EPIDEMIOLOGY RESEARCH UNIT

The ERU had a very busy and exciting academic year with faculty members actively involved in teaching, research (grant applications, field work & publications) addressing issues of regional and global impact and service to the UWI and the wider community.

We were successful in obtaining several grants that will help to move our research agenda forward in the areas of Child Development and Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases.

This year we completed the 30 year follow-up of the Jamaica supplementation and stimulation study, funded by the World Bank Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund. The study demonstrates the gains in adulthood from our early childhood intervention and is of global policy relevance. We also conducted an evaluation of the sustainability of our Inter-American Development Bank funded parenting intervention delivered through government health centres.
New implementations of our Reach Up: early childhood parenting programme began in Jordan/Lebanon, Brazil and Panama. We are collaborating with the Jamaica Ministry of Health to integrate the programme into the primary care health system and this will continue in 2018–19.

We participated in the planning meeting at the Institute of Criminology, Cambridge, UK for the Evidence for Better Lives Study. This study is being conducted in 8 cities around the world, including Kingston, and concerns determinants of violence against children and policy initiatives to reduce this. Funding was obtained from the Botnar Foundation to conduct a foundational study to inform the full scale study.

This year also saw the completion of the third National Jamaica Health and Lifestyle Survey (JHLS-III) which examines the prevalence of chronic diseases and their risk factors among a nationally representative sample of Jamaicans 15 years and older. It also saw the commencement of fieldwork for a series of sub-studies that will be conducted using participants from this study, including an assessment of Cardiovascular Health among Urban Residents. In collaboration with the Fox Chase Cancer Centre in Philadelphia we have also received funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) through an RO-1 Grant to create an 8,000 person strong cohort that will include the JHLS-III participants. This cohort will be a tremendous resource to the University and the Caribbean, helping us to better understand our chronic disease epidemic and providing a platform for future research studies. It will also provide an outlet for the work being done as part of our NIH Planning Grant as we develop plans for a Regional Centre of excellence in Cardiovascular Disease and Cancer.

The research agenda for the Global Diet and Physical Activity Network has been developed and field work for the projects will begin in Jamaica, Cameroon, Kenya and South Africa in the upcoming academic year. Jamaica will lead the Evidence Synthesis Work Package involving a scoping/systematic reviews and data aggregation for public health modelling for the determinants of physical activity in these countries. Other aspects of this study will include an assessment of policy related to
diet and activity, an evaluation of natural experiments that result from policy decisions (Cokes pledge to voluntarily remove sodas from classrooms, the building of a hypermarket in Kenya), ethnographic evaluation of the built environment as it determines physical activity and dietary practices and also evaluating the school environment and its impact on physical activity and diet.

In collaboration with the Department of History and Archaeology (UWI), Exeter University and The University of Cambridge we have embarked on the Urban Foodscapes Project – A cross-disciplinary exploration of historical and epidemiological transformations in two neighbouring but contrasting cities, Kingston (Jamaica) and Port-au-Prince (Haiti). This project seeks to identify the ways Caribbean cities impact on their populations’ food practices, opportunities and in turn health; understand underlying mechanisms that have led to both ‘unhealthy’ spaces (e.g. fast food dense neighbourhoods) or ‘healthy’ spaces (e.g. urban gardens) & investigate how these social, political and economic determinants of nutrition have developed and shaped into contemporary foodscapes.

We are also part of the Strengthening Responses to Dementia in Developing Countries (STRiDE) study funded by the UK Research Council’s Global Challenges Research Fund. It aims to build and strengthen economic and social research capability for dementia in developing countries and support the development of national policies for this disease. This will be accomplished by bringing together a multinational, cross-disciplinary, multi-institutional team of researchers and dementia policy practitioners in the UK and the seven middle-income countries that are participating in this study. Jamaica is the only Caribbean site for this project.

We had several academic visitors this year including Dr. Katherine Theall, Tulane University School of Public Health (who conducted a workshop on Multi-level modelling for members of the Institute), Dr. Jenna Coalson from the Center for Insect Science, University of Arizona, Professor Kennedy Cruikshank from Kings College, London, Professor
Sally McGregor, University College London and Dr. Simon Anderson from the University of Manchester.

We completed teaching our newest cohort of 8 MSc Epidemiology Candidates (4 physicians, 7 Jamaicans) who are currently working on research projects in their area of interest. This year saw a more organized approach to the preparation of learning materials and other resources with the hiring of a Biostatistician with specialist training in online learning, improving our efficiency and helping to support a better student experience.

University approval was obtained for the Post Graduate Diploma in Health Research & Epidemiology this year. We are finalizing arrangements with the Open Campus to offer this course in Semester 2 of the 2018/19 academic year using their online platform.

The upcoming academic year (2018/19) will see a continuation of our current activities, the execution of newly funded projects that will be coming on stream, submission of grant applications to support planned research activities (particularly the implementation of interventions to improve health in the region) and forging new partnerships to complement the skills and resources within the Unit particularly in the area of Biostatistics where we face a critical shortage and will be exploring approaches to build local capacity. We hope that these activities can increase the visibility of the UWI and the Institute. There is currently a critical need to expand the current physical plant to accommodate new staff and project and training activities, however the recent budget cut has significantly impacted our ability to act on these initiatives at this time.

**SICKLE CELL UNIT**

The year under review was a busy one with advances in several areas and consolidation in others. Progress in research, clinical care, education and outreach were all achieved.

The Unit impacted global research in SCD by actively participating in
the NIH sponsored production of a SCD Ontology, the use of which is anticipated to greatly assist in international collaborative work. Clinical trials in curative (gene therapy) and therapeutic trials continued with sponsorship both from the NIH and the pharmaceutical industry. Several other projects continued with emphasis on psychosocial and neurocognitive work. Impactful publications included an update of mortality in the Jamaica Sickle Cell Cohort Study.

The work of the Unit was strengthened by the addition of two seasoned academics, one a statistician. Recruiting researchers remains a priority as we seek to make best use of the gamut of research opportunities before us, and to improve research funding. Several students, local and international, developed their research and clinical competence at the Unit this year.

The work of the Unit directly benefited thousands of person’s island-wide living with the disease. At risk adolescents were impacted at the fifth annual Sickle Cell Teen Camp. In addition to the main clinic, care to patients in the West and South was provided through monthly clinics in Montego Bay and Black River. Health care workers in the Western RHA were trained in several sessions during the year. The Sickle Cell Unit (SCU) continued to collaborate with the Ministry of Health and Regional Health Authorities to deliver island-wide newborn screening for SCD, identifying, in the Southern and Northern Regional Health Authorities, more than 100 newborns with SCD. Our staff were also in leadership roles in the Caribbean Network of Researchers in Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemia (CAREST) and the SickKids Caribbean Initiative (SCI).

On October 26–27, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), National Institutes of Health (NIH) co-sponsored the 11th Annual Sickle Cell in Focus with the x (SCU), Caribbean Institute for Health Research. Overall, the conference was a success and laid the foundation for future collaborations in Jamaica. More than 20 prominent international speakers gave insightful, cutting edge talks about various aspects of SCD.
The upcoming year will see the completion of some ongoing projects and initiation of others. Emphasis will be placed on attracting grants and other forms of income generation to allow continued outreach despite the harsh economic environment.

PAPERS PRESENTED


• Tulloch-Reid MK. AC3 Collaborations in the Caribbean and U. S.Center for Cardiovascular and Cancer Research in the Caribbean. African Caribbean Cancer Consortium Meeting, October 2018; Miami, Florida.


• Tulloch-Reid K, Younger-Coleman NO, Wilks RJ, Duncan JP, Figueroa JP. Sex Specific Approaches are needed to address hypertension in Jamaica. Presented at the University of Technology Faculty of
Science and Sport’s 5th International Scientific Conference, July 19–20, 2018


- Alexander-Gabbadon, K. ‘Sickle Cell Disease & the role of the physiotherapist’. Official sickle cell course lecture to year 5 UWI physical therapy students; November 23, 2017 (Location FMS Building).

- Alexander-Gabbadon, K. ‘Management of sickle cell disease in adults”. Presenter at Ministry of Health Annual NCD Reviews Conference; March 8, 2018. (Location Mona Visitor’s Lodge)

of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, Mona, Kingston-7, Jamaica. November 9-10, 2017.

- Asnani M, Barton-Gooden A, Grindley M, Knight-Madden J. Disease knowledge, illness perceptions and quality of life in adolescents with sickle cell disease: is there a link? Oral presentation at 26th Annual Research Conference of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica. November 9-10, 2017.


- Asnani M, Barton-Gooden A, Grindley M, Knight-Madden J. Disease knowledge, illness perceptions and quality of life in adolescents with sickle cell disease: is there a link? Oral Presentation, Faculty of Sciences Annual Research Conference, November 2017, Kingston, Jamaica.


- Serjeant G, Chin N, Asnani M, Serjeant B, Mason K, Hambleton I,


- Ajanaku A, Mowatt L, Madden-Knight J. Knowledge, beliefs and practices of Sickle Cell Unit (SCU) patients on sickle cell eye disease at The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, Oral Presentation, Faculty of Sciences Annual Research Conference, November 2017, Kingston, Jamaica.


- Rankine-Mullings AE. Neurosickle Conference. Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. Date: March 7th-8th, 2018.
- McFarlane S. “Safeguarding Data Quality in Large and Small Studies”. The Jamaica Statistical Society – Biennial Symposium, Jamaica, October 2017
- McFarlane S. “Chemical constituents of the Cannabis Plant” - Training Series for Certification of Pharmacists and Physicians in Prescribing Cannabis, Jamaica
- Soares-Wynter S “Are our children drinking themselves sick?” University Diabetes Outreach Programme (UDOP) Annual Forum, Saint Ann, Jamaica. April 2018
• Soares-Wynter S. “Body composition – eating your way to a healthy body”. Dying to be beautiful 3rd Biennial Conference, Kingston, Jamaica December 2017

INVITED LECTURES


• Asnani M. Managing the adult with SCD. Western Regional Health Authority SCD Workshop. Jamaica. March 29, 2018 and April 30, 2018.


• Knight-Madden J. Laboratory Diagnosis of Sickle Cell Disease. Western Regional Health Authority SCD Workshop. Jamaica. March 29, 2018.
• Knight-Madden J. Epidemiology of Sickle Cell Disease. Western Regional Health Authority SCD Workshop. Jamaica. April 30, 2018.

• Knight-Madden J. Laboratory Diagnosis of Sickle Cell Disease. Western Regional Health Authority SCD Workshop. Jamaica. April 30, 2018

• McFarlane, S. “Effective Project Planning and Evaluation Workshops” Suriname – November 2017; Malawi – October 2017 (Social Innovations in Health); Guyana – September 2017; Grenada - August 2017

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

• Tulloch-Reid MK, Saravia NG, Dennis RJ, Jaramillo A, Cuervo LG, Walker SP, Salicrup LA. Strengthening institutional capacity for equitable health research: lessons from Latin America and the Caribbean. BMJ. 2018 Jul 16;362:k2456. doi: 10.1136/bmj.k2456. PubMed PMID: 30012634; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC6046649.


• Ferguson TS, Younger-Coleman NOM, Tulloch-Reid MK, Bennett NR, Rousseau AE, Knight-Madden JM, Samms-Vaughan ME, Ashley DE, Wilks RJ. Factors associated with elevated blood pressure


Duncan J, Gordon-Johnson KA, Tulloch-Reid MK, Cunningham-Myrie C, Ernst K, McMorris N, Grant A, Graham M, Chin D,


program: origins, content and implementation. Zero to three journal, 38, 37–43.


• Asnani MR, Barton-Gooden A, Grindley M, Knight-Madden J. “Disease Knowledge, Illness Perceptions, and Quality of Life in Adolescents With Sickle Cell Disease: Is There a Link”?


• Howell S, Marshall K, Reid M, McFarlane-Anderson N, McKenzie C. “A Cross-sectional Clinic-based Study Exploring whether Variants within the Glutathione S-transferase, Haptoglobin and Uridine 5’-diphospho-Glucuronosyltransferase 1A1 genes are Associated with


**Book chapter:**


**PUBLIC SERVICE**

Trevor Ferguson
- Member of Association of Consultant Physicians Executive (Treasurer)

Ishtar Govia
- Member of Jamaica Mental Health Advocacy Network, Executive Board Member
– Alzheimer’s Associations of the Caribbean, Scientific Committee Co-Chair
– Caribbean Alliance of National Psychological Associations (CANPA), Member-At-Large of the Executive Council
– CANPA Caribbean Regional Conference of Psychology Standing Committee, Co-Chair
– CANPA Publications and Communications Standing Committee, Co-Chair

Susan Walker

Rainford Wilks
– Member of: Jamaica Ministry of Health – Essential National Research Committee
– Heart Foundation of Jamaica (Board Member)

Novie Younger-Coleman
– Member of Jamaica Statistical Society (President)

Monika Asnani
– Member of Term Graduate Faculty Appointment. Duke University Graduate School. 2017–2019
– Co-Chair, Caribbean Primary Care Research group (CAPCRG), Caribbean College of Family Physicians. 2015–Present
– Caribbean Representative to Worldwide Initiative on Social Studies in Hemoglobinopathies (WiSSH) since 2012.
– Board Member of Caribbean Network of Researchers in Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemia since 2014
– Vice President, Indian Cultural Society in Jamaica. June 2017–June 2018

Jennifer Knight-Madden
– Caribbean Network of Researchers in Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemia 2016–2018, Vice President
– Pediatric Pulmonology 2016–Present, Academic Editor

Rankine-Mullings, Angela
– Member of Executive of the Regional Body of the Women of the Methodist Church of the Caribbean and the Americas.
– Elected Member to the American Society of Haematology. May 18, 2018–present.
– Member of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health. June 2012–present.
– Member of the Medical Council of Jamaica. June 1993–Present.

– Member of Jamaica Pain Collaborative. Nov 2012–Present.

– Board of Experts Sickle Cell Disease, Panama City, 11th meeting date: November, 2017.


**Gordon-Strachan G**


– Postgraduate Research and Supervisor for Felicia Bailey, MSc. Biomedical Research: Thesis Title: The Seroprevalence of Chikungunya virus antibodies in newly diagnosed rheumatoid arthritis patients at two rheumatology clinics in Kingston. (Completed)

**Asha Badaloo**

– Member of Voluntary nutritional consultant at Prema’s free medical clinic at 10 Henderson Avenue, Kingston 11, 2006–present.

**Carolyn Taylor-Bryan**

– Member of Medical Association of Jamaica

– Pediatric Association of Jamaica

– National Infant and Young Child Feeding Committee

**Shelly McFarlane**

– Member of Treasurer and Charter member – The Jamaica Statistical Society (2013–present)

– Volunteer – Health Promotion Team, Jamaica Special Olympics (2011–present)

– Facilitator- Youth Diabetes Support Group (2010–present)
– Co-Chair Young Children Priority One Committee 2017–2018, Division 23E, Kiwanis International
– Member of the Adjudicating & Organizing Committee, Ministry of Health, 3rd National Health Research Conference
– Member of Organizing Committee, University Diabetes Outreach Programme Annual Conference

**Marvin Reid**

Member of American Physiological Society (APS)
– American Society of Enteral & Parenteral Nutrition (ASPEN)
– Medical Association of Jamaica (Vice President 2013–2015)
– Caribbean College of Family Physician (Chairman 2012–2014)
– Rotary Club New Kingston
– Research Advisory Committee, Caribbean Public Health Agency

**Suzanne Soares-Wynter**

– Member of Board of Directors, The Heart Foundation of Jamaica. (June 2018 – current)
– Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (formerly, American Dietetic Association) – International Member
– Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics - Dietetic Practice Groups (DPG) (Research DPG, Sports, Cardiovascular and Wellness Nutrition DPG, Weight Management DPG and Nutrition Entrepreneurs DPG)
– International Affiliate of the American Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (IAAND)
– Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme of the Codex Alimentarius Commission – Codex Committee on Fats and Oils (Member)


INCOME GENERATION

New Grants

• Title: This grant is led by Prof Plummer for Department of Surgery and will evaluate the use of faecal immunochemical testing in screening for colon cancer.

   Funding Agency: Bass Connections Grant, Duke University

   Value: JAD$3,965,000.00

   Principal Investigator: Professor Plummer

   Co-Investigator: Trevor Ferguson

   Period: January 21, 2018

• Title: Development and evaluation of an integrated early childhood development and violence prevention teacher-training intervention in Jamaican preschools

   Funding Agency: MRC/Wellcome Trust/DfID/NIHR Joint Global Health Trials Scheme

   Value: £180,852

   Principal Investigator: Helen Henningham-Baker

   Co-Investigator: Marcos Vera-Hernandez, Susan Walker

   Period: 10/2018–12/2019

• Title: Sustainability of benefits from parenting interventions in health centres.

   Funding Agency: Inter-American Development Bank

   Value: US$90,000

   Principal Investigator: S Walker, S Chang, J Smith, F Lopez-Boo

   Period: 2017–2018
- Title: Historical and epidemiological transitions in urban Caribbean Foodsapes: Understanding the past to enhance future healthy eating.
Funding Agency: MRC/AHRC Global Public Health: Partnership Awards Scheme.
Value: £185,735.14
Principal Investigator: Guell
Co-Investigators: Ishtar Govia, Nigel Unwin, Matthew Smith, Karyn Morrissey, Henrice Altink
Period: 3/31/2018–9/31/2019
- Title: STRiDE Strengthening Responses to Dementia in Developing Countries.
Funding Agency: Research Council of the UK Global Challenges Research Fund. Grant number: ES/P010938/1
Value: £7.9 million
Principal Investigator: Martin Knapp
Co-Investigators: Marguerite Schneider, Huseyin Naci, Emily Freeman, David McDaid, Sube Banerjee, Sara Evans-Lacko, Crick Lund, Adelina Comas-Herrera
Lead Investigator Jamaica Ishtar Govia
Period: 1/1/2018–12/31/2021
- Title: Gene Transfer for Patients with Sickle Cell Disease Using a Gamma Globin Lentivirus Vector: An Open Label Phase I/II Pilot Study.
Funding Agency: Cincinnati Children’s hospital Medical Centre
Project Investigator: Punam Malik
Site PI: Monika Asnani
Value: US $70,000
Period: November 2016 (15 years project)
• Title: Project grant, A Double-blind, Randomized, Placebo-controlled, Multicenter Study of GBT440 Administered Orally to Patients with Sickle Cell Disease.

Funding Agency: Global Blood Therapeutics, Inc.

Site PI: Jennifer Knight-Madden

Value: US $70,000 (estimated)

Period: 2017–2019

• Title: A Prospective Open-Label Pharmacokinetic Study of an Oral Hydroxyurea Solution in Children with Sickle Cell Anaemia.

Funding Agency: Nova Laboratories, Leicester, UK.

Principal Investigator (PI): Angela Rankine-Mullings

Value: US $260,000.

Period: April 24, 2017–Present

• Title: Expanding Treatment for Existing Neurological Disease (EXTEND). Protocol 4.0 (EXTEND EXTENSION)

Funding Agency: Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

Co-Investigator: Angela Rankine-Mullings

Value: US $125,000

Period: February 5, 2018–Present.

• Title: A Phase 3, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-controlled, Multi-centre Study of GBT 440. Administered Orally to Patients with sickle Cell Disease.

Co-investigator: Jennifer Knight-Madden

Source of Funding: Global Blood therapeutics, INC. 400 East Jamie Court, Suite 101, South San Francisco, CA 94080 USA.

Value: US$ 88,577

Period: March 2018–Present
• Title: Using stable isotope techniques to establish body composition references of healthy children in Latin America and the Caribbean for monitoring and interventions to improve young child nutrition

Principal Investigator: Asha Badaloo
Funding Agency: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
Contract No: JAM6079
Period of Award: 2018–2021
Value: €34,500.00

• Title: Microelements in Life expectancy and Ageing (MILEAGE)
Funding Agency: European Union
Role: Asha Badaloo
Period of Award: May 2017–April 2021
Value: €144,000.00

• Title: Bioavailability of protein from the common bean (Phaseolus vulgaris) in Jamaican diets
Funding Agency: IAEA
Contract No: 19284
Principal Investigator: Asha Badaloo
Period of Award: June 2015–May 2020
Value: €50000.00

• Title: Promoting healthy growth in children: Assessing the role of parenting and early life influences on body composition and energy expenditure
Funding Agency: IAEA
Contract No: JAM6013
Principal Investigator: Asha Badaloo
Co-Investigator: Carolyn Taylor-Bryan
Period of Award: September 2015–August 2018
Value: €228000

- Title: Improving the quality of life of older people through the early diagnosis of sarcopenia in Latin America & the Caribbean- a regional project

Funding Agency: International Atomic Energy Agency
Contract No: RLA/6/073
Principal Investigator: Asha Badaloo

Period of Award: September 2014–September 2017
Value: €77727.00

- Title: “Assessment of Risk Factors for Childhood Obesity and the Impact of an Educational Intervention on Infant Feeding, Growth and Body Composition”

Funding Agency: IAEA
Principal Investigator: Carolyn Taylor Bryan
Contract No. 22428/R0
Duration: 2017–2022
Award: €50,000.00

Ongoing Grants

- Title: Jamaica Health and Lifestyle Survey. The major goals of this project are to determine the prevalence of non-communicable diseases in Jamaica and factors that explain the distribution of disease.

Funding Agency: Jamaica Ministry of Health/National Health Fund
Value: US$690,000.00
Principal Investigator: Rainford Wilks
Period: 3/1/2016–9/30/2018
• Title: Global Diet and Physical Activity Network (GDAR). The goal of GDAR is to support sustainable development and the prevention of NCDs in Low and Middle Income Countries by establishing a research Network that will investigate the determinants of diet and physical activity, develop and evaluate interventions and inform policy P20 CA210294

Funding Agency: NHS National Institute for Health Research (UK)
Value: US$2,565,254
Principal Investigator: N Wareham
Sub-Grant – CAIHR, Project Investigator: Marshall Tulloch Reid
Period: 5/1/2017–12/01/2021

• Title: Planning for a Sustainable and Robust RCRE in the Caribbean. The major goals of this project are: 1) To perform a multi-sectoral needs assessment and conduct a pilot project that will guide strategic planning for a robust research program; 2) To establish and plan for a sustainable network of shared core facilities and services that will support the planned research program in Jamaica and the Caribbean region; and 3) To strengthen the research capacity in Jamaica through research enhancement activities using existing linkages with research capabilities in the Caribbean region and the US.

Funding Agency: National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Value: US$400,000 (all years)
Principal Investigator: Ragin/Beck/James/Marshall Tulloch-Reid
Period: 7/1/2017–6/30/2019

• Title: Cardiovascular health in urban poor and middle income communities in Jamaica: Impact of psychological stress, social networks, and social support. The major goal of this grant is to estimate the prevalence of ideal cardiovascular health and its individual components in urban Jamaica and evaluate whether there are significant differences by levels of community socioeconomic status,
psychosocial stress or social support. We will also seek to identify opportunities for interventions to improve cardiovascular health.

Funding Agency: The Bernard Lown Scholars in Cardiovascular Health Program Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
Value: US$49,998
Principal Investigator: Trevor Ferguson
Period: 11/2016–12/2019

- Title: ‘The Irie Homes Toolbox’: development and evaluation. This grant funds the development of a number of intervention tools that will be used in the home to complement the IRIE classroom intervention.

Funding Agency: Grand Challenges Canada
Value: CDN$250,000
Principal Investigator: Helen Baker-Henningham
Co-Investigators: Taja Francis, Marsha Bowers
Period: 09/2017–09/2019

- Title: The “Irie Classrooms Toolbox”: a cluster randomised trial of a universal violence prevention programme in Jamaican preschools

Funding Agency: MRC/Wellcome Trust/DfID Joint Global Health Trials Scheme
Value: £1.35 million
Principal Investigator: Helen Baker-Henningham
Co-Investigators: Harold Alderman, Marcos Vera-Hernandez, Susan Walker
Period: 10/2014–09/2018

- Title: The gains at age 30 years from the Jamaica Supplementation and Stimulation Study Funding Agency: World Bank Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund
Value: US $399,491


- Title: Population-Based Indicators of Early Child Development

Funding Agency: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Value: US$ 492,775

Period: 2016–2018

- Title: MSc Epidemiology

Income from this year’s Cohort of 8 students was approximately $8.5M before administrative fees and expenses. This fund was also used to hire a lecturer for one year to support its activities.

- Title: Program and Policy Options for Preventing Obesity in the Low, Middle and Transitional Income Countries.

Funding Agency: The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill/Bloomberg Philanthropies
Value: US$316,578.00

Principal Investigator: Suzanne Soares-Wynter
Period: 9/1/2017–1/31/2019

STUDENTS

Candida Khan (author M.Sc.) Assessment of nutritional status and physical activity level in persons residing at homes for the elderly in Trinidad.; Main Supervisor Asha Badaloo; awarded 2017

Sarah Insanally (DrPH) “Investigating the determinants of nutritional and cognitive status of young children in Guyana” 2018. Supervisor Susan Walker

Judith McLean-Smith (student; PhD) Breast milk intake, post-natal growth, intermediate cardiovascular risk factors and morbidity in rural Jamaican infants at one year. Supervisor Marvin Reid

Marlan Cole (Student: DrPh) Are food manufactured locally and those imported in compliance with the regulatory standard for the use of Sodium Benzoate as a preservative in Guyana. Supervisor Marvin Reid

Christina Howitt (PhD Epidemiology) “Physical Inactivity and Non-communicable Disease Risk in the Barbadian Population” 2018. Supervisor Nigel Unwin Co-Supervisor Suzanne Soares-Wynter