phase of the strategic planning process – the formation of Task Forces, comprised of faculty members from each of our six DAHS divisions together with representatives of

## PROPOSALS SUBMITTED (July 1-December 31)

TITLE	TEAM	SPONSOR	PROPOSED FUNDS
Evaluation of Sleep Medicine Education	<b>Vaughn, Bradley;</b> Renner, Barbara; Morgan, Jennifer; Wells, Mary	National Institutes of Health (NIH)	\$656,941.00
Telehealth Intervention for Behavioral Flexibility in Nonverbal Children with ASD	<b>Boyd, Brian;</b> Trull, Donald; Bodfish, James; Alpi, Jeffery; Sideris, John; Clark, Renee; Odom, Samuel	National Institutes of Health (NIH)	\$684,000.00
Advance Care Planning and Post-Stroke Management for Older Adults	<b>Williams, Sharon;</b> Haley, Katarina; Hanson, Laura; Edwards, Lloyd; Aucutt-Walter, Natalie; Wilson, Susan	Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)	\$1,230,344.00
Targeted Transcranial Electrotherapy to Accelerate Stroke Rehabilitation -- Phase II trial	<b>Jacks, Adam;</b> Roth, Heidi	Soterix Medical Inc	\$450,000.18
Training Gait Dynamics in Individuals Post-Stroke	<b>Lewek, Michael</b>	University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG)	\$38,553.00
GSEG 1% Professional Development	<b>Erickson, Karen</b>	University of Kansas	\$140,216.68
First Years Certificate Program	<b>Wilson, Kathryn</b>	Oberkotter Foundation	\$322,229.00
Assistive Technology Design for Occupational Disease Prevention and Non-Occupational Disabilities	<b>Gross, Michael</b>	North Carolina State University (NCSU)	\$149,896.32
The Role of Feedback for Awareness and Correction of Asymmetric Gait	<b>Lewek, Michael;</b> Giuliani, Carol; Zhou, Haibo; Walker, Heather; O'Daly, John; Whitton, Mary	National Institutes of Health (NIH)	\$1,878,615.00
Electrophysiological and Psychophysical Measures of Auditory Temporal Processing	<b>Grose, John;</b> Mamo, Sara	National Institutes of Health (NIH)	\$59,919.00
Error Based Learning for Restoring Gait Symmetry Post-Stroke	<b>Lewek, Michael;</b> Giuliani, Carol; Walker, Heather; Sen, Pranab	National Institutes of Health (NIH)	\$181,539.68
Targeted Transcranial Electrotherapy to Accelerate Stroke Rehabilitation -- Phase II trial	<b>Jacks, Adam;</b> Roth, Heidi	Soterix Medical Inc	\$149,999.36
Outcomes of School-Age Children who are Hard of Hearing	<b>Harrison, Melody;</b> Page, Thomas	University of Iowa	\$1,062,490.64

List excludes proposals that were both submitted and funded during the time period.

the overall Strategic Planning Committee. These task forces are charged with developing detailed proposals for specific initiatives, tactics, and rationales to meet needs in five priority areas as follows: (1) Establish criteria and principles for DAHS educational programs that insure the programs lead to producing recognized future leaders, researchers, practitioners, and faculty; (2) Continue to build research by identifying strengths, engaging more faculty, and increasing collaborations within and external to SOM; (3) Establish and/or expand clinical operations within each division to enhance our educational and research missions and to diversify revenue streams; (4) Ensure faculty are empowered to execute the department's mission and strategies; and (5) Develop and implement a plan to effectively communicate the core mission and values of this department with external and internal constituencies. We invite input from all DAHS faculty with regard to this strategic planning process and look forward to the task force reports at the end of the spring semester.

Our collective scholarship is indeed a reflection of the tremendous dedication of people at all levels and ranks, and we appreciate everyone who contributes to our mission. It's not just hard work that makes things happen—it's the day-to-day collegial relationships of our teams. We thank you all for your collegiality and wish you a joyful and prosperous 2013!

## PROMOTIONS

**DR. EILEEN BURKER**, Director of the **Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology**, was promoted to the rank of professor, effective September 1, 2012.

**DR. LORI LEIBOLD** was promoted to the rank of associate professor in the **Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences**, effective August 1, 2012.

**JUDY SCHMIDT** was promoted to the rank of assistant professor in the **Division of Rehabilitation Counseling and Psychology**, effective September 1, 2012.

## NEW FACULTY

**DR. CARLA HILL** joined the **Division of Physical Therapy** as an assistant professor on October 8, 2012. Hill earned her Master of Physical Therapy degree from Emory University and her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from UNC Chapel Hill. Dr. Hill will be taking a leadership role in our new Orthopedic Residency Program and will provide direct patient care through University Physical Therapy and teach within the DPT program.

### Bailliard Funding (from page 1)

The \$5,000 grant from the University Research Council will help fund a pilot project titled "Migration, Adaptation, and Integration: A Sensory Perspective," which will explore the relationship between unexpected sensory experiences during typical ADL and the mental health of Latino immigrants to NC.

## NEW GRANTS AWARDED (July 1-December 31)

AWARD TITLE	AWARD AMOUNT	TEAM	SPONSOR	BEGIN DATE	END DATE
The Assessment of Military Multitasking Performance	\$243,918.00	<b>McCulloch, Karen;</b> Goldberg, Richard	Allina Health System	8/15/2012	8/14/2013
Sensory Experiences in Children with Autism Diversity Supplement	\$51,920.00	<b>Baranek, Grace;</b> White, Tamira	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)	4/1/2012	6/30/2013
Engineering Career Development Center in Movement and Rehabilitation Sciences	\$48,425.00	<b>Segal, Rick</b>	Northwestern University	9/1/2012	5/31/2013
Auditory Masking Effects on Speech Fluency in Aphasia and Apraxia of Speech	\$429,098.00	<b>Jacks, Adam;</b> Roth, Heidi; Haley, Katarina	NIH National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)	7/1/2012	6/30/2015
Normative Data for New Sentence-Recognition Materials Developed Specifically for Non-Native Speakers of English	\$3,242.94	<b>Calandruccio, Lauren</b>	Research Foundation of the City University of New York	10/1/2012	9/30/2013
2012 Scientific Service Program for Elite Discus Throwers	\$16,000.00	<b>Yu, Bing</b>	USA Track and Field	7/1/2012	12/31/2012
Radiology Leaders: An Evaluation of Self-Reported Leadership Characteristics and Suggested Instructional Design for Development of The Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership Skills	\$9,938.00	<b>Jackowski, Melissa</b>	American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT)	12/1/2012	11/30/2013
Exceptional Children Physical Therapist	\$151,693.94	<b>Segal, Rick;</b> Ray, Laurie	NC Dept of Public Instruction	7/1/2012	6/30/2013
Exceptional Children Occupational Therapist	\$139,060.16	<b>Humphry, Ruth;</b> Holahan, Lauren	NC Dept of Public Instruction	7/1/2012	6/30/2013
Migration, Adaptation, and Integration: A Sensory Perspective	\$5,000.00	<b>Bailliard, Antoine</b>	University Research Council	12/01/2012	11/30/2013
Mexican Immigrants' Participation in Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and Associated Mental Health	\$7,500.00	<b>Bailliard, Antoine</b>	Junior Faculty Development Award	12/01/2012	11/30/2013
Stress Response in Young Children with Autism: The Role of Maternal Responsivity	\$2,000.00	<b>Little, Lauren</b>	NCTrACS	12/12/2012	12/12/2013
<b>TOTAL AWARD AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$1,107,796.04</b>				



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

# CHRISTENE TASHJIAN

By Skip Ryan

Christene Tashjian is the Project Coordinator for the Early Development Project-2, whose offices can be found off campus in the Carr Mill Mall. A former special education teacher, Tashjian saw first-hand how policy affected classroom teachers and decided to find out how it worked from the top down. She received an MPA from the University of Texas at Austin and began investigating how education policy was made.

In 1991, both Tashjian and her husband, Michael, were working for a consulting firm for the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C. Wanting a new home, they found Chapel Hill and moved down in the fall of that year. Tashjian began working at Research Triangle Institute (RTI) International's Center for Research in Education. There, she engaged mainly in contract research at the federal level on school related issues and students with disabilities.

Missing the human element in her career, Tashjian left RTI after 14 years. She found employment with a non-profit group supporting parents of children who are deaf and hard of hearing. While there, directing a project on early intervention, she met Dr. Jack Roush and Kathryn Wilson from the UNC Department of Allied Health Sciences. When she was laid off, Dr. Roush put her in contact with the investigators of the

Early Development Project, and she started working for UNC in January 2009.

At UNC, Tashjian enjoys the opportunities she has to work with families and help them understand the benefits of early interventions. On December 6, she was one of the two individuals given UNC's Excellence in Management Award, a prestigious award that is given to employees annually in recognition of meritorious and distinguished accomplishments in management.

Tashjian is very involved in the community and has been volunteering for PORCH, a local non-profit group that helps to provide hunger relief in the community, for many years. She also has a passion for horticultural therapy, which is the use of plants and plant based materials to help people achieve wellness, medical, and vocational goals (more information can be found at the American Horticultural Therapy Association's website [ahta.org](http://ahta.org)). She began volunteering through the NC Botanical Gardens in 2002 and has used horticultural therapy techniques to work with children in hospitals and adults with disabilities.

Eventually, she enrolled in a program at the Horticultural Therapy Institute in Denver, CO. During a lecture regarding horticultural therapy and individuals in chronic pain, Tashjian had a light bulb moment. She had been volunteering at the Orange County



*Christene Tashjian and her husband, Michael, at the luncheon for the Excellence in Management Award.*

Rape Crisis Center for many years and realized that she knew people in chronic pain who could benefit from horticultural therapy. Tashjian wrote and was awarded a \$500 grant in 2007 to develop group support for survivors of sexual violence using horticultural therapy. A true researcher, she even collected qualitative data on her work, which has been used to foster continued support for the program. Tashjian considers her efforts to bridge horticultural therapy and these survivors to be her most meaningful, knowing she has helped many people find a path to healing.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

# SUMITA REGE

By Katie M. Belardi

Sumita Rege is a fourth-year doctoral candidate in the Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. Prior to beginning her doctoral studies, she had earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in occupational therapy from Mumbai University and practiced as an occupational therapist in Mumbai, India for seven years.

During her clinical experience she worked with physically and neurologically impaired adults and developmentally delayed children. As her curiosity about occupational science flourished, she began looking into doctoral programs and was impressed with the diversity of faculty research interests at UNC.

After moving to Chapel Hill, Rege began to miss the food from her homeland and started looking up recipes online. Each time she searched, the results directed her

to a blog. These experiences shaped her fascination with blogging as an occupation and eventually led her to the focus of her dissertation, an ethnography of blogging that explores how the activity develops and changes over time. Before she began her dissertation research, Rege completed a single case study with an adult with a spinal cord injury examining how search engines shape what people do.

For her dissertation, Rege is interviewing bloggers to better understand what goes into making and maintaining a blog. "Blogging gives people a meaningful way to connect while also providing a creative outlet for sharing their thoughts," she said. Rege has enjoyed the journey of learning about blogs and most of all she has loved meeting people. Reflecting on her experiences studying virtual occupations, Rege said "this project took me places I never thought."



*Sumita Rege with her blog onscreen.*

Rege is also currently working with Dr. Katarina Haley, Associate Professor from the Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences, and Jenny Womack, Associate Professor from the Division of Occupational Therapy and Occupational Science, on a qualitative secondary data analysis to understand how persons with aphasia manage their communication needs.

You can read more about Rege's research at <http://bloggingstudy.blogspot.com/>.