

INSTITUTE FOR COLLABORATION ON HEALTH, INTERVENTION, AND POLICY

ANNUAL REPORT

ICHP

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A. Executive Summary

Based on CHIP's 15 years of interdisciplinary research excellence, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Mun Choi approved the Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) becoming the Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP) in January of 2016. This represented a significant and exciting expansion of the Center's role at the University. InCHIP operates as a cross-campus health research institute that is focused on helping UConn to realize its potential in health and wellness scholarship, significantly grow its research portfolio, increase collaborations between all UConn campuses, and enhance the University's national and international standing in health-related disciplines. InCHIP not only facilitates the development of successful interdisciplinary research collaborations between researchers but also between UConn centers and institutes that are focused on health, health behavior change, and health policy.

During FY16, InCHIP made significant progress towards its mission of creating and disseminating new scientific knowledge and theoretical frameworks in health and health behavior at multiple levels of analysis. The Institute focused this year on catalyzing new multidisciplinary research and collaboration in mental health, pediatric health, obesity prevention, cancer control and prevention, electronic and mobile health (eHealth/mHealth), and policy-relevant research in order to strengthen these areas, while continuing to perform strongly in other areas (e.g., HIV, exercise science, global health, and treatment adherence and retention in care). InCHIP also continued to provide extremely high quality resources and support to its affiliated researchers and to expand its reach to provide resources to other investigators throughout the University via innovative university-wide events. These included multiple research forums, four cross-campus dual-PI seed grant programs, and networking events. Overall, this was a year of expansion and growth for InCHIP in a number of key areas.

Expanded Research Enterprise

- For FY16, InCHIP had **\$51.5 million in active grants across all years**, including \$39.1 million in direct costs and \$12.4 million in indirect costs.¹ Of the \$51.5 million in active grants across all years, \$11.3 million in total costs were budgeted for expenditure in FY16, including \$8.7 million in direct costs and \$2.6 million in indirect costs.
- In FY16, InCHIP-affiliated PIs were **awarded 33 new external grants**, which they used to initiate research projects in a number of critical and diverse domains of health behavior. The new grant awards amounted to \$10.0 million in total costs, \$8.0 million in direct costs, and \$2.0 million in indirect costs.
- In FY16, InCHIP-affiliated PIs **applied for 87 new external grants**, requesting funding of \$72.6 million in total costs, \$54.5 million in direct costs, and \$18.1 million in indirect costs.
- InCHIP's **actual research expenditures** in FY16 were the highest ever, at \$11.3 million in total costs (vs. \$10.0 million in FY15), \$8.7 million in direct costs (vs. \$7.5 million in FY15), and \$2.6 million in indirect costs (vs. \$2.5 million in FY15).
- In the area of **HIV research**, InCHIP continued to be a worldwide leader and fostered multidisciplinary work in this core problem area. Newly funded initiatives include external grants to (1) improve linkage to HIV care following home-based HIV testing in rural Uganda, and (2) enhance the training of multidisciplinary behavioral scientists in HIV testing, linkage to care, and adherence to treatment.
- In **other critical health domains**, newly-funded initiatives included, among others, external grants to (1) examine the impact of acute exposure to weight stigma on cardiovascular health, (2) evaluate the potential of a virtual reality intervention to promote smoking cessation in people with schizophrenia, and (3) assess the effect of compression socks on blood clot risk during travel.
- InCHIP research continued to be **international in scope** in FY16, with active grants or submitted grant proposals for research projects in Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, and Uganda. Nearly 15% (\$8.0 million) of active InCHIP grant funds in FY16 involved health behavior change interventions designed for populations in other countries. In addition to research in Africa, Jeffrey Fisher (PhD, Psychological Sciences) helped to initiate new research projects in Cuba and the Middle East. In Cuba, Dr. Fisher worked with Tania Huedo-Medina (PhD, Allied Health Sciences) on a widespread initiative that will link InCHIP and UConn to 5-10 different universities, medical schools, and other research institutions in Cuba. In Jordan, Dr. Fisher worked with Kelly Newlin Lew (DNsc,

¹ Indirect costs (IDCs) are synonymous with "Facilities and Administrative" costs or F&As.

APRN-C, School of Nursing) on scaling up and adapting a novel diabetes prevention and treatment intervention to be implemented at representative urban hospitals, at rural health clinics throughout Jordan, and at a state of the art diabetes treatment center in Amman.

Advancements and New Capacity in Public Policy Research

- Since its arrival at UConn in January 2015, the **Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity** has continued to add remarkable strength to InCHIP's portfolio of research with direct policy implications. The Rudd Center is one of the world's premier obesity research centers, with a mission to change the way the world eats, in part, through changes in food policy. For more information on their policy briefs and reports, please visit <http://uconnruddcenter.org/policy-briefs-and-reports>.
- Several InCHIP projects in FY16 involved **research with important policy implications**, including: (1) the identification, documentation, and dissemination of local food and agriculture policy innovations to foster healthier communities, (2) a study that will assess how the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) affects the nutrition environments of child care centers in Connecticut, and (3) an educational program that encourages those eligible for SNAP to make healthy food choices and to choose physically active lifestyles.

Catalyzing Multidisciplinary Research Initiatives

- In FY16, InCHIP's **multidisciplinary affiliates collaborative network** of health behavior change researchers experienced significant growth, bringing its total membership to 419 faculty/researcher affiliates representing nearly all schools and colleges within the UConn system as well as 50 other institutions. The resulting community of multidisciplinary expertise enables InCHIP to assemble teams of investigators who can respond to large-scale funding opportunities within short timeframes.
- InCHIP also saw significant growth and activity this year in its three **multidisciplinary Research Interest Groups (RIGs)** focused on cancer, electronic/mobile health (eHealth/mHealth), and obesity, which had 109, 146, and 150 members, respectively, as of June 30, 2016. The membership of each group consisted of researchers from UConn Storrs, UConn Health, and other institutions and community-based organizations. Each RIG hosted engaging networking and educational events throughout the year to cultivate collaborations among members that would lead to innovative research projects and increased external funding. InCHIP also helped organize a new **HIV Research Interest Group (HIVRIG)**, which is being chaired by InCHIP Principal Investigator (PI) Seth Kalichman (PhD, Psychological Sciences). This interest group will serve as a hub for HIV and sexual health researchers, streamlining communication among them and promoting research collaborations. (*See [Section G on pages 28-31](#) for more information about the RIGs.*)
- In the fall of 2015, the **Collaboratory on School and Child Health (CSCH)** was created within InCHIP. This multidisciplinary group was established to facilitate innovative research in school and child health. The Collaboratory serves as a central resource to University and external partners engaged in research efforts that inform healthy, safe, supporting, and engaging environments for children. (*See [Section G on pages 26-27](#) for more information about CSCH.*)
- InCHIP also recruited and played a key role in hiring **new faculty member, InCHIP PI Lisa Butler** (PhD, MPH, InCHIP). Dr. Butler joins UConn and InCHIP with an impressive research portfolio of work in HIV, maternal and child health, and communication.
- In order to **explore and expand collaborative opportunities** among InCHIP's network of affiliates, InCHIP's Director, Associate Directors, and/or Boundary Spanners met with leaders from numerous units at UConn to explore partnerships, including the Departments of Medicine and Psychiatry, School of Business, School of Dental Medicine, Neag School of Education, Alcohol Research Center (ARC), Center for Public Health and Health Policy (CPHHP), Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace (CPH-NEW), Office of Global Affairs, Institute for Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Human Rights Institute, Korey Stringer Institute, and Center for Advancement in Managing Pain (CAMP), among others.

Training the Next Generation of Health Behavior Researchers

- External grants received by InCHIP PIs fund a substantial number of **graduate students** each year. This year, InCHIP external grants funded about 50 graduate students across multiple departments. Total yearlong graduate

student funding from InCHIP grants was approximately \$640,000. In addition, InCHIP awarded competitive seed grants after rigorous review to three graduate student affiliates, providing them with both funding to enhance their research training and experience in the grant writing process.

In summary, FY16 at InCHIP has been notable for the launch of several new initiatives designed to stimulate multidisciplinary research and collaboration in several domains targeted for strengthening, while continuing to excel in traditional domains in which InCHIP has been strong. InCHIP also continued to provide exemplary research support services. As we enter FY17, InCHIP is well poised to serve as the nexus for UConn investigators researching the latest advances in health and wellness for the benefit of Connecticut and beyond.

B. Introduction

In November 2001, the Chancellor and Provost and the Vice Provost for Research of the University of Connecticut identified the Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (CHIP) as a center of excellence at the University. With continued University support, CHIP continued to achieve impressive growth as a multidisciplinary research center and as one of very few major University Research Centers at UConn. In 2016, CHIP underwent a structural change, transitioning from a center to the Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP). This change recognized that, for some time, InCHIP had been functioning like an institute with a number of centers operating within it. The transition from center to institute enabled InCHIP to organize and optimize cutting-edge research in health risk dynamics and health behavior change for faculty across departments, centers, and campuses at the University. Over 400 InCHIP-affiliated investigators participate in InCHIP sponsored events and research programming, and a growing number of health research centers across the University are now affiliating with and working in close collaboration with InCHIP.

This report summarizes InCHIP's growth and accomplishments over the past year, highlighting the Institute's continued scholarly excellence, growth, and international recognition.

C. Mission Statement

The University of Connecticut's Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy (InCHIP) provides an interdisciplinary nexus for investigators and centers across the University to stimulate research collaborations and major newly-funded initiatives that create scientific knowledge and theoretical frameworks in health behavior at multiple levels of analysis (e.g., individual, family, community, policy). Health is broadly defined and includes physical and mental health, and outcomes with critical implications for health. Work at the intersection of behavior and biology, and at the intersection of science and public policy is encouraged. InCHIP disseminates its research and cutting-edge health behavior change interventions through publishing, structural change, capacity-building, teaching, mentoring, and collaborating at the university, local, state, national, and international levels.

D. Long-Term Goals

Goal 1: InCHIP will *support UConn investigators and Centers in conducting research* to create new scientific knowledge, theoretical frameworks, health behavior change interventions, and methodological advances associated with health and health behavior. This work will focus on understanding the dynamics of health behavior and related systems, on the science of health behavior change, on research to inform policy, and on the science and practice of developing, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating effective health behavior change interventions.

Goal 2: InCHIP will *take a leadership role in fostering a team science approach* that leverages the strengths and expertise of investigators and other professionals trained in diverse fields, to scientifically address multi-factorial issues in health and health behavior.

Goal 3: InCHIP will *share its expertise* in health behavior, policy, capacity building, and technology with local, state, national, and international organizations engaged in improving public health.

Goal 4: InCHIP researchers will *educate and mentor* undergraduate students, graduate students, researchers, faculty, community members, and others in the science of health behavior change, and the science and practice of developing, implementing, evaluating, and disseminating effective interventions.

E. Progress on InCHIP Objectives for FY16

E1. Progress on InCHIP Research Objectives for FY16

Research Objective 1: Through the InCHIP internal grants programs, mentoring, technical support to Principal Investigators (PIs), and other activities, the Institute will continue to support the development of new, high-quality, innovative, and timely proposals for externally-funded research through InCHIP by individual researchers and research teams.

InCHIP supports new, high-quality, and innovative research in several ways. It provides an excellent internal grants program, which supports the pilot research often necessary for Principal Investigators (PIs) to obtain large external grants. InCHIP internal seed grant proposals receive mentoring reviews, which improve the research that was proposed, and the strongest proposals are funded. The InCHIP internal grants program has often been a critical part of InCHIP PIs' success in acquiring external grants. According to many InCHIP PIs who have received substantial external grants, these grants would not have been possible without InCHIP seed grant support. Since the inception of the InCHIP seed grant program through March 2016, InCHIP has awarded \$932,617 in total seed grant funds. These seed funds have produced a total of \$26,255,324 in external grants and returned substantial funding to the University in indirect costs. (See [Section J on pages 35-45](#) for more details on this year's InCHIP seed grants program, including the investigators and project descriptions for the awarded seed grants.)

To promote success in securing external grants, InCHIP also provides PIs with in-depth, pre-submission reviews of external grant proposals. InCHIP solicits experts in the field to provide these reviews, so that the proposals can be strengthened and increase their chances of being funded. InCHIP also offers a competitive summer stipend to junior faculty who are writing grants. This stipend is intended to free them from any responsibilities outside of grant writing during the summer, and, in this way, help them succeed in obtaining external funding. Another grant-related InCHIP service available to affiliates is access to a library of previously submitted and funded InCHIP external grants to use as models for new grant proposals.

InCHIP also held its second university-wide **Grantsmanship Training Workshop for Health Behavior Researchers** this year, which was organized and headed by InCHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman, PhD. This 6-session interactive workshop was conducted from February 19 through April 1, 2016 by 9 senior-level UConn faculty with expertise in writing successful external grant applications; Paige Green, PhD, MPH, Chief of Basic Biobehavioral and Psychological Sciences Branch at the National Cancer Institute; and Dorothea Hast, PhD, Coordinator for Special Projects at UConn Global Affairs. A diverse group of 31 junior faculty participated in this workshop where they learned about how to develop competitive grant proposals and also about the various funding mechanisms that are available to researchers. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants were invited to apply for the mentorship program, where they will have the opportunity to be paired with senior faculty who will mentor them for a year in writing their own external grant proposals.

InCHIP also provides extensive services to InCHIP affiliates who are in various stages of the grant application process. For those seeking funding opportunities, the InCHIP Programs and Research Development team scans external funding announcements from the NIH and other funding agencies; compiles those announcements that are most relevant to InCHIP's mission and affiliates' interests; sends funding announcements in a weekly email to affiliates; and posts them on a searchable webpage (<http://chip.uconn.edu/chip-business-office/external-funding-opportunities/>). For highly relevant large grant funding opportunities which involve team science, InCHIP's Boundary Spanners conduct outreach to appropriate InCHIP affiliates and health-related centers, institutes, and departments. For interested parties, the Boundary Spanners will organize a virtual teleconference or in person meeting in which the funding opportunity is discussed in detail, and will coordinate next steps if there is interest in proceeding with an InCHIP team science grant proposal.

If an InCHIP PI is writing a grant proposal and needs additional members on his/her research team with specific skill sets, one of InCHIP's Boundary Spanners will utilize a variety of databases and search tools in order to identify individuals with that skill set.

During the process of preparing a grant, InCHIP's grants manager will sit down with the PI, discuss the PI's budgetary needs with her/him, and create a budget for the grant. In addition, InCHIP's HR manager will work with the PI to understand the personnel needs of the proposed research and identify the correct position titles and salaries to

include in the budget. Lastly, InCHIP's statistical and methodological consultants will interview the PI about the design of the study, provide feedback, and write the statistical and power analysis sections of the grant upon request. With the assistance of these and other activities and services, InCHIP PIs were again very successful in FY16, developing, submitting, and receiving external grant awards for a substantial number of new proposals in diverse areas of health behavior. In each case, the grant application and grant award processes were facilitated by high quality pre-award and post-award grants management services provided by InCHIP. Together, InCHIP's highly skilled PIs, with the support of InCHIP's administrative team, produced 87 external grants submissions during FY16, totaling \$72.6 million. Of the grants submitted in FY16, 33 have been funded thus far, for \$10.0 million in total costs. (For the purpose of this report, FY16 covers the period between May 16, 2015 and June 30, 2016.)²

Research Objective 2: InCHIP will continue to expand its focus on health behavior and foster new multidisciplinary work in a broad array of critical health domains.

In the past year, InCHIP expanded its research in a number of health domains, and many of the studies involved collaborations between UConn faculty members. Below are some examples of newly funded multidisciplinary InCHIP projects. (For a full list of InCHIP health research domains, please see [Appendix 4 on pages 68-69](#).)

InCHIP PI Thomas Buckley (MPH, RPh, Pharmacy Practice) received a grant from CDC/US Public Health Service (PHS)/Connecticut Department of Public Health, entitled "The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)." The goal of this project, which is a collaborative effort between Dr. Buckley and Co-I Marissa Salvo (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice), is to increase the percentage of African American males in Bridgeport, CT with healthy blood pressure. This is being accomplished by screening African American adult males and providing optimal continuum of care service to those with high blood pressure.

The US Department of Education awarded **InCHIP PI Sandra Chafouleas** (PhD, Educational Psychology) a grant for her project, "Exploring the Status and Impact of School-Based Behavior Screening Practices in a National Sample: Implications for Systems, Policy, and Research." Dr. Chafouleas is working collaboratively with Co-Is D. Betsy McCoach (PhD, Educational Psychology) and Jennifer Dineen (PhD, Public Policy) on this exploratory project, the goal of which is to close gaps in knowledge and implementation of programs that support student mental, emotional, and behavioral health. The project seeks to assess the existing state and district-level priorities, in regards to school-based behavior policy, implementation of behavior screening practices, effect of those practices on student behavioral outcomes, and key stakeholder perceptions of behavior screening.

InCHIP PI Amy Mobley (PhD, RD, Nutritional Sciences) received NICHD funding for her study entitled, "Father-Focused Nutrition and Parenting Program to Help Prevent Childhood Obesity in Preschool Age Children." Dr. Mobley is working collaboratively with Co-Is Kim Gans (PhD, MPH, Human Development and Family Studies) and Kari Adamsons (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) on this pilot trial of an intervention that targets low income fathers with nutrition and parenting education, in an effort to prevent childhood obesity. This novel approach of targeting low income fathers will inform future randomized control trials and obesity prevention programs.

InCHIP PI Linda Pescatello (PhD, Kinesiology) received a grant from the American College of Sports Medicine entitled, "The Effect of Compression Socks on Blood Clot Risk During Travel in Oral Contraceptive Using Women." This study, which Dr. Pescatello is working on with Co-I Amanda Zaleski (MS, Kinesiology), examines the effect of estrogen-based oral contraceptives and travel on deep vein thrombosis (DVT) risk in women.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation awarded funding to **Rudd Center Director Marlene Schwartz** (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) for her proposal, "Developing a Reliable, Valid Measure of School Wellness Policy Implementation: The WellSAT-I." Dr. Schwartz is working collaboratively with Kim Gans (PhD, MPH, Human Development and Family Studies) and Marily Nanney (PhD, University of Minnesota) on this project which will involve convening a national group of experts on school wellness policies, and using psychometric analyses to refine a tool that can quantitatively evaluate the implementation of these policies. Once the tool is finalized, it will be disseminated to researchers, school districts, and other wellness policy stakeholders.

² **For this year only**, the Annual Report covers a period of more than 12 months because InCHIP is transitioning to a reporting period that coincides with the fiscal year. Since the FY15 Annual Report presented data through May 15, 2015, the FY16 Report covers the fiscal year as well as the period from May 16 to June 30, 2015.

InCHIP PI Diana Sobieraj (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice) received funding from AHRQ to work collaboratively with Co-Is Blair Johnson (PhD, Psychological Sciences), C. Michael White (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice), Craig Coleman (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice), and William Baker (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice) on a project entitled, “Pharmacologic Management of Asthma.” The purpose of this study is to complete a systematic review of the literature surrounding the use of pharmaceuticals to manage asthma, in order to provide clinicians with evidence-based findings that can be translated directly into practice.

The sample of newly-funded InCHIP grants described above, as well as other newly-submitted InCHIP grants, demonstrate how InCHIP’s research focus is more multidisciplinary and has broadened to include a wide array of health domains outside of HIV. Of the 87 InCHIP grants proposals that were submitted in FY16 (total costs of \$72.6 million), 76 of them (total costs of \$51.9 million) proposed conducting research in domains outside of HIV. Of the 33 newly awarded grants during FY16 (total costs of \$10.0 million), 23 of them (\$5.3 million) focused on health domains other than HIV. (For the purpose of this report, grant proposals that were active between May 16, 2015 and June 30, 2016 are considered “new” submissions in FY16.)

(For more information on InCHIP projects, please visit <http://chip.uconn.edu/research/chip-research-projects/>. See [Appendix 1 on pages 51-61](#) for each new InCHIP grant’s funding agency, total costs, direct costs, and indirect costs.)

Research Objective 3: InCHIP will facilitate continued progress of InCHIP obesity researchers, as well as the formation of new obesity collaborations through team science initiatives that strategically build our capacity to conduct multilevel studies that tackle the complex issues of obesity prevention and treatment.

InCHIP obesity investigators had a very productive year, publishing over 275 obesity-related articles in FY16. InCHIP affiliates submitted 38 obesity-related grants, requesting \$17,304,296 in total costs. The following 11 InCHIP-affiliated researchers had 39 active obesity-related grants in FY16, with awards of \$9,301,848 in total costs; 13 of these grants (\$3,474,537 in total costs) were awarded during FY16.

- Tatiana Andreyeva (PhD, Agriculture and Resource Economics) - 4 active grants, 1 was newly awarded in FY16
- Thomas Buckley (MPH, RPh, Pharmacy Practice) - 3 active grants, 1 newly awarded in FY16
- Valerie Duffy (PhD, RD, Allied Health Sciences) - 1 active grant that was newly awarded in FY16
- Roberta Friedman (ScM, Rudd Center) - 1 active grant that was newly awarded in FY16
- Kim Gans (PhD, MPH, Human Development and Family Studies) - 4 active grants in FY16
- Amy Gorin (PhD, Psychological Sciences) - 4 active grants in FY16
- Jennifer Harris (PhD, MBA, Allied Health Sciences) - 6 active grants in FY16, 4 newly awarded in FY16
- Tricia Leahey (PhD, Allied Health Sciences) - 3 active grants in FY16
- Amy Mobley (PhD, RD, Nutritional Sciences) - 2 active grants, 2 newly awarded in FY16
- Meghan O’Connell (MPH, Rudd Center) - 1 active grant in FY16
- Marlene Schwartz (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) - 10 active grants, 3 newly awarded in FY16

The 13 obesity-related grants that were newly awarded in FY16 to InCHIP-affiliated researchers have the following titles:

- Tatiana Andreyeva (PhD, Agriculture and Resource Economics): “Supplementing Healthy Eating Research on In-Store Marketing Practices and Care on Education in Early Childhood to Prevent Childhood Obesity”
- Thomas Buckley (MPH, RPh, Pharmacy Practice): “State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity, and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health – Pharmacy Initiative”
- Valerie Duffy (PhD, RD, Allied Health Sciences): “School and Family-Based SNAP-Ed”
- Roberta Friedman (ScM, Rudd Center): “Researching and Developing a Policy Agenda for Obesity Prevention in Children, Birth to Two Years”
- Jennifer Harris (PhD, MBA, Allied Health Sciences): (1) “Food Marketing Vulnerability and Increased Risk for Weight Gain in Adolescents,” (2) “National Agriculture Library Proposal FoodWorks: Pioneering State and Local

Food Policies,” (3) “Evaluating Healthy Kids’ Meal Defaults,” and (4) “Encouraging Industry and Government Action to Reduce Marketing of Unhealthy Foods to Children”

- Amy Mobley (PhD, RD, Nutritional Sciences): (1) “Development of Evidence-Based Child Feeding Messages to Prevent Obesity in Early Childhood,” and (2) “Father-Focused Nutrition and Parenting Program to Help Prevent Childhood Obesity in Preschool Age Children”
- Marlene Schwartz (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies): (1) “Sugar Sweetened Beverage Policies,” (2) “Testing the Impact of Improving the National School Breakfast Program,” and (3) “Developing a Reliable, Valid Measure of School Wellness Policy Implementation: The WellSat-I”

(Specific activities that InCHIP engaged in to support obesity-related research through joint InCHIP/CICATS Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG) are detailed in [Section G on pages 28-29](#).)

Research Objective 4: InCHIP will continue to be a worldwide leader and foster new multidisciplinary work in the core problem area of HIV.

Since its inception as a University Center in 2002, InCHIP-affiliated researchers have been awarded a remarkable **\$82.3 million in total grant funding focused on HIV**. In FY16 alone, the following 11 InCHIP-affiliated researchers had **26 active HIV-related grants, totaling \$28.1 million in external grant funding** across all years.

- Lisa Butler (PhD, MPH, InCHIP) - 5 active grants in FY16
- John Christensen (PhD, Communication) - 1 active grant in FY16
- Michael Copenhaver (PhD, Allied Health Sciences) - 2 active grants in FY16
- Deborah Cornman (PhD, InCHIP) - 4 active grants in FY16
- Dean Cruess (PhD, Psychological Sciences) - 1 active grant in FY16
- Lisa Eaton (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) - 3 active grants in FY16
- Debarchana Ghosh (PhD, Geography) - 1 active grant in FY16
- Ofer Harel (PhD, Statistics) - 1 active grant in FY16
- Blair Johnson (PhD, Psychological Sciences) - 1 active grant in FY16
- Seth Kalichman (PhD, Psychological Sciences) - 6 active grants in FY16
- Michael White (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice) - 1 active grant in FY16

During the Spring of 2016, Lisa Butler, PhD, MPH joined InCHIP as an Associate Research Professor. Prior to coming to UConn, she was an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and an Associate Scientific Researcher at Boston Children’s Hospital. She brought with her the following 5 HIV-related grants:

- “Cognitive Behavioral and Structural HIV Prevention Intervention for Young Ugandan Women Engaging in High Risk Sexual Behavior”
- “Promoting Early Diagnosis of Kaposi’s Sarcoma in Uganda”
- “Global Strategies Projects - PEP and NoviGuide”
- “Agricultural Intervention for Food Security and HIV Health Outcomes in Kenya”
- “Multi-Sectoral Agricultural Intervention to Improve Nutrition, Health and Developmental Outcomes of HIV-Infected and Affected Children in Western Kenya”

In addition to the 5 grants that Dr. Butler brought to UConn, 4 HIV-related grants were newly awarded in FY16 to the following InCHIP-affiliated researchers:

- Deborah Cornman (PhD, InCHIP): “Working with HIV Clinics to Adoption Addiction Treatments Using Implementation Facilitation (WHAT IF?)”
- Dean Cruess (PhD, Psychological Sciences): “Psychosocial, Immunological, and Biobehavioral Benefits of Stress Management Interventions for Chronic Diseases: Comprehensive Systematic Review and Meta-Analyses”

- Lisa Eaton (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies): “Understanding Delayed Access to HIV Prevention Services among Black MSM – Supplement”
- Seth Kalichman (PhD, Psychological Sciences): “Enhanced Linkage to HIV Care Following Home-Based HIV Testing in Rural Uganda”

These 9 HIV-related grants equate to **\$4.6 million in total costs** across all years.

Research Objective 5: InCHIP will continue to increase its research with direct policy implications.

Over the past few years, InCHIP has strengthened its commitment to conducting health-related research with implications for public policy. The move of the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity from Yale to UConn in FY15 as a new “center-within-a-center” at InCHIP added remarkable strength to InCHIP’s portfolio of research with direct policy implications. The Rudd Center’s goal is to change the way the world eats, in part through changes in food policy. The Rudd Center is one of the premier centers in the world working in this critical domain. (*See the Rudd Center’s website at <http://uconnruddcenter.org/>.*)

This past year, several newly funded InCHIP projects involved research with important policy implications. For example, research projects by the Rudd Center’s Tatiana Andreyeva (PhD, Agriculture and Resource Economics), Jennifer Harris (PhD, MBA, Allied Health Sciences), and Marlene Schwartz (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) have critical implications for U.S. food policy. And research by InCHIP PI Thomas Buckley (MPH, RPh, Pharmacy Practice) examining the state’s public health actions to prevent and control obesity and diabetes has policy implications. There are additional InCHIP projects currently underway with policy implications, such as InCHIP PI Leslie Snyder’s (PhD, Communication) examination of graphic warnings on tobacco packages, Rudd Center Deputy Director Rebecca Puhl’s (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies) research on society’s treatment of obese individuals, and the work by HOPE Center faculty led by InCHIP PI Michael White (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice). InCHIP’s focus on public policy will expand greatly in future years. (*For information about these and other InCHIP grants, go to [Appendix 1 on pages 51-61](#).*)

Research Objective 6: InCHIP will take a leadership role in fostering a team science approach among University of Connecticut research scientists and clinicians in the development of personalized medicine risk reduction strategies for chronic diseases and health conditions using clinical and genomic information that attempts to match an individual with the most effective therapeutic option.

Personalized medicine is a timely and critically important area of study. InCHIP researchers are collaborating across knowledge silos to explore genomic/genetic biomarkers of several diseases with the hope of matching individuals to more effective treatments. **InCHIP PI Meg Gerrard** (PhD, Psychological Sciences) is funded by the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) to explore ways to prevent adolescents from becoming regular, addicted smokers. Dr. Gerrard and her research team are examining the potential of an epigenetic change that is a sensitive marker of initial experimental smoking (DNA demethylation at the aryl hydrocarbon receptor repressor [AHRR] locus), to identify adolescents who are in the experimental stage of smoking before they become regular smokers.

InCHIP PI Linda Pescatello (PhD, Kinesiology) is another InCHIP investigator with expertise in personalized risk reduction. She has a grant from Hartford Hospital/CT Space Grant entitled, “Investigating Deep Vein Thrombosis Risk in Women at Flight,” to examine the influence of estrogen- based oral contraceptives on blood clot risk in active women at flight. Dr. Pescatello is studying the biomarkers of clot formation and clot breakdown in women on estrogen-based oral contraceptives as a function of their hours in flight. Dr. Pescatello is also working with researchers at Hartford Hospital on research that is examining the DNA and RNA biomarkers of sudden cardiac death in firefighters. She and her collaborator are interested in understanding how cardiorespiratory fitness impacts firefighters’ cardiovascular health when they engage in physical exertion.

InCHIP Affiliate Angela Starkweather (PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, CNRN, FAAN, Nursing), is the Director of the Center for Advancement in Managing Pain (CAMP). The primary focus of her research is on biobehavioral symptom science among adolescents and adults who have chronic or life-threatening conditions, with the goal of advancing personalized strategies to ameliorate symptoms, improve function, and enhance quality of life. She studies the contributions of perceived stress and environmental exposures on health outcomes as well as the influence of genetic variants and epigenetic mechanisms on the development and persistence of distressing symptoms. Her

research expands across the areas of symptom clusters, symptom management, palliative care, self- management and patient-provider health technologies.

One of InCHIP's efforts to develop multidisciplinary collaborations in personalized medicine risk reduction included sponsoring an InCHIP lecture by and individual meetings with world-renowned pediatric gastroenterologist, research scientist, and entrepreneur Alessio Fasano (MD, Harvard University). Dr. Fasano is a Professor at Harvard Medical School, Chief of the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition at Massachusetts General Hospital, and founder of the Center for Celiac Research. In April of this year, he gave a lecture entitled, "Celiac Disease Genomic, Environmental, Microbiome and Metabolomic Study: A Paradigm of Multi-omics in Autoimmune Diseases."

Research Objective 7: InCHIP will continue to bring local, national, and international researchers together on an ongoing basis from a wide range of health (including biomedical) and social science disciplines for lectures, events, and meetings at InCHIP to promote cutting-edge, multidisciplinary exchange and research.

InCHIP Lecture Series: Since 2002, InCHIP has organized a highly successful lecture series for the purpose of identifying and bringing together local, national, and international researchers from diverse academic fields with interests in health behavior and health behavior change intervention research. The InCHIP Lecture Series provides a forum for InCHIP investigators, graduate students, research staff, and other InCHIP affiliates to attend presentations about new work by leading figures in health behavior research, and to become familiar with work conducted and published by others in the InCHIP network. The series is well-attended and is an invaluable forum for sharing recent findings and discovering trends in health behavior research.

InCHIP continued to sponsor the InCHIP Lecture Series in FY16, with co-sponsorships from the Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion (CEHHP); Center for Public Health and Health Policy (CPHHP); Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development (CHHD); Connecticut Children's Medical Center; Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (CICATS); Ethel Donaghue Center for Translating Research into Practice and Policy (TRIPP); UConn Health School of Medicine; UConn School of Nursing; UConn School of Business; UConn Health Ergonomics Technology Center; UConn School of Pharmacy; and School of Social Work. The Departments of Anthropology; Allied Health Sciences; Human Development and Family Studies; Marketing; Molecular and Cell Biology; Nutritional Sciences; Psychological Sciences; and Statistics; as well as the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program also served as co-sponsors for the Series. Together, InCHIP and its cosponsors, brought 18 nationally- and internationally-recognized leaders in health behavior research from fifteen different institutions to UConn for presentations. These speakers presented on a diverse range of research areas, including the effects of low-calorie dieting, using digital health technologies to improve child health outcomes, implementing the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to prevent HIV, expressive writing and health, and celiac disease, among many others. All presentations were web streamed live from InCHIP. They were also archived for future viewing on InCHIP's website. This virtual inclusion of additional colleagues at each presentation greatly enhanced the value and profile of the Lecture Series for the University, as well as the potential of the Series to disseminate cutting-edge science.

During FY16, InCHIP had an average onsite lecture participation rate of 30 people per lecture. Additional viewers saw each presentation through live streaming or through archived versions of the presentations; there was a total of 894 online viewings of presentations during FY16, with an average of 47 viewers per lecture. In addition to attending and viewing the presentations online, PIs, graduate students, other affiliates, and community members were given the opportunity to meet with each presenter one-on-one, as a group, or remotely, to discuss research interests and possible collaborations. A total of 67 such meetings and events were made available to attendees at InCHIP.

The InCHIP Lecture Series is planned, publicized, and hosted by InCHIP administrative staff. Publicity for the events includes: posting the schedule and information on the InCHIP website and events calendar; sending out announcements through various Listservs such as the InCHIP Weekly Digest, the UConn Daily Digest and UConn Health Broadcast Messages; posting flyers and signage at InCHIP; and publishing the information on the University Events website and through other venues. To cast as wide a net as possible for persons interested in InCHIP's lectures, e-mail announcements are sent to current affiliates, prospective affiliates, and members of other research institutions, hospitals, health clinics, and community-based organizations in Connecticut. This is done through the InCHIP public access Listserv. For those who respond to the announcements and/or attend the lectures in person, InCHIP follows up with additional communications, including invitations to future events and meetings, so that

InCHIP members can connect with interested individuals to explore the potential for research collaboration. A significant number of new affiliates and contacts have been identified through this process.

(A listing of the dates, speakers, and presentation titles for the FY16 InCHIP Lecture Series can be found in [Appendix 2 on pages 62-66.](#))

Special Events: Below are brief descriptions of several additional events that InCHIP organized this year toward the fulfillment of this objective.

- On September 24, 2015, the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (CICATS) funded a Science Café on **Promoting Healthy Cancer Survivorship: Clinical and Research Opportunities**. This Café represented a true cross-campus collaboration; it was organized and conducted by the CICATS Cancer Prevention and Control Core Interest Group leadership, which comprises InCHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman (PhD, InCHIP) and InCHIP PI Meg Gerrard (PhD, Psychological Sciences) from UConn Storrs, along with InCHIP Affiliate Cheryl Oncken (MD, MPH, Medicine), Lori Bastian (MD, MPH, Medicine), Jayesh Kamath (MD, PhD, Psychiatry), and InCHIP Affiliate Alicia Dugan (PhD, Medicine) from UConn Health. InCHIP Boundary Spanners Megan Zhou and Katrina Aberizk assisted with the event. A total of 15 researchers and 10 healthcare providers from UConn Storrs, UConn Health, the Center for the Advancement of Managing Pain, Connecticut Children's Medical Center, and Hartford Hospital attended the event. The event consisted of a keynote presentation by Tara Sanft (MD, Yale University), Medical Director of Adult Survivorship for the Yale Cancer Center Survivorship Clinic, roundtable discussions on issues related to cancer survivorship research, and informal networking opportunities.
- The **InCHIP-School of Business Faculty Networking Event** hosted a total of 40 researchers from InCHIP and the School of Business, on October 30, 2015. Faculty met and discussed their research interests, areas of expertise, and potential research collaborations at the intersection of business and health behavior. The goal of the networking event was to help develop interdisciplinary research collaborations prior to the start of the InCHIP-School of Business Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition.
- On November 5, 2015, the **InCHIP-School of Dental Medicine Faculty Networking Event** hosted a total of 30 researchers from InCHIP and the School of Dental Medicine. Attendees discussed research interests, areas of expertise, and ideas for collaborative research. The goal of the networking event was to develop multidisciplinary research collaborations prior to its associated seed grant competition. As part of her visit to UConn, Melissa Riddle (PhD, NIDCR), Chief of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Branch at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), attended this event; she presented NIDCR funding priorities to attendees, and discussed these priorities with researchers after her presentation.
- The **InCHIP-Neag School of Education Faculty Networking Event** hosted a total of 20 researchers from InCHIP, the Collaboratory on School and Child Health (CSCH), and the Neag School of Education, on November 12, 2015. Attendees discussed their research interests, areas of expertise, and ideas for collaborative research projects on school and child health. The goal of the networking event was to help develop cross-disciplinary research collaborations prior to the start of the InCHIP-Neag School of Education Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition.
- On December 1, 2015, the **InCHIP World AIDS Day Film Screening and Luncheon** hosted 15 attendees, who came from a wide range of disciplines (Allied Health Sciences, Anthropology, Communication, Human Development and Family Studies, Geography, and Psychological Sciences). They viewed a brief documentary filmed by new UConn faculty member and InCHIP PI Lisa Butler (PhD, MPH, InCHIP) and then discussed opportunities and challenges in responding to the HIV epidemic both domestically and internationally.
- **Participatory Action Research Forum: Researchers and Community Partners Working Together for Real-World Success** was co-sponsored by InCHIP, the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace (CPH-NEW), and the Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion (CEHHP). The 47 attendees, comprised of academic researchers, community organization representatives, graduate students, and staff, came together on March 30, 2016 for a keynote speaker, a moderated panel, topic-based roundtables, and informal networking. The event focused on academic-community partnerships across several settings.
- **InCHIP Working Lunch for Leadership Across UConn's Health-related Institutes and Centers** brought together Directors and Associate Directors from 16 of UConn's health-related Institutes and Centers. This event, held on

May 18, 2016, provided an opportunity for Directors and Associate Directors to discuss opportunities for collaborative research efforts across UConn's Institutes and Centers and to share ideas about how to build and expand upon communication and multidisciplinary efforts at the University.

- On June 14, 2016 the Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut (CHDI), UConn Health Center for Public Health and Health Policy (CPHHP), and the UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity hosted a forum entitled, ***Aligning Policy with Research: Promoting Sound Nutrition in Early Childhood***. Over 55 individuals including state government officials, pediatricians, early care and education providers, researchers, and advocates attended the forum at UConn Rudd Center's office in downtown Hartford.

Research Objective 8: InCHIP will foster innovative research that uses emerging and cutting-edge technologies (e.g., social media platforms, mobile phone applications, websites, sensors) to assess and modify health behavior.

Over the past year, InCHIP engaged in a variety of activities to promote and support the use of cutting-edge technology in health behavior research:

- On December 14, 2015, the eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group hosted a workshop entitled, "What You Need to Know Before Creating an App or Website." Staff from University Information Technology Services (UITS) led the workshop in which they provided information to 24 researchers and graduate students about the realities of creating and maintaining mobile apps and websites for digital health research. Attendees also had the opportunity to discuss collaborating with UITS and other eHealth/mHealth researchers.
- InCHIP also hosted several eHealth/mHealth speakers as part of its Lecture Series, including:
 - Jennifer Stinson (PhD, CPNP, University of Toronto): Lecture on October 15, 2015 entitled, "Improving Child Health Outcomes: Harnessing Electronic and Mobile Health Technologies."
 - Rivet Amico (PhD, University of Michigan): Lecture on November 16, 2015 entitled, "Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis: Research, Implementation & Advocacy," which included information about a website that she developed (whatisprep.org) to educate adolescents, women, and others about Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP).
 - Joshua Smyth (PhD, Pennsylvania State University): Lecture on February 18, 2016 entitled, "Real-Time Ambulatory Assessment and Intervention."
 - Ki Chon (PhD, Biomedical Engineering): Lecture on February 25, 2016 entitled, "Sensors and Wearable Devices for Vital Sign, Atrial Fibrillation and Underwater ECG Monitoring."
 - Dolores Albarracín (PhD, University of Illinois): Lecture on April 7, 2016 entitled, "Online Information and HIV in US Counties: Theory Testing and Prediction" and a roundtable discussion on "Getting Published: The Journal Editor's Perspective."
 - Stephen Intille (PhD, Northeastern University): Lecture on April 14, 2016 entitled, "Measuring Behavior and Motivating Health Behavior Change Using Mobile Technology: Opportunities and (Difficult) Challenges."
- Throughout this past year, InCHIP reached out to faculty and students with an interest in digital health (i.e., use of mobile technologies, social media, web-based interventions, sensors, and other new technologies to assess and modify health behavior) and encouraged them to join its eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG), where they can meet potential collaborators and technology experts and learn about new developments in the field.
- InCHIP Boundary Spanners and EMRIG Chair Deborah Cornman (PhD, InCHIP) used the EMRIG Listserv to notify members about digital health-related funding opportunities, developments in the field, conferences and webinars, publications, and other related items. Relevant information was also added to the EMRIG website (<http://chip.uconn.edu/research-interest-groups/emrig/>).
- The Biosensor Center for Health, Intervention, and Policy (Bio-CHIP), a Center within InCHIP that houses the development and application of biosensor-based eHealth technologies, worked throughout the year on establishing new and strengthening existing research collaborations. In addition, they applied for Center status within the University in March 2016.

InCHIP's efforts throughout the past year were very successful. By the end of June 2016, the EMRIG membership had increased to 146 researchers across the UConn campuses and at other institutions. With respect to publications, InCHIP-affiliated UConn faculty and postdoctoral fellows published over 125 digital health-related manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals during FY16. And very importantly, InCHIP-affiliated researchers submitted a total of 12 external grant applications in FY16 related to digital health, requesting \$12.0 million in total costs. InCHIP PIs currently have 11 active digital health grants, for \$7,886,348 in total awards. Three of these active grants were newly awarded in FY16. Examples of some of the current digital health-related studies include (1) a pilot study of a multisession intervention with a technology component that trains fathers how to prevent obesity among their preschool children, (2) a randomized controlled trial of a sexual risk reduction intervention for women in Uganda that uses mobile technology to support healthy behavior, and (3) analysis of data collected in South Africa on a mobile health technology application that supports provider decision-making about the care of newborns in low- and middle-income country settings.

Research Objective 9: InCHIP will continue to expand its work to improve translation and dissemination of behavior change research into clinical and community practice in the U.S. and internationally.

InCHIP has a long history of dissemination and implementation (D&I) of its health behavior change interventions. Over the years, several externally funded interventions developed at InCHIP have been widely disseminated in the U.S. and internationally. InCHIP PI Michael Copenhaver (PhD, Allied Health Sciences), a clinical psychologist and Associate Professor of Health Promotion, has dedicated his career to taking health behavior change interventions that have been demonstrated to be efficacious in randomized controlled trials and adapting them so that they are feasible, sustainable, and effective in real-world settings. Recently, one of Dr. Copenhaver's adapted interventions received national recognition from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), a public agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. His Community-Friendly Health Recovery Program (CHRP) is an abbreviated, four-session version of the original 12-session Holistic Health Recovery Program that is designed to prevent HIV, promote health, and improve the quality of life for high-risk drug users in methadone maintenance programs. The abbreviated intervention, which was adapted based on feedback from patients and medical providers, was found to be effective at increasing participants' risk reduction behaviors, such as properly cleaning syringes and using female and male condoms. SAMHSA gave CHRP its highest rating in its National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices and is disseminating the intervention materials for free on its website. *(For more information about CHRP, go to <http://nrepp.samhsa.gov/ProgramProfile.aspx?id=11>).*

In addition to Dr. Copenhaver's D&I work, InCHIP Associate Director and Associate Research Professor Deborah Cornman (PhD, InCHIP) is part of a multidisciplinary team of researchers in New England, headed by PI David Fiellin (MD, Yale University). The team is working on a newly funded implementation science study entitled, "Working with HIV Clinics to Adopt Addiction Treatments Using Implementation Facilitation (WHAT IF?)." This NIH-funded study is addressing the problem of limited implementation of effective treatments for tobacco, alcohol, and opioid use disorders in HIV clinics by using evidence-based Implementation Facilitation strategies to promote integrated treatment for tobacco, alcohol, and opioid use disorders across four HIV clinics within the New England HIV Implementation Science Network. The study will evaluate the impact of the Implementation Facilitation strategies on organizational readiness to deliver effective addiction treatments, provider readiness to deliver effective addiction treatments, provision of effective addiction treatments, and viral load among addiction treatment eligible patients. This study will determine if Implementation Facilitation, an established and reproducible strategy used to change health systems, is an effective way to implement addiction treatment in HIV clinics.

Research Objective 10: InCHIP will expand its efforts to publicize and share its knowledge, expertise, and research findings about health behavior and health behavior change with the University and other academic institutions and scholarly audiences, as well as with relevant community-based groups and organizations.

During FY16, in accordance with the University's emphasis on public engagement, InCHIP continued to promote the considerable wealth of research expertise represented by its network of over 400 principal investigators (PIs) and research affiliates. InCHIP publicized its activities and research to external community audiences through outside media outlets, UConn Today, and the InCHIP website; to the greater University community through the InCHIP Weekly Digest, its InCHIP Research News e-newsletter, and video interviews with researchers, among other communication vehicles; and directly to public health audiences through events open to the community, including the InCHIP Lecture Series and InCHIP Research Interest Groups' events and activities. InCHIP also posted regularly to

its Facebook and Twitter pages to announce the Lecture Series and other InCHIP events, tweet live updates from the Lecture Series presentations, and share its health behavior-related research news. During FY16, InCHIP also showcased the strength of its obesity research with a special supplement of the journal *Childhood Obesity*, which included six studies by InCHIP researchers on the role of childcare settings in the fight against obesity.

E2. Progress on InCHIP Administrative Objectives for FY16

Administrative Objective 1: The Administrative Team will update and revise existing guidelines and procedures annually (by the end of the calendar year) and on an as-needed basis. New guidelines and procedures will be developed to address operational needs and to improve and streamline existing administrative and programmatic processes.

The Administrative Team continued to work collectively on updating and revising existing guidelines and procedures as well as internal and online forms in the areas of travel, purchasing, grants management (both pre- and post-award processing), employment, and payroll. No new guidelines and procedures were needed during FY16, but new guidelines and procedures will continue to be developed as dictated by operational and business needs as well as to ensure InCHIP meets University, state, and federal requirements. In addition to the website postings of guidelines and procedures, InCHIP continues to distribute relevant new and updated guidelines and procedures via its Listservs.

Administrative Objective 2: InCHIP will publicize and disseminate information about its available business services to InCHIP research faculty, research staff, graduate students, and other InCHIP affiliates, through various means, including website updates, Listserv announcements, welcome letters to new affiliates and new InCHIP PIs, promotional slides at Lecture Series events, InCHIP Business Services Survey, Boundary Spanner activities, and announcements at the InCHIP Annual Meeting and other business meetings.

InCHIP held its Annual Meeting at the start of the fall semester on September 10, 2015. The Director of the Center for Advancement in Managing Pain, InCHIP Affiliate Angela Starkweather (PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, CNRN, FAAN, Nursing), gave the keynote address about her Center and current research. Additionally, John Elliott (PhD, MBA, Business), spoke about potential collaborations between InCHIP affiliates and School of Business faculty, in advance of the InCHIP-School of Business Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition. Similarly, David Steffens (MD, MHS, Psychiatry), presented possible areas of intersection between health behavior and psychiatry, in advance of the InCHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition. Lastly, the unique InCHIP services provided by each of the administrative team members was highlighted at the meeting.

During the spring semester, InCHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman (PhD, InCHIP) conducted the annual InCHIP Business Services Survey, which provided a summary of all of InCHIP's available services. (*The results of the survey are summarized in [Section E2, Administrative Objective 3 on pages 15-20.](#)*)

Throughout FY16, InCHIP continued to utilize its website to communicate with existing and potential affiliates about available InCHIP business services. Descriptions and charts of the types of services offered, charts outlining the staff who support each service, and required forms for accessing various services were updated regularly and posted on the website. InCHIP also used its website to announce InCHIP's annual seed grant competitions, publicize deadlines for the competitions, and announce the winners of the competitions. In addition, InCHIP regularly used its Listservs, its weekly digest, and its website to announce upcoming Lecture Series speakers. InCHIP also continued to create informational slides, highlighting available InCHIP business services and/or upcoming events, which were displayed at the start of each Lecture Series event until the speaker was ready to begin his/her presentation. Lastly, InCHIP publicized the Lecture Series on its Facebook and Twitter pages.

Administrative Objective 3: InCHIP will conduct an annual Business Services Survey to evaluate the services that InCHIP offers and the delivery of those services. The survey will be sent to InCHIP research faculty, research staff, graduate students, and other InCHIP affiliates who are based at UConn. Once data is collected and analyzed, a summary report will be created for distribution. The results of this survey will be used to improve upon the business operations at InCHIP.

InCHIP offers a range of services to its principal investigators (PIs), research staff, graduate students, and other affiliates, including assistance with identifying possible collaborators, finding relevant funding opportunities, and organizing networking events. In addition, InCHIP offers internal seed grant competitions, pre-submission grant reviews, statistical consultations, the InCHIP Lecture Series, grant preparation assistance, pre- and post-award grant

support, IT services, and more. To ensure that the services InCHIP provides are meeting the needs of its consumers each year, InCHIP asks its PIs, research staff, graduate students, and other affiliates at UConn to evaluate the quality of its services through an anonymous online survey.

The survey was sent to InCHIP affiliates who work and/or study at the University of Connecticut. A total of 72 affiliates (38 Faculty, 2 Research Scientists, 1 Research Assistant/Associate, 12 Graduate Students, and 19 who did not indicate their role) completed the *2016 InCHIP Business Services Survey* in April-May of this year, and the results were very favorable across all categories. Examples of the overall comments made by the respondents include:

- “Services are currently excellent!”
- “I think InCHIP is exceptional with facilitating multidisciplinary collaborations.”
- “Keep doing what you are doing.”

InCHIP Research Interest Groups

Over the past year, InCHIP sponsored three multidisciplinary Research Interest Groups (RIGs): Cancer Research Interest Group (CRIG), eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG), and Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG). A fourth Research Interest Group focused on HIV research was started at the end of FY16 by InCHIP PI Seth Kalichman (PhD, Psychological Sciences). These RIGs provide a forum for researchers with common interests to identify potential collaborators and work together on innovative research projects. The RIG members come from many departments and schools across UConn as well as from other institutions and community-based organizations. (See [Section G on pages 28-31](#) for more information about InCHIP’s Research Interest Groups.)

The *2016 InCHIP Business Services Survey* asked about three of the four RIGs (the HIV RIG was started after the survey was administered). Of the survey respondents, 18 indicated that they were a member of CRIG, 18 reported being a member of EMRIG, and 25 belonged to ORIG.

When asked how being a member of the RIGs helped them as researchers, respondents provided a variety of responses, such as the following:

- CRIG Member: “Helped to identify potential research collaborators.”
- CRIG Member: “The meetings are helpful.”
- EMRIG Member: “Speakers enriched my knowledge base. Listserv has provided me with timely, helpful information.”
- EMRIG Member: “Lots of good mentoring, helping with new funding options, putting together proposals.”
- EMRIG Member: “Research collaborations, new trends, new tools, grants, publications, conferences, training information.”
- ORIG Member: “It provides me with different perspectives on conducting obesity research, particularly with collaborations.”
- ORIG Member: “Helped me to find research collaborators. Helped me to be Co-I on a funded grant. Speakers enriched my knowledge base. Listserv has provided me with timely, helpful information.”
- ORIG Member: “It has helped me keep up-to-date on obesity-related research across the University.”

When asked for suggestions about how to make the RIGs more useful to them as researchers, respondents provided some interesting ideas, such as:

- CRIG Member: “More time for collaboration - identifying actionable steps.”
- EMRIG Member: “It would help to have a discussion board where researchers can share more information about their work and stay in touch more often.”
- EMRIG Member: “Organize workshops, provide resources to mHealth app developers.”
- ORIG Member: “More frequent meetings and updates on projects, have a conference held by the group with key experts presenting.”

- ORIG Member: “Create opportunities for shared projects/grants. It is still very much ‘what is in it for me’ rather than what is in it for us. Finding shared purpose will help.”
- ORIG Member: “Meetings to kick around grant ideas.”

InCHIP Internal Grants for PIs and Affiliates

Over the past several years, InCHIP has offered a variety of internal grant opportunities to UConn-affiliated faculty and graduate students (i.e., seed grants in HIV, cancer prevention and control, business and health behavior, dental health, digital health, mental health, obesity, and school and child health; seed grants for new health behavior investigators; seed grants for experienced PIs in health behavior; pilot project grants for graduate students; summer stipends for junior faculty for grant development; and grants for conference development) as a way to foster research in health behavior and, ultimately, successful external grant applications. Recently, there has been a particular emphasis on funding dual-PI seed grants as a way to encourage multidisciplinary collaborations across departments, schools, and campuses at UConn.

Each internal grant application is rigorously evaluated by a panel of InCHIP reviewers using procedures similar to a National Institutes of Health (NIH) review panel, and applicants are provided with detailed written feedback from the reviewers.

The 2016 *InCHIP Business Services Survey* asked respondents to indicate whether they had ever applied for an InCHIP internal grant and, if so, how it impacted their research. Of the 72 respondents, 35 (49%) reported that they had previously applied for at least one InCHIP internal grant, and 15 (43%) of those 35 had been awarded at least one internal grant. When those who had been awarded InCHIP grants were asked about the impact of the internal grant on their research, the answers were quite varied but consistently positive:

- 73% indicated that “it provided them with pilot data that allowed them to apply for an external grant.”
- 73% reported that “it allowed them to explore a new area of research.”
- 60% indicated that “it resulted in one or more publications.”
- 40% reported that “it led to external grant funding.”
- 33% said that “the feedback they received on the seed grant proposal helped them write a better grant proposal.”
- 20% reported that “it funded their time to write an external grant proposal.”
- 7% said that “it helped to fund a conference that resulted in the development of important research collaborations.”

(See [Section J on pages 35-45](#) for more information about InCHIP’s internal grants.)

InCHIP Research Support Services: Pre-Submission Grant Reviews and Statistical Support

InCHIP services to researchers include pre-submission reviews of external grant proposals by expert researchers as well as statistical support with research design, power analysis, and data analyses. Of the individuals who completed the survey, 7 indicated that they had received a pre-submission review of their grant proposal during this past year, and 4 of those 7 rated it as “very useful” and 3 as “somewhat useful.” An example of the comments provided about this service is the following: “Excellent service provided to InCHIP affiliates -- very useful feedback obtained.”

InCHIP Affiliate Haim Bar (PhD, Statistics) and InCHIP Graduate Student M. Henry Linder (MS, Statistics) had an office at InCHIP, and they were available during the academic year to provide statistical assistance with InCHIP-related research and external grant proposals. Ten (14%) of 72 respondents indicated that they had received statistical support from Dr. Bar and/or Mr. Linder during the past year. When asked to rate the usefulness of the statistical support, 7 respondents said the services were “very useful,” and 3 respondents reported that the statistical support was “somewhat useful.” Recommendations for changes included publicizing these services more broadly (including their available office hours) and expanding these services to UConn Health.

(See <http://chip.uconn.edu/chip-business-office/> for more information about these and other InCHIP services. To see which services InCHIP affiliates qualify for, please visit <http://chipaffiliate.uconn.edu/>.)

InCHIP Lecture Series

The InCHIP Lecture Series brings world-renowned researchers to UConn to make presentations on a range of topics related to health behavior, and it also provides opportunities for researchers and graduate students to meet individually with the presenters to discuss research ideas and possible collaborations. Fifty-four (75%) of the 72 respondents indicated that they had attended in person or watched online (web streamed or archived) at least one InCHIP Lecture Series presentation in the past year. All of those respondents indicated that the presentations were “very useful” (53%) or “somewhat useful” (47%) to their research, and no one reported that the presentations were “not at all useful.” The comments about the Lecture Series were extremely positive and included the following:

- “Good speakers and lots of insights from their hands-on approaches. It is a pleasure to know about their work and current research related to areas of my interest.”
- “For me personally, getting inspiration from the InCHIP lectures was the primary goal.”
- “The Lecture Series is a fantastic resource for students. The webcast is very helpful when we are not able to attend in person.”
- “The Lecture Series has become much more pertinent to my research since the Rudd Center moved to UConn. I study diabetes, depression, and obesity.”
- “Dr. Joshua Smyth's lecture on ecological momentary assessment (EMA) and Dr. Stephen Intille's talk on smart phone applications have been very useful to my work.”
- “Regardless if the lectures were directly related to my current research projects, I found all lectures useful and provided me with insight I will take with me throughout my career.”

When asked for recommendations for changes to the Lecture Series, multiple people indicated offering the lectures on a variety of days and times. Suggested topics for future Lecture Series presentations included qualitative research, biomedical data analysis, behavioral economics, alternative medicine, implementation science, and interprofessional practice/education, among others.

(See [*Appendix 2 on pages 62-66*](#) for a comprehensive list of InCHIP Lecture Series presentations.)

InCHIP's Pre-Award and Post-Award Grant Services

Services that are critical to obtaining grants and managing them once awarded are pre-award and post-award grant services, which are provided by a highly skilled team at InCHIP. A total of 23 (32%) out of 72 survey respondents indicated that they had utilized InCHIP **pre-award** and/or **post-award** services one or more times during the past year. Of the 23 respondents who used and rated these services, 22 (96%) respondents indicated that the services were “very useful,” one (4%) reported that the services were “somewhat useful,” and no one rated the services as “not at all useful.”

The feedback provided by respondents about pre- and post-award grant services was extremely positive, and multiple affiliates indicated how critical these services are to their research. A comment that captured the sentiments of many respondents is the following: “Pre and post award services are outstanding! I could NOT do the work I do without AnnMarie [Grants & Contracts Specialist]! She/her services are a necessary and integral part of InCHIP. I could not do this work at UConn without these services.”

Other InCHIP Administrative Services

Other InCHIP administrative services include assistance with staff hires, payroll, human resources/labor relations, travel, and purchasing. All of these services are critical to PIs being able to conduct their research projects as cost- and time-efficiently as possible. The feedback provided on the survey about these administrative services was consistently positive:

- Thirteen (18%) of 72 respondents indicated that they had sought assistance from the InCHIP administrative team one or more times in the past year for hiring students and/or research staff, processing payroll, and/or resolving human resources issues. Twelve (92%) of these 13 respondents rated the services as “very useful,” and one (8%) rated them as “somewhat useful.”

- Twelve respondents (17%) reported utilizing InCHIP's travel services on at least one occasion in the past year. Of these 12 respondents, 9 (75%) rated the travel services as "very useful," 3 (25%) rated them as "somewhat useful," and no one indicated that they were "not at all useful."
- A total of 14 (25%) respondents indicated receiving assistance with purchasing on at least one occasion in the past year. All of the respondents rated InCHIP's purchasing services as "very useful."
- Examples of some of the comments provided are the following:
 - "Everyone who helped with these was fabulous."
 - "It was extremely useful; Lynne [Administrative Services Specialist] was wonderful!"
 - "Excellent service!"

InCHIP IT Services

InCHIP IT services include assistance with IT purchases, project management, hardware and software issues, network issues, file server management, and data/file backup. As InCHIP research has become progressively more technologically sophisticated, the availability of quality IT support articulated to the specific research needs of InCHIP PIs has become an absolute necessity.

Of 72 survey respondents, 17 (24%) indicated they were assisted with IT issues one or more times in the past year. Of these respondents, 13 (59%) indicated that the IT services they received were "very useful," 4 (35%) reported that the services were "somewhat useful," and no one indicated that they were "not at all useful." Some examples of the comments provided on the survey are the following:

- "The InCHIP IT staff are absolutely fantastic. I have used them several times, particularly to set up my defense. They have been nothing but helpful, and they always have the answer!"
- "Great job, very professional."

(For a complete list of InCHIP services and who is eligible for them, please visit <http://chipaffiliate.uconn.edu/>.)

InCHIP Website

InCHIP affiliates were asked which areas of the website they found to be useful. The 10 sections of the website that respondents regarded as the most useful are the following:

- InCHIP Lecture Series – 55%
- InCHIP Directory – 36%
- InCHIP Research Interest Groups – 34%
- InCHIP Event Calendar – 26%
- InCHIP Research Resources – 26%
- InCHIP Seed Grants and Awards – 26%
- InCHIP Research Areas – 21%
- External Funding Opportunities – 19%
- Grant Management Support – 17%
- InCHIP IT Support – 15%

Newly Developed Research Collaborations

One of InCHIP's main roles is to foster new multidisciplinary research collaborations at UConn in the areas of health behavior and health behavior change. InCHIP engages in multiple activities to encourage and support the development of collaborations, such as seed grants, Research Interest Groups, InCHIP Lecture Series, networking events/meetings, and targeted efforts by the Boundary Spanners to connect researchers. On the survey, InCHIP affiliates were asked to indicate whether any new research collaborations developed over the past year as a

function of InCHIP activities. A total of 18 respondents answered the question. Examples of their responses are provided below:

- “Research collaborations have been formed with resulting grant applications and publications. Many thanks for making this possible.”
- “Collaboration with Crystal Park from Psychological Sciences - submitted R61 application - scored and will resubmit.”
- “I wrote a seed grant with Sandra Chafouleas from Neag.”
- “I’m working in collaboration with faculty from Allied Health on taste research and food marketing.”
- “Mentoring program matched me with Amy Mobley, and we worked together successfully on a grant that has been funded. Met Ofer Harel through InCHIP, and he helped with a paper that was recently published.... Haim Bar helped with a few projects including a seed grant proposal. Obesity Research Interest Group introduced me to Melissa Santos from CCMC, and we worked together on several grants and are working on papers too. Obesity Research Interest Group introduced me to Marlene Schwartz, and we worked together on a grant that was funded. InCHIP Boundary Spanners introduced me to Jennifer Manganello, and I will be working with her on a grant. InCHIP-sponsored CBPR workshop introduced me to several academic and community partners that I will be following up with for future research.”
- “Writing a proposal has put me in contact with a senior scholar I did not previously know; it allowed me to work with a strong support group, and the result was what I think is a strong proposal. Whether funded or not, we intend to submit it for other, external grant competitions.”
- “I contacted Kim Gans, PhD, and she put me in touch with César Abadía-Barrero, DMSc, and we put together a seed grant. I’m doing the clinical dentistry part, Kim the obesity part, and César helped us look at these public health problems in a totally different way. It’s great! I’m very appreciative of their patience and help and expertise!”
- “InCHIP seed grant funded my systematic review about Tai Chi and balance improvement for older adults. This review paper served as pilot data for my dissertation study which will be a comparative effectiveness Tai Chi intervention. This is an interdisciplinary study which involves experts from the department of Kinesiology, Psychology, Physical Therapy, and Center on Aging at UConn Health.”

Administrative Objective 4: The InCHIP Budget Oversight Committee, consisting of the Director, Associate Directors, Executive Assistant, and Financial Assistant II, will meet monthly to review operational budget expenditures, discuss anticipated expenses and needs, and identify and recommend cost-saving measures that can benefit InCHIP and the University financially. Modifications will be made to the budget as well as to relevant procedures and guidelines based on the Committee’s recommendations.

During FY16, the InCHIP Budget Oversight and Cost Savings Committee comprised of InCHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher, Associate Directors Deborah Cornman and Amy Gorin, Executive Assistant Susan Hoge (and later by Steve Jagielo), and Financial Assistant II Melissa Stone, who manages the operating budget, met at least monthly to review the budget and all actual and anticipated expenditures, and to discuss possible cost saving measures. As part of their role, the Committee continued to implement and educate InCHIP faculty, staff, and students about a variety of cost saving measures that have produced significant savings. Examples of these measures are the following:

- Use Skype for free or at a substantially reduced cost for long-distance phone calls, particularly for international calls.
- Use office supplies exclusively for InCHIP-related projects.
- Record on a sign-out sheet, each time office supplies are removed from the InCHIP supply cabinet as a way to more efficiently and accurately monitor supply use.
- Restrict printer use to InCHIP-related projects only.
- Print two-sided copies whenever possible.

- Set up printers to default to back-and-white printing rather than color.
- Seek external funding and sponsors for the InCHIP Lecture Series.

InCHIP Administrative Team staff offered assistance with installing Skype and provided instructions for duplex printing and resetting default printers, as needed.

In the next fiscal year, InCHIP will continue to maintain these and other cost-saving measures, including seeking additional external funding for the InCHIP Lecture Series, which could again produce sizeable cost savings, pending successful outreach efforts.

InCHIP will continue to be sensitive and attentive to the current fiscal environment at the University and will be appropriately mindful in making responsible business decisions.

Administrative Objective 5: InCHIP security and facilities issues will be discussed and addressed in the monthly Administrative Team meetings, and as needed, to ensure that the physical facility meets the needs of its occupants, including the security of the facility, its occupants, and its research and personnel data. Needed modifications will be made to the physical facility and to relevant procedures and guidelines to improve the usefulness of the facility and the security that it provides.

During FY16, InCHIP continued to experience no known security threats, disruptions to activity in the building, or breaches to data server service. InCHIP reviewed its meeting room and key sign-out procedures, and the policies and procedures of reporting a loss or damage to InCHIP/State-owned property.

Other measures taken during the year to maintain security included continued use of “routing forms” when employees end work at InCHIP, so that they are immediately removed from the DSX card access system; follow-through with the key sign-in and sign-out system; review of security guidelines in the InCHIP Policies and Procedures manual, which is posted on the website; and improved interior signage, specifically for the non-InCHIP entities.

E3. Progress on InCHIP Technology Objectives for FY16

IT Objective 1: Migrate InCHIP from its own Exchange Server to Office 365: Office 365 is a hosted suite of software, services, and capabilities, available as part of InCHIP’s existing enterprise relationship with Microsoft. It provides communication and collaboration services, such as email, calendar, file sharing, online conferencing, and instant messaging, via a contemporary cloud-based platform. It also provides access to Microsoft Office Online applications (e.g., Word, Excel, PowerPoint) that can be accessed from almost any device with a browser and Internet connection. Other benefits of Office 365 include:

- a. Unlimited online storage on OneDrive
- b. Enhanced mobile connectivity
- c. Advanced document sharing with simultaneous writing and editing capabilities
- d. Mailbox with 50GB capacity

University Information Technology Services (UITS) has completed the process of migration for the core of the University. InCHIP IT, in collaboration with UITS, has begun the process of testing and establishing a process for migrating InCHIP users off of Exchange 2010 and onto Office 365.

InCHIP has begun the process with UITS to perform the migration to Office 365. As with any change of this scale, there were many issues that had to be resolved before the migration could take place. In addition, two other departments were scheduled for the migration prior to InCHIP, which delayed InCHIP’s migration. University Exchange administrators are currently working closely with the InCHIP IT team on the final details such as user-mappings and testing procedures, and will soon be ready to perform the migration.

IT Objective 2: Revise InCHIP’s Website to be Section 508 compliant. As of October 2014, the University instituted a policy that all websites be Section 508 compliant. Section 508 standards address website access for people with physical, sensory, or cognitive disabilities. To meet these requirements, InCHIP IT will begin the process of restructuring InCHIP’s website. This initiative is consistent with InCHIP’s mission to serve as a nexus for a diversity of researchers at the University of Connecticut and other institutions to form collaborative partnerships and develop major research initiatives in health behavior.

Through the combined effort of the InCHIP IT team and the Web Development Committee, InCHIP has successfully migrated to the University's Aurora platform. This platform provides Section 508 compliance and a series of other tools that allow InCHIP to keep its website fresh and up-to-date. Through the considerable work of InCHIP staff John Giardina, InCHIP was also able to upgrade and update all of the bio-pages to a new format. This new format also includes a link to Scopus for InCHIP-affiliated Principle Investigators, indicating their most recent publications.

F. InCHIP Objectives for FY17

F1. InCHIP Research Objectives for FY17

1. Through a variety of activities, such as InCHIP internal grants programs, grantsmanship workshops, mentoring, boundary spanning efforts to identify relevant grant opportunities and potential collaborative teams, internal reviews of grants prior to submission, and exceptional pre-award and IT support to Principal Investigators (PIs), the Institute will continue to support the development of new, high-quality, innovative, and timely proposals for externally-funded research through InCHIP by individual researchers and research teams.
2. InCHIP will work with UConn investigators as well as UConn Centers and Institutes engaged in health behavior research, to continue to expand the University's focus on health behavior and foster new multidisciplinary research in a broad array of critical health domains.
3. InCHIP will facilitate continued progress of InCHIP obesity researchers, as well as the formation of new obesity collaborations through team science initiatives that strategically build our capacity to solve the complex issues of obesity prevention and treatment.
4. InCHIP will continue to be a worldwide leader and to foster new multidisciplinary work in the core problem area of HIV.
5. InCHIP will continue to increase its research with direct policy implications.
6. InCHIP will continue to bring local, national, and international researchers together on an ongoing basis from a wide range of health (including biomedical) and social science disciplines for lectures, events, and meetings at InCHIP to promote cutting-edge, multidisciplinary exchange and research.
7. InCHIP will foster innovative research that uses emerging and cutting-edge technologies (e.g., social media platforms, mobile phone applications, websites, sensors) to assess and modify health behavior.
8. InCHIP will continue to expand its work to improve translation and dissemination of behavior change research into clinical and community practice in the U.S. and internationally.
9. InCHIP will expand its efforts to publicize and share its knowledge, expertise, and research findings on health behavior and health behavior change with the University and other academic institutions and scholarly audiences, as well as with relevant community-based groups and organizations.

F2. InCHIP Administrative Objectives for FY17

1. InCHIP will initiate the transition to a new InCHIP core structure, establishing four new InCHIP cores, including an Administrative Core, a Biostatistics and Methodology Core, an Intervention Core, and a Community-Engaged Health Research Core.
2. The InCHIP Director, Associate Directors, Executive Assistant, and Boundary Spanners will continue to meet weekly and the entire InCHIP administrative team will meet monthly to assess progress on research, administrative, and IT objectives; review the operational budget and make appropriate modifications to expenditures; identify and resolve any security and facilities issues; and address any other operational and business needs.
3. The Administrative Team will update and revise existing guidelines and procedures annually (by the end of the academic year) and on an as-needed basis. New guidelines and procedures will be developed to address operational needs and to improve and streamline existing administrative and programmatic processes.
4. InCHIP will publicize and disseminate information about its available business services to InCHIP research faculty, research staff, graduate students, and other InCHIP affiliates, through various means, including website updates, Listserv announcements, welcome letters to new affiliates and new InCHIP PIs, promotional slides at

Lecture Series events, InCHIP Business Services Survey, Boundary Spanner activities, and announcements at the InCHIP Annual Meeting and other relevant meetings and events.

5. InCHIP will conduct an annual Business Services Survey to evaluate the services that InCHIP offers and the delivery of those services. The survey will be sent to InCHIP research faculty, research staff, graduate students, and other InCHIP affiliates who are based at UConn. The results of this survey will be used to improve upon the business operations at InCHIP.

F3. InCHIP Technology Objectives for FY17

1. **Install a second UPS (uninterruptable power supply) to provide a high-availability power distribution system.**

In FY2017, InCHIP IT will obtain and install a second enterprise level UPS that will allow InCHIP IT to create a second power channel for balanced power distribution and continued service should there be a failure with either unit.

2. **Create an Active-Directory Migration Plan.**

InCHIP IT will work with the UITS Active Directory team to create a plan and testing methodology for integrating InCHIP's network and file services into the University's primary Active Directory.

G. InCHIP Centers and Groups

InCHIP serves as an umbrella institute for multiple research centers and groups. InCHIP centers include the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity and the Biosensor Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (Bio-CHIP). InCHIP groups include the Health Outcomes, Policy, and Evidence Synthesis Group (HOPES), the Collaboratory for School and Child Health (CSCH), and the Sexual Violence Prevention Research Team. In addition, there are four InCHIP Research Interest Groups: the Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG), the eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG), the Cancer Research Interest Group (CRIG), and the recently formed HIV Research Interest Group (HIVRIG).

Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity

Ranked as one of the highest-performing childhood nutrition and health non-profit organizations in the country, the mission of the Rudd Center is to promote solutions to childhood obesity, poor diet, and weight bias through research and policy. The Rudd Center believes that that every child, regardless of who they are, where they live, and what they look like, deserves the opportunity to eat healthfully. However, this is not the reality today. The Rudd Center is committed to interrupting this cycle of inequity by conducting research to inform advocacy and policy, supporting evidence-based solutions, challenging the status quo, and holding the food industry, media, government, and others that affect the food environment accountable for their actions.

Since its inception, the Rudd Center has been clearly established in both national and international circles as the place where science and public policy intersect, where new and constructive dialogue takes place, and where innovation linked to action is a guiding philosophy. After 10 successful years at Yale, the Rudd Center moved to UConn and joined InCHIP in January 2015. The alignment between InCHIP, UConn, and the Rudd Center provided a new platform for researchers to elevate their work to improve the food environment and public health. Continuing its trajectory of growth in FY16, the Rudd Center has achieved the following accomplishments:

External Research Funding

In the past year, the Rudd Center received 9 new awards totaling \$2,357,975 in external grant funds. These funds were awarded by agencies such as the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, USDA, American Heart Association, NIH, and Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut Inc. In addition to the external research funds secured in the past year, Rudd Center faculty currently have four external grant proposals under review. Core faculty members have also been awarded internal research funding from UConn (through the Research Excellence Program).

Building UConn's National Reputation in Obesity Research

Under the leadership of Rudd Center Director Marlene Schwartz (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies), The Rudd Center has made significant progress in building UConn's national reputation in obesity research, demonstrated through (1) impressive media coverage of the Rudd Center's work in national and high-profile media

outlets, (2) metrics for the Rudd Center's social media presence and outreach, and (3) invited faculty presentations at high-profile meetings and conferences across the country.

First, from May 1, 2015 through April 27, 2016, there were 971 media appearances for the UConn Rudd Center in high-profile online, print, and broadcast media. This included national media outlets such as CNN, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times (8 distinct times), LA Times, Huffington Post, U.S. News & World Report, TIME, NPR, Washington Post, USA Today, and NBC News. Combining the appearances of the four core Rudd Center faculty (Director Marlene Schwartz (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies), Deputy Director Rebecca Puhl (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies), Director of Marketing Initiatives Jennifer Harris (PhD, MBA, Allied Health Sciences), and Director of Economic Initiatives Tatiana Andreyeva (PhD, Agricultural and Resource Economics)), media appearances averaged 10 per week.

Second, the Rudd Center continued to successfully increase its social media presence through the transition from Yale to UConn. Current metrics include 4,530 Facebook followers, 14,318 Twitter followers (an increase of more than 2,000 new followers since arriving at UConn), and approximately 6,700 subscribers to the Rudd Center monthly newsletter.

Third, in the past year Rudd Center core faculty gave 24 invited presentations (including plenary talks, symposia, and keynote presentations) across the country and internationally. Presentations were given to esteemed organizations such as the Institute of Medicine, National Institute of Health, World Health Organization, and American Heart Association; at universities like Harvard, Yale, and University of Pennsylvania; and at national conferences such as the American Public Health Association, International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, Health Communication and Media Marketing, The Endocrine Society, and Pediatric Academic Societies. The diversity of these high-profile meetings, conferences, and organizations reflect the national reputation of Rudd Center faculty whose research expertise is sought across a range of disciplines.

Scholarship and Research Collaborations

In FY16, Rudd Center faculty published 21 peer-reviewed articles in high impact and flagship scholarly journals in the field. This published research has received national media attention, as well as recognition by UConn's Office of the Vice President for Research. In addition, Rudd Center faculty also have 5 manuscripts "in press," 10 manuscripts "under review," and 7 chapters in press in scholarly edited books.

The Rudd Center has established active research collaborations in the past year with 15 faculty across 8 departments and disciplines at UConn. Five of these collaborations have resulted in InCHIP seed grant proposals and UConn Research Excellence Program proposal submissions, with the aim of collecting pilot research data that can be used as the foundation for larger federal grant proposal submissions. In addition, the Rudd Center has invited UConn research collaborators to become affiliated faculty of the Center (*a full list of affiliated faculty is available at <http://uconnruddcenter.org/rudd-center-affiliated-faculty>*).

Outside of UConn, Rudd Center core faculty have continued active research collaborations with faculty researchers at 22 universities across the country and internationally. The Rudd Center has also continued existing relationships and established new research collaborations with many state and national organizations, such as the USDA, Obesity Action Coalition, State of Connecticut Department of Education, and New York City Department of Public Health.

Community and Policy Outreach

Throughout the past year, the Rudd Center has maintained its leadership role and expertise in providing research to directly inform obesity-related policy. Research by Rudd Center faculty has been used by numerous policy organizations, informed multiple proposed policies, and resulted in the creation of policy-focused resources that have been broadly disseminated. In addition to working directly with policy makers and legislators across the country, Rudd Center faculty continue to be invited to provide expert testimony at state legislative hearings.

Since arriving at UConn, the Rudd Center has also actively promoted local community partnerships and outreach to address childhood obesity. Two examples of these efforts are as follows:

1. In June of 2015, the Rudd Center hosted a Community Café for the Hartford Community with a dynamic group of 50 community leaders, advocates, health professionals, and UConn researchers. The event included an expert

panel discussion about the challenges of food insecurity and obesity in the Hartford community, and provided a foundation to build research-community collaborations to address this pressing public health issue.

2. In June of 2016, the Rudd Center hosted a policy-research forum for UConn obesity researchers to meet with obesity-focused policy and advocacy organizations in CT. The goal of this forum was to identify policy priorities and ways for UConn researchers to help address important policy questions with research. The forum was attended by 55 individuals including state government officials, pediatricians, early care and education providers, researchers, and advocates.

Training of Students, Post-Doctoral Fellows, and Medical Professionals

Since arriving to UConn in 2015, the Rudd Center has provided research training opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students from different disciplines across the university, including research assistantships and summer internships. In the past year, 11 undergraduate students, 5 undergraduate research interns, 2 Masters student interns, and 4 PhD students have received research training at the Rudd Center.

In 2016, the Rudd Center established a new post-doctoral training program. Three post-doctoral fellows (from Duke University, Rutgers University, and University of Texas at Austin) will begin fellowships under Drs. Schwartz, Puhl, and Harris in the summer of 2016. These two-year fellowships represent the launch of the Rudd Center's commitment to provide high quality and specialized obesity research training of post-doctoral trainees.

In November of 2015, the Rudd Center launched a free online CME (continuing medical education) course for health providers to improve quality of healthcare delivery for patients with obesity. The CME was created by Rudd Center faculty, is offered through the UConn School of Medicine, and is accredited by the American Medical Association for CME Credit. Since its launch several months ago, 119 medical professionals have enrolled, and the course website is one of the most frequently visited sections of the Rudd Center website.

(For more information about the Rudd Center, please go to their website at <http://uconnruddcenter.org/>.)

Biosensor Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (Bio-CHIP)

The Biosensor Center for Health, Intervention, and Prevention (Bio-CHIP) is a center within InCHIP that houses the development and application of biosensor-based eHealth technologies. It is the first academic center of its kind worldwide, and its focus is on the prevention and treatment of obesity through "biological-behavioral" intervention packages, pairing powerful metabolic and vital sign sensors with state-of-the-science behavioral interventions developed collaboratively by Bio-CHIP researchers. Bio-CHIP is headed by Director Diane Burgess (PhD, Pharmaceutical Sciences) and Co-Directors Fotios Papadimitrakopoulos (PhD, Chemistry) and Faquir Jain (PhD, Electrical and Computer Engineering).

This year, Bio-CHIP accomplished the following:

- In March 2016, Bio-CHIP applied for center status within the University. They made significant progress in establishing collaborations through the funding they received last year from the Office of the Vice President for Research.
- Bio-CHIP invited Stephen Intille (PhD, Northeastern University) to speak about "Measuring Behavior and Motivating Health Behavior Change Using Mobile Technology: Opportunities and (Difficult) Challenges" on April 14, 2016, as part of the InCHIP Lecture Series. Dr. Intille presented to 39 attendees and then had a follow-up group discussion with interested researchers after his talk.

(For more information about Bio-CHIP, please go to their website at <http://chip.uconn.edu/centers-within-chip/uconn-bio-chip/>.)

Health Outcomes, Policy, and Evidence Synthesis Group (HOPES)

The UConn Health Outcomes, Policy, and Evidence Synthesis (HOPES) Group houses one of 13 Evidence-Based Practice Centers nationwide designated by the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to conduct comparative effectiveness assessments that can benefit key stakeholders in the healthcare system (payers, clinicians, medical and patient advocacy organizations, and patients) and help make evidence-based decisions.

UConn HOPES is a multidisciplinary group of faculty with wide-ranging skills, an international reputation for excellence in outcomes research, and the capacity to produce high-quality results on tight timetables. The group's mission is to promote optimal health outcomes by helping clinicians, patients, and decision makers generate, synthesize, and analyze data that supports evidence-based practice through systematic review and meta-analysis, economic modeling, clinical trials, and observational research. HOPES's strength is clinical expertise laid over strong technical and methodological expertise.

Under the direction of InCHIP PI C. Michael White (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice) and InCHIP Affiliate Craig Coleman (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice), the group spans the gap between clinical practice decision-making and evidence-based decision-making by providing independent, objective, transparent, clinically relevant, and comprehensive projects that can then be directly translated into practice or policy guidelines, performance measures, educational programs, coverage decisions, and reimbursement policies. They drive understanding of the strengths and limitations of methodologies used in outcomes research to promote more transparent, scientifically rigorous, and consistent methodologies.

In FY16, HOPES has made significant headway in several areas:

- 35 peer-reviewed publications were generated in FY16 in the areas of thrombosis (n=14), general cardiology (n=14), and other health areas (n=7). Publications included those in premier journals and international guidelines in Sport's Medicine.
- Two key members attended an international methods meeting sponsored by AHRQ in the summer of 2015 and have been working on multi-institutional methods working groups.
- The HOPES Director and Project Manager attended the AHRQ-based Practice Center Director's Meeting in the Fall of 2015 and Spring 2016 to discuss updates in the program, funding priorities, and dissemination methods. Funding was received from AHRQ to support travel.
- New funding was secured from AHRQ by InCHIP Affiliates Diana Sobieraj (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice), William Baker (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice), Dr. Coleman, and Dr. White to conduct a comparative effectiveness review for AHRQ supporting an NHLBI asthma guideline update.
- New funding was received by HRSA (Dr. Coleman) to educate post-graduate trainees on research fundamentals in evidence-based practice.
- New funding was secured from Pfizer (Drs. Baker and Sobieraj) to extend a mixed treatment comparison of biologic agents for plaque psoriasis.
- New funding was received from Novartis (Drs. Coleman and White) for a project evaluating the role of biologic medication therapy of multiple sclerosis in patients on Medicaid.
- Dr. Baker began his second year of the "Pre-K" program offered by CICATS and submitted a proposal to NIH.
- Dr. Coleman was awarded the InCHIP-School of Business Dual-PI Seed Grant for Collaborative Research in Business and Health Behavior.
- Five RFPs were submitted to AHRQ; one is currently under review.
- Funding was sought from three corporations and a private foundation but are currently unfunded.
- Key members are working on collaborations with researchers in the School of Medicine, School of Nursing, School of Business, and Bio-CHIP.

(For more information about HOPES, please go to their website at <http://pharmacy.uconn.edu/research/centers-collaboratives/health-outcomes-policy-and-economics-collaborative-group/>.)

Collaboratory on School and Child Health (CSCH)

The mission of the Collaboratory on School and Child Health (CSCH) is to facilitate innovative and impactful connections across research, policy, and practice arenas relevant to school and child health. CSCH serves as a central resource to university and external partners engaged in efforts that inform healthy, safe, supportive, and engaging environments for all children.

CSCH utilizes and expands upon the CDC Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model that prioritizes the necessity of collaboration across education and health sectors to accomplish child wellbeing. CSCH acknowledges the (a) interrelated contributors to child wellbeing across multiple systems and disciplines, (b) embraces an ecological systems framework, and (c) integrates the extant influences of culture, healthcare disparities, and social determinants of health on children's outcomes. Taken together, CSCH research and dissemination informs policy, processes, and practices connected with the 10 components of coordinated school health (*see the [CDC website](#) for more details*).

The focus of a Collaboratory is to create an environment that facilitates and supports communication, knowledge sharing, and collaborative work among a multi-disciplinary network of researchers and community members in pursuit of a shared goal. As such, the CSCH approach is multi-faceted, using both local demonstrations of engaged research in concert with large empirical investigations and dataset analyses that together inform efforts in school and child health. Collaborative research across a continuum of opportunities broadens capacity to describe the questions in broad terms, design and assess the effectiveness of interventions, and make recommendations for research, policy, process, and practice that promote child well-being using a multidisciplinary perspective. In sum, CSCH broadens capacity for inter-connected and cross-disciplinary projects that tackle the most pressing and complex issues surrounding school and child health.

The Collaboratory was developed by Co-Directors Sandra Chafouleas (PhD, Educational Psychology) and Carol Polifroni (EdD, Nursing/Office of Public Engagement) and a multidisciplinary team of faculty. Since becoming a part of InCHIP in September of 2015, the Collaboratory has:

- Established a steering committee comprised of a diverse range of researchers across schools and colleges. Six goals for CSCH were crafted which are aligned with the mission of InCHIP, along with a 3-year action plan outlining objectives, activities, and outcomes.
- Implemented an initial communication strategy involving website, social media, and Listserv, along with strengthened dissemination of school and child-health related opportunities in conjunction with the InCHIP Boundary Spanner team. The initial outreach has led to over 50 affiliates aligned with CSCH.
- Hosted one networking event to connect research collaborators, as well as two seminars/colloquia – one with a widely known external child mental health researcher (Mark Weist (PhD, University of South Carolina)) and one with Rudd Center faculty. Multiple projects of common interest have been identified through these events and are being pursued through grant proposal preparation (e.g., training grant to prepare doctoral leaders in school and child health to be submitted by InCHIP Affiliate Lisa Sanetti (PhD, Educational Psychology) and Dr. Chafouleas).
- Sponsored a Dual-PI seed grant competition through a collaboration between the Neag School of Education and InCHIP that resulted in 7 seed grant proposals and 2 funded pilot studies.
- Established initial partnerships with the CT State Department of Education and the New Haven School District around Whole School, Whole Child, Whole Community (WSCC) collaborative projects, including common interests in pursuit of foundation funding. Dr. Chafouleas, InCHIP Affiliate Michele Femc-Bagwell (PhD, Educational Leadership), and Dr. Polifroni secured an internal REP (\$24K) to work with New Haven on the development of guiding blueprints for WSCC implementation.
- Selected and began fellowships with 6 graduate students in engaged scholarship, with focused interest on school and child health.
- Established CSCH extramural portfolio of approximately \$1 million in extramural funding through the transfer of a 3-year project (PI: Dr. Chafouleas, Co-PI: InCHIP Affiliate Jennifer Dineen (PhD, Public Policy)).

(For more information about CSCH, please go to their website at <http://chip.uconn.edu/centers-within-chip/collaboratory-on-school-and-child-health/>.)

Sexual Violence Prevention Research Team

This multidisciplinary research team formed in June 2015 to address sexual violence prevention on college campuses. The group is comprised of 15 UConn faculty, graduate students, and staff, including Lauren Donais,

Coordinator of UConn's Violence Against Women Prevention Program; Kathleen Holgerson, Director of UConn Women's Center; and Jenn Longa, Assistant Dean of Students for Victim Support Services. The group held 5 meetings over the past year during which they reviewed the existing sexual violence prevention literature, reviewed and discussed the preliminary findings of UConn's [2015 Sexual Assault Climate Survey](#), explored potential funding opportunities, and identified possible research projects. They also promoted and hosted InCHIP Lecture Series presenter Christine Gidycz (PhD, Ohio University) who gave a lecture on January 28, 2016 on "Sexual Violence: A Major Public Health Problem." The team met with Dr. Gidycz to discuss and brainstorm research priorities and potential funding mechanisms.

Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG)

The Obesity Research Interest Group (ORIG) headed by InCHIP Associate Director Amy Gorin (PhD, Psychological Sciences) is a joint interest group between InCHIP and the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (CICATS). The mission of this InCHIP/CICATS group is to bring together researchers and stakeholders from the greater Connecticut community who share a common interest in understanding, preventing, and treating obesity and related co-morbidities, and to encourage and enable these researchers to develop new research collaborations and apply for external funding through InCHIP. The group continued to grow its membership in FY16 to 150 members who are faculty and graduate students from multiple campuses and over 20 departments at UConn as well as community partners and researchers from other institutions in the region. The group typically meets twice a year, co-sponsors obesity-related talks as part of the InCHIP lecture series, and hosts an information/discussion Listserv to share research ideas and funding opportunities.

In FY16, the ORIG sponsored the following activities towards the fulfillment of its mission:

- ORIG hosted its Annual Obesity Research Retreat on December 18, 2015, which was attended by 18 faculty members with active obesity research portfolios. The morning session included a brief research presentation by each attendee, with the goal of identifying areas of emerging strength and opportunities for collaboration. At the mid-day session, attendees participated in roundtable discussions and had the opportunity to network with their colleagues. In the afternoon session, the group reviewed ORIG research goals for AY15-16 and beyond, followed by an extended discussion about how best to achieve those goals.
- On October 8, 2015, ORIG hosted Alice Ammerman (DrPH, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), who made a presentation to 21 attendees on "Heart Healthy Lenoir: A Multi-Level CVD Risk Reduction Intervention in the Stroke Belt." Attendees also participated in individual and small group meetings with Dr. Ammerman. In the afternoon, Dr. Ammerman taught a workshop on "What Investigators Need to Know about Dissemination and Implementation Research" to a group of 20 faculty, graduate students, and other affiliates.
- The FY16 InCHIP Lecture Series included multiple obesity-related lectures:
 - On September 24, 2015, Janet Tomiyama (PhD, University of California, Los Angeles) gave a presentation to 37 attendees about "Stress, Eating, and Biobehavioral Effects of Low-Calorie Dieting." Additionally, attendees engaged in individual and small group meetings with Dr. Tomiyama.
 - On March 24, 2016, Elsie Taveras (MD, MPH, Massachusetts General Hospital for Children/Harvard Medical School) gave a lecture entitled, "Improving Childhood Obesity Management – Learning and Applying Best Practices to Positive Outliers," to 39 faculty members, staff, and graduate students. Nine of the attendees also participated in a small group meeting with Dr. Taveras.
 - On April 28, 2016, InCHIP Affiliate Julie Wagner (PhD, Oral Health and Diagnostic Sciences) presented on "Diabetes, Culture and Mental Health in Vulnerable Populations." A total of 17 faculty members, staff, and graduate students attended her lecture.
- In addition, many ORIG investigators attended the June 14, 2016 forum on *Aligning Policy with Research: Promoting Sound Nutrition in Early Childhood* hosted by the Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut (CHDI), UConn Health Center for Public Health and Health Policy (CPHHP), and the UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity. Over 55 individuals including state government officials, pediatricians, early care and education providers, researchers, and advocates attended the forum at the UConn Rudd Center's office in downtown Hartford.

- 150 ORIG members were contacted on a regular basis by InCHIP with updates about grant opportunities, conferences/webinars, research briefs/memos, publications, research positions, and other relevant information. Additionally, InCHIP Boundary Spanners regularly sent out compilations of obesity-related funding opportunities. The ORIG website (<http://chip.uconn.edu/research-interest-groups/orig/>) similarly provided information on updates and upcoming conferences to those who visited the webpage.

ORIG and InCHIP obesity investigators had a very productive year, publishing over 275 obesity-related articles in FY16. InCHIP affiliates submitted 38 obesity-related grants totaling \$17,304,296. InCHIP affiliates currently have active obesity-related grants totaling \$9,459,903; \$3,626,416 of these grants were awarded during FY16. Particularly noteworthy is that members of InCHIP and the ORIG have shown a commitment to developing and continuing interdisciplinary collaborations, as evidenced by the 25 obesity-related team science grants submitted this year.³ One example of a new FY16 interdisciplinary team science collaboration includes a research team comprised of investigators from the Departments of Human Development and Family Studies and Kinesiology; they are collaborating on a project recently funded by the OVPR that will examine the impact of acute exposure to weight stigma on cardiovascular health. Another interdisciplinary team within the ORIG includes investigators from the Departments of Kinesiology, Educational Leadership, and Allied Health Sciences. They are examining how classroom activity breaks can improve physical activity by enhancing physical literacy and reducing the risk of musculoskeletal injury in children. An additional team, comprised of investigators from the Departments of Nutritional Sciences, Human Development and Family Studies, and Allied Health Sciences, is investigating how a father-focused nutrition program can help prevent childhood obesity in preschool-age children.

eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG)

The eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (EMRIG) was formed in the spring of 2013, is headed by InCHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman (PhD, InCHIP), and is comprised of researchers at UConn and other institutions who are interested in electronic health/mobile health research, as well as the use of mobile technologies, social media, web-based interventions, sensors, and other new technologies to assess and modify health behavior. Members are informed through the group's Listserv and website (<http://chip.uconn.edu/research-interest-groups/emrig/>) about relevant funding opportunities, presentations, conferences, webinars, trainings, publications, journals, external websites, eNewsletters, and new developments in digital health. The group sponsors events and activities in eHealth/mHealth, assists members in identifying potential research collaborators and technology experts, holds periodic meetings, and keeps members abreast of what is happening in the field. The primary goal of these various activities is to foster new multidisciplinary projects and obtain external grant funding. In August 2014, EMRIG expanded to also become a CICATS Core Interest Group (CIG), which means that the eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group (RIG) is now co-sponsored by both InCHIP on the Storrs campus and CICATS at UConn Health.

The eHealth/mHealth RIG's FY16 highlights include:

- InCHIP PIs submitted 12 grant proposals with an eHealth/mHealth component in FY16, requesting \$12.0 million in total costs. InCHIP PIs currently have 11 active eHealth/mHealth grants, accounting for \$7.9 million in total awards to investigators. Three of these grants were awarded in FY16.
- InCHIP-affiliated UConn faculty and postdoctoral fellows published over 125 digital health-related manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals this year (based on a Scopus keyword search for digital health publications).
- As of June 30, 2016, the eHealth/mHealth RIG membership had increased to 146 faculty, graduate students, healthcare providers, and other researchers from UConn and other institutions and community organizations.
- The eHealth/mHealth RIG hosted an informational forum on December 14, 2015 entitled, "What You Need to Know Before Creating an App or Website." With 24 faculty and graduate students in attendance, the forum was conducted by University Information Technology Services (UITS) representatives Jila Kazerounian and Yi Zhang, who provided information on the realities of developing websites and smartphone applications. Attendees

³ For the purposes of this report, a grant is considered to be "team science" if the project team is comprised of investigators and personnel from at least two different disciplines at UConn.

discussed existing University resources (including approved vendors) relevant to application and website development and maintenance, as well as individual research concerns about app/website development.

- The eHealth/mHealth RIG promoted five InCHIP Lecture Series speakers on digital health:
 - On October 15, 2015, Jennifer Stinson (PhD, CPNP, University of Toronto) presented to an audience of 23 faculty, staff, and graduate students on “Improving Child Health Outcomes: Harnessing Electronic and Mobile Health Technologies.” Before the presentation, attendees met with Dr. Stinson in individual and small group meetings. After the presentation, Dr. Stinson led a post-lecture discussion on key points.
 - On November 16, 2015, InCHIP Affiliate Rivet Amico (PhD, University of Michigan) gave a lecture to 18 faculty, staff, and graduate students entitled, “Pre-exposure Prophylaxis: Research, Implementation & Advocacy,” which included information about a website that she developed (whatisprep.org) to educate adolescents, women, and others about Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP). Dr. Amico met with attendees in individual and small group meetings prior to the lecture.
 - Joshua Smyth (PhD, Pennsylvania State University) gave a lecture on February 18, 2016 entitled, “Real-Time Ambulatory Assessment and Intervention,” which was attended by 26 faculty and students. Before his lecture, Dr. Smyth held individual meetings with researchers.
 - On February 25, 2016, InCHIP Affiliate Ki Chon (PhD, Biomedical Engineering) gave a lecture on “Sensors and Wearable Devices for Vital Sign, Atrial Fibrillation and Underwater ECG Monitoring” to 25 attendees. He met with individual researchers prior to this presentation and then led a group meeting with interested researchers following his talk.
 - Dolores Albarracín (PhD, University of Illinois) made a presentation on April 7, 2016 to 32 faculty and students entitled, “Online Information and HIV in US Counties: Theory Testing and Prediction.” In addition to the lecture, Dr. Albarracín met with researchers in individual meetings, led a roundtable discussion on “Getting Published: The Journal Editor’s Perspective,” and conducted a post-lecture discussion for interested attendees.

In FY17, InCHIP PI Debarchana Ghosh (PhD, Geography) will join Dr. Cornman in co-chairing the eHealth/mHealth RIG. Their goal for the next fiscal year is to continue to develop new multidisciplinary research teams who engage in innovative research in the area of digital health.

Cancer Research Interest Group (CRIG)

The mission of InCHIP’s Cancer Research Interest Group (CRIG) is to serve as a networking resource for cancer control and prevention researchers at UConn Storrs and UConn Health, creating multidisciplinary teams, linking those teams to one another, and identifying potential funding mechanisms to support cancer research. As of June 30, 2016, the CRIG consisted of 109 researchers from a range of departments and schools at UConn Storrs and UConn Health, as well as from other universities, local healthcare facilities, and community organizations.

In order to achieve its mission, the CRIG organizes and sponsors a variety of events and activities. In FY16, the CRIG engaged in the following activities:

- CRIG leaders InCHIP PI Meg Gerrard (PhD, Psychological Sciences) and InCHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman (PhD, InCHIP) from UConn Storrs worked collaboratively with InCHIP Affiliates Cheryl Oncken (MD, MPH, Medicine), Lori Bastian (MD, MPH, Medicine), Jayesh Kamath (MD, PhD, Psychiatry), and Alicia Dugan (PhD, Medicine) from UConn Health on organizing and hosting a CICATS Science Café. The Science Café, entitled “Promoting Healthy Cancer Survivorship: Clinical and Research Opportunities,” was funded by the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (CICATS) and held on September 24, 2015. A total of 15 researchers and 10 healthcare providers from UConn Storrs, UConn Health, Yale University, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, and Hartford Hospital attended the event. The event consisted of a keynote presentation by Tara Sanft (MD, Yale University), Medical Director of Adult Survivorship for the Yale Cancer Center Survivorship Clinic, roundtable discussions on issues related to cancer survivorship research, and informal networking opportunities.
- The CRIG promoted and hosted InCHIP Lecture Series presenter Seth Noar (PhD, University of North Carolina), who gave a lecture on March 10, 2016 on “The Impact of Cigarette Pack Warnings.”

- The CRIG Listserv was used to contact Cancer RIG members and provide them with updates about upcoming events, funding opportunities, and other news relevant to cancer prevention and control. In addition, the CRIG website (<http://www.chip.uconn.edu/research-interest-groups/crig/>) provided up-to-date information about relevant InCHIP-sponsored events/activities, external funding opportunities, conferences, journals, webcasts, external websites, and other resources.

There were numerous accomplishments in cancer research over the past year. Specifically, InCHIP affiliates submitted 9 cancer-related grants in FY16, requesting \$10.5 million in total costs. Of those grant submissions, one has been awarded thus far for \$121,163 in total costs. Over the past fiscal year, InCHIP-affiliated PIs had 8 active cancer-related grants, with \$5.1 million in total costs.

An example of a multidisciplinary collaboration that developed out of the CRIG network is a pilot study that was conducted by Yale School of Public Health researchers Linda Niccolai (PhD, Director of HPV Working Group, Associate Professor of Epidemiology) and Anna North (MPH, Project Coordinator of HPV Working Group) together with InCHIP PIs Dr. Gerrard, Dr. Cornman, and Rick Gibbons (PhD, Psychological Sciences). This small pilot study examined barriers to pediatricians offering HPV vaccines to their patients and resulted in a manuscript that is currently under review. This project will likely lead to future collaborative external grant proposals that will extend and broaden the study of HPV vaccination across the state.

In FY17, InCHIP PI Crystal Park (PhD, Psychological Sciences) will be taking over leadership of the Cancer Research Interest Group. Dr. Park is a highly successful researcher with expertise in cancer survivorship.

HIV Research Interest Group (HIVRIG)

The HIV Research Interest Group (HIVRIG) is a newly developed research interest group that will serve as a hub for HIV and sexual health researchers. The purpose of the RIG is to streamline communication among these researchers and promote research collaborations. In FY16, the HIVRIG held their first meeting with 12 researchers from both UConn Storrs and UConn Health. The group intends to organize a “Forum on the Status and Future of Behavioral Science in HIV Research” during the 2016-17 academic year and will likely pursue an R13 funding mechanism to host this event. Leaders in the field will be invited to speak about the changes in HIV behavioral science and how behavioral researchers can put their “best foot forward” in future efforts. InCHIP PI Seth Kalichman, (PhD, Psychological Sciences) currently chairs the HIVRIG.

H. Efforts to Foster and Support Multidisciplinary Collaborations

In the past year, InCHIP added new research affiliates to its multidisciplinary affiliates collaborative network of researchers with interests in health behavior and health behavior change, bringing its total membership (as of June 30, 2016) to 347 Faculty/Researcher Affiliates and 72 Graduate Student Affiliates. *(For a complete list of InCHIP affiliates, please visit <http://chip.uconn.edu/about/directory/affiliates/>.)*

In addition to expanding its affiliate network, InCHIP worked diligently to develop new multidisciplinary collaborations with relevant researchers from UConn Storrs, UConn Health, and other institutions. These efforts were fruitful, leading to new grant applications and funded grants.

During FY16, InCHIP also continued its efforts to forge new and expand existing collaborations with schools, departments, centers, and other units at UConn. These efforts included meetings with leadership from the following departments, centers, institutes, schools, and other organizations to discuss partnerships and opportunities with their respective units at UConn:

- Alcohol Research Center (ARC)
- Center for Advancement in Managing Pain (CAMP)
- Center on Aging
- Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion (CEHHP)
- Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering (CESE)
- Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace (CPH-NEW)
- Center for Public Health and Health Policy (CPHP)

- Collaboratory on School and Child Health (CSCH)
- Committee for Interprofessional Excellence in Healthcare (CIPEH)
- Department of Internal Medicine
- Department of Psychiatry
- Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences
- Division of General Internal Medicine
- Ethel Donaghue Center for Translating Research into Policy and Practice
- Health Outcomes Policy and Evidence Group (HOPES)
- Human Rights Institute
- Institute for Brain and Cognitive Sciences
- Korey Stringer Institute
- Neag School of Education
- Office of Global Affairs
- Office of Public Engagement
- Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity
- School of Business
- School of Dental Medicine
- School of Engineering
- School of Nursing
- Zwick Center for Food and Resource Policy

Meetings were also held with organizations external to UConn, including:

- Connecticut Children’s Medical Center (CCMC)
- Hartford Hospital
- National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)
- Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)

Additionally, InCHIP held several events, programs, and other activities to promote research collaborations and strengthen existing networks.

- On September 24, 2015, the Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (CICATS) funded a Science Café, entitled “Promoting Healthy Cancer Survivorship: Clinical and Research Opportunities.” (*For more information about this event, please see [Section E, Research Objective 7 on page 12.](#)*)
- InCHIP hosted three cross-campus networking events, in order to help develop research collaborations prior to this year’s dual-PI seed grant competition. (*For more information on the seed grants, please see [Section J, pages 35-45.](#)*)
 - The InCHIP-School of Business Faculty Networking Event hosted a total of 40 researchers from both InCHIP and the School of Business, on October 30, 2015. Faculty met and discussed their research interests, areas of expertise, and potential research collaborations at the intersection of business and health behavior.
 - In order to foster collaborations between InCHIP and School of Dental Medicine faculty, InCHIP invited Melissa Riddle (PhD, NIDCR), Chief of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Branch at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), to present at the InCHIP Lecture series on November 5, 2015. Dr. Riddle spoke with interested researchers in individual and small group meetings, both at UConn

Storrs and at UConn Health. On November 5, 2015, the InCHIP-School of Dental Medicine Faculty Networking Event hosted a total of 30 researchers from InCHIP and the School of Dental Medicine. Attendees discussed research interests, areas of expertise, and ideas for collaborative research. The goal of the networking event was to develop multidisciplinary research collaborations prior to its associated seed grant competition. As part of her visit to UConn, Dr. Riddle also attended this event; she presented NIDCR funding priorities to attendees, and discussed these priorities with researchers after her presentation.

- On November 12, 2015, the InCHIP-Neag School of Education Faculty Networking Event hosted a total of 20 researchers from InCHIP, the Collaboratory on School and Child Health (CSCH), and the Neag School of Education. Attendees discussed their research interests, areas of expertise, and ideas for collaborative research projects on school and child health.
- On December 1, 2015, the InCHIP World AIDS Day Film Screening and Luncheon hosted 15 attendees, including Bio-CHIP and InCHIP faculty, with an interest in HIV research. Attendees, who came from a wide range of disciplines (Psychological Sciences, Communication, Human Development and Family Studies, Geography, Anthropology, and Allied Health Sciences), viewed a brief documentary filmed by new UConn faculty member and InCHIP PI Lisa Butler (PhD, InCHIP). The follow-up discussion focused on opportunities and challenges in responding to the HIV epidemic both domestically and internationally.
- “Participatory Action Research Forum: Researchers and Community Partners Working Together for Real-World Success” was held on March 30, 2016 and co-sponsored by InCHIP, the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace (CPH-NEW), and the Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion (CEHHP). The 47 attendees, comprised of faculty, graduate students, and research staff from UConn Storrs, UConn Health, University of Massachusetts Lowell, Yale University, and Harvard University, along with representatives from community-based organizations, came together for a keynote speaker, a moderated panel, topic-based roundtable discussions, and informal networking. The event focused on academic-community partnerships across several settings.
- On May 18, 2016, the “InCHIP Working Lunch for Leadership Across UConn’s Health-Related Institutes and Centers” brought together Directors and Associate Directors from 16 of UConn’s health-related institutes and centers. This was the first time that Directors and Associate Directors were brought together to discuss opportunities for collaborative research efforts across UConn’s health-related institutes and centers and to share ideas about how communication and multidisciplinary efforts at the University can be improved. Institutes and centers in attendance included the Alcohol Research Center (ARC); Bio-CHIP; Center for Advancement of Managing Pain (CAMP); Center on Aging; Center for Correctional Health Networks (CCHNet); Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion (CEHHP); Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering (CESE); Center for Public Health and Health Policy (CPHHP); Center for the Study of Culture, Health, and Human Development (CHHD); Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI); Connecticut Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences (IBACS); Connecticut Transportation Safety Research Center (CTSRC); Health Disparities Institute (HDI); Human Rights Institute (HRI); Korey Stringer Institute (KSI); Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity; and Zwick Center for Food and Resource Policy.

(For information about boundary spanning events held by InCHIP’s centers and groups, please see [Section G, pages 23-31](#).)

InCHIP Affiliation and Associated Benefits

As indicated above, a variety of different strategies are used to identify potential InCHIP affiliates, including direct communication between InCHIP and other UConn departments, schools, institutes, and centers; referrals from UConn Deans and Department Heads about relevant faculty; outreach to researchers who are in new or existing research collaborations; and invitations to attendees of the InCHIP Lecture Series and other InCHIP functions. Faculty with health-related research interests who express interest in InCHIP are sent a formal invitation to become an affiliate. Those who want to become affiliates must complete an application form, which is reviewed by the InCHIP Directors to ensure that the applicant’s research interests are consistent with InCHIP’s mission.

The benefits of being a InCHIP affiliate are many, and as the Institute continues to grow, InCHIP reviews its services regularly and modifies them as needed, to ensure that affiliates receive the support and assistance they need to be

as successful as possible in their health behavior research endeavors. Services of note include training in grant writing and mentoring support; assistance with searching for external grant opportunities; identifying potential research collaborators; pre-submission statistical, methodological, and content reviews of external grant proposals; extensive pre- and post-award support; competitive seed grant funding for pilot projects that increase the likelihood of securing external grant funds in the future; and the InCHIP Lecture Series which showcases and provides the opportunity to meet with leading scholars from diverse fields of health behavior research.

(See <http://chipaffiliate.uconn.edu/> for more information on services provided by InCHIP and who is eligible for them.)

I. InCHIP Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is comprised of InCHIP affiliates who serve in an advisory capacity to InCHIP's Director and Associate Directors. They assist in defining InCHIP's goals, help monitor progress toward those goals, provide feedback on different aspects of InCHIP operations, and participate in activities that help InCHIP achieve its annual objectives. For FY16, the InCHIP Executive Committee consisted of the following individuals:

- Jeffrey Fisher, PhD, InCHIP Director, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Psychological Sciences
- Deborah Cornman, PhD, InCHIP Associate Director, InCHIP Associate Research Professor
- Amy Gorin, PhD, InCHIP Associate Director, Associate Professor of Psychological Sciences
- John Christensen, PhD, Assistant Professor of Communication
- Meg Gerrard, PhD, Research Professor of Psychological Sciences
- Debarchana Ghosh, PhD, Assistant Professor of Geography
- Tania Huedo-Medina, PhD, Assistant Professor of Allied Health Sciences
- Blair T. Johnson, PhD, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor of Psychological Sciences
- Crystal Park, PhD, Professor of Psychological Sciences
- Marlene Schwartz, PhD, Director of Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, Professor of Human Development and Family Studies
- David C. Steffens, MD, MHS, Professor and Chair of Psychiatry

The Executive Committee held four meetings in FY16. At the meetings, the Committee was provided with updates on InCHIP's efforts to support multidisciplinary research collaborations as well as InCHIP's seed grant competitions, grant submissions, newly-funded grant proposals, grants management services, IT services, statistical support services, physical facility issues, and operating budget. Any operational problems were discussed and suggestions for improvements were agreed upon.

In addition to attending the Executive Committee meetings, the members initiated and/or participated in a variety of InCHIP events and activities. Some highlights of their involvement are the following:

- Drs. Gerrard and Cornman worked collaboratively with InCHIP Affiliate Cheryl Oncken (MD, MPH, Medicine), Lori Bastian (MD, MPH, Medicine), and InCHIP Affiliate Alicia Dugan (PhD, Medicine) from UConn Health on organizing a CICATS Science Café on Cancer Survivorship, entitled "Promoting Healthy Cancer Survivorship: Clinical and Research Opportunities." The Science Café was held on September 24, 2015 and attended by 25 researchers and clinicians from UConn and other institutions.
- Dr. Gorin continued to chair the Obesity Research Interest Group, which was comprised of 150 members from UConn and other institutions, as of June 30, 2016. She worked collaboratively with Dr. Schwartz, InCHIP PI Kim Gans (PhD, MPH, Human Development and Family Studies), and other faculty on organizing and hosting an Annual Obesity Research Retreat on December 18, 2015. The Retreat was attended by 18 UConn faculty members with active obesity research portfolios. They discussed research priorities, networked with their colleagues, and developed a list of goals and action plans for 2015-16.

- Dr. Christensen worked throughout the academic year with the InCHIP Directors, InCHIP IT, and the Boundary Spanners on modifying the InCHIP website to make it more engaging, keep the content fresh and current, and ensure that the website is user friendly.
- Drs. Gerrard and Johnson, along with Dr. Gorin, generously gave their time to help train junior research faculty at the *2016 InCHIP Grantsmanship Training Workshop for Health Behavior Researchers*, which was conducted on a weekly basis from February 19 through April 1, 2016. A total of 31 junior faculty attended the six-session workshop, which was organized and facilitated by Dr. Cornman with the assistance of Boundary Spanner Katrina Aberizk.
- Dr. Ghosh volunteered to co-chair the eHealth/mHealth Research Interest Group, along with Dr. Cornman. As of June 30, 2016, this group was comprised of 146 researchers from UConn and other institutions, who are interested in electronic health/mobile health research and the use of mobile technologies, social media, web-based interventions, sensors, and other new technologies to assess and modify health behavior.
- Drs. Christensen and Schwartz, along with Drs. Cornman and Gorin, served as reviewers of the InCHIP seed grant proposals.
- Dr. Huedo-Medina agreed to take charge of developing an InCHIP Biostatistics and Methodology Core that will be comprised of UConn faculty with relevant expertise. This Core, which will be formally launched in the fall of 2016, will provide statistical/methodological support and services to PIs and other researchers at UConn.
- Dr. Huedo-Medina has been working together with Dr. Fisher and the Office of Global Affairs on the development of important research collaborations with various institutions and organizations in Cuba, including University of Havana, University of Havana Medical Sciences, The Central University “Marta Abreu” of Las Villas, Psychology Association of Cuba, Center for Academic Development on Drug Addiction (CEDRO), Institute of Animal Science (ICA), and National Center for Agricultural Health (CENSA).
- Dr. Schwartz helped organize and host a forum on June 14, 2016, at the UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity entitled, “Aligning Policy with Research: Promoting Sound Nutrition in Early Childhood.” This event, which was co-sponsored by the Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI), UConn Health’s Center for Public Health and Health Policy (CPHHP), and the Rudd Center, focused on the use of research to inform nutrition policies. A panel of state agency representatives, policy makers, and advocates set the stage for a facilitated discussion about next steps for Connecticut.

J. InCHIP Seed Grant Competitions

In FY16, InCHIP continued its highly successful internal seed grant competitions and expanded its dual-PI seed grant competitions to include more UConn departments and schools. These competitions provide pilot and seed grant resources to investigators in order to stimulate new research in health behavior and health behavior change at UConn that is likely to lead to external funding. Historically, some of InCHIP’s largest and most successful external grants were made possible because their funding proposals included critical pilot data collected with the support of these annual seed grant competitions. When last calculated in March 2016, every \$1 of pilot seed grant money invested by InCHIP had produced approximately \$65 in external grant dollars applied for by InCHIP PIs and about \$28 of external funding awarded to them and UConn.

InCHIP offered three **internal seed grant competitions** in FY16. The *Faculty/Researcher Affiliate* seed grant competition offered two awards of \$15,000 each and was open to InCHIP Affiliates appointed at the Storrs or regional campuses. Additionally, the *Junior Faculty Summer Stipend* competition offered two awards of \$2,500 each for faculty members who had never received more than \$100,000 per year (total costs) in external grant funding; these awards were designed to help support faculty members during the summer to write an external grant proposal. The *Graduate Student Affiliate* seed grant competition was open to InCHIP Graduate Student Affiliates who study at UConn and provided awards of \$1,500 each.

InCHIP also hosted four **dual-PI seed grant competitions** in FY16. The *InCHIP-School of Business Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Business and Health Behavior* solicited proposals from dual-PI teams comprised of one PI from the School of Business and one from a school/department outside the School of Business; awards of \$25,000 each were offered. The *InCHIP-School of Dental Medicine Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Dental*

Health and Health Behavior offered up to two awards of \$25,000 to dual-PI teams comprised of one PI from the School of Dental Medicine and one from UConn Storrs or a regional campus. The *InCHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in Mental Health and Health Behavior* required that two PIs – one from the Department of Psychiatry at UConn Health and one from UConn Storrs or a regional campus – collaborate on the development of an internal grant application for an award of \$50,000. The *InCHIP-Neag School of Education Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in School and Child Health* offered two awards of \$15,000 each for dual-PI teams comprised of one PI from the Neag School of Education and one from a school/department other than Neag. All of the seed grant competitions were co-sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR). In addition to the funding provided by the OVPR, the School of Business, the Neag School of Education, and the Psychiatry Department contributed funds towards their respective dual-PI seed grant competitions.

A description of each of these seed grant competitions appears below.

- **InCHIP Seed Grant for Faculty/Researcher Affiliates:** This grant provided funds to support new research initiatives and pilot work that will lead to future external grant applications submitted through InCHIP in the areas of health behavior and health behavior change.
- **InCHIP Grant Development Summer Stipends for Junior Faculty:** This funding opportunity offered stipends to UConn junior faculty who are InCHIP affiliates, to assist them during the summer with writing successful external grant applications in the areas of health behavior and health behavior change. InCHIP is committed to supporting the growth of junior researchers so that they may become leaders in their field.
- **InCHIP Seed Grants for Graduate Student Affiliates:** These grants provided funds to support new research initiatives and pilot work by graduate students in the areas of health behavior and health behavior change.
- **InCHIP-School of Business Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in Business and Health Behavior:** This competition fostered research collaborations across disciplines by providing seed grant funding to dual-PI teams of School of Business faculty and researchers from outside Business. The goal of this initiative was to fund pilot work at the intersection of business and health behavior that would lead to future dual-PI external grant applications to be submitted through InCHIP and the School of Business.
- **InCHIP-School of Dental Medicine Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in Dental Health and Health Behavior:** This competition fostered interdisciplinary research focused at the intersection of dental health and health behavior. It provided seed grant funding to dual-PI teams comprised of a School of Dental Medicine researcher and an InCHIP-affiliated researcher from UConn Storrs/regional campus. The goal of this initiative was to fund pilot work that would lead to future dual-PI external grant applications to be submitted through InCHIP and the School of Dental Medicine.
- **InCHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in Mental Health and Health Behavior:** This competition fostered research collaborations across campuses and disciplines by providing seed grant funding to dual-PI teams of researchers from the Storrs/regional campuses and the Department of Psychiatry at UConn Health. The goal of this initiative was to fund pilot work at the intersection of mental health and health behavior that would lead to future dual-PI external grant applications to be submitted through InCHIP and UConn Health.
- **InCHIP-Neag School of Education Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in School and Child Health:** This competition fostered collaborative, interdisciplinary work in school and child health by providing seed grant funding to dual-PI teams of Neag School of Education researchers and researchers from UConn schools/departments other than Neag. The goal of this initiative was to fund pilot work that would lead to future dual-PI external grant applications to be submitted through InCHIP and the Neag School of Education.

The call for proposals for each of these seed grant competitions was advertised widely via the InCHIP affiliate listserv, the InCHIP Research Interest Group Listservs, and other Listservs across the appropriate campuses. They were also advertised on the InCHIP website as well as on Facebook and Twitter. Reviews were conducted throughout the 2015-16 academic year, and funds were awarded before the end of the fiscal year.

Grant Review Process for InCHIP Internal Seed Grant Competitions

An important component of the InCHIP seed grant competitions is mentorship. All qualifying proposals – whether they were funded or not – received mentoring reviews from a review committee that adheres to a rigorous NIH-style review process. Each seed grant application was assigned one primary and one secondary faculty reviewer who evaluated the proposal on its overall potential impact as well as on the following criteria: significance, investigators, innovation, approach, environment, and human subject considerations. In addition to the invited faculty reviewers, one qualified graduate student was invited to serve as a tertiary reviewer for the Graduate Student Affiliate Seed Grant competition; this mentoring opportunity allowed her to learn about the grant review process and how to write fundable grants.

For the faculty, summer stipend, and graduate student competitions, a review meeting was held in which the primary and secondary reviewers gave their initial scores and reviews, followed by group discussion and final scoring. The review committees were charged with making funding recommendations; they took into account the review discussions, the project's likelihood of obtaining future external funding, its responsiveness to the call for proposals, and its relevance to InCHIP's mission. InCHIP Director Jeffrey Fisher (PhD, Psychological Sciences) reviewed the committees' recommendations and made final funding decisions, consistent with InCHIP's budget. The resulting reviews provided to applicants contained summaries of the proposals' strengths and weaknesses, as well as guidance on how to improve the proposal when applying for subsequent external grant funding.

Grant Review Process for Dual-PI Seed Grant Competitions

A review committee of two UConn faculty with extensive research experience served on the review committee for the InCHIP-School of Business Seed Grant Competition. Five reviewers from UConn Storrs and the School of Dental Medicine comprised the InCHIP-School of Dental Medicine Seed Grant review committee. A review committee of three faculty with extensive research experience from UConn Storrs and the Department of Psychiatry at UConn Health were selected to review the InCHIP-Psychiatry seed grant proposals. Lastly, the InCHIP-Neag School of Education Seed Grant committee was composed of eight expert reviewers from Neag and other schools/departments at UConn. All reviewers rated the proposals on relevance as well as on overall impact, significance, investigators, innovation, approach, environment, and any additional relevant considerations. Each proposal was reviewed by one primary reviewer and one secondary reviewer.

Seed Grant Review Committees

In FY16, the review committees for each of the seed grant competitions consisted of the following individuals:

Seed Grant Competition	Review Committee Chair(s)	Review Committee Members
InCHIP Seed Grant for Faculty/Researcher Affiliates InCHIP Grant Development Summer Stipends for Junior Faculty	InCHIP PI Rick Gibbons (PhD, Psychological Sciences) InCHIP PI Tricia Leahey (PhD, Allied Health Sciences)	InCHIP Affiliate S. Megan Berthold (PhD, LCSW, CTS, Social Work); InCHIP Associate Director Amy Gorin (PhD, Psychological Sciences); InCHIP Affiliate Beth Russell (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies); InCHIP PI Marlene Schwartz (PhD, Human Development and Family Studies); InCHIP Affiliate Jaci VanHeest (PhD, Educational Psychology & Kinesiology)
InCHIP Seed Grants for Graduate Student Affiliates	InCHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman (PhD, InCHIP)	Faculty Reviewers: InCHIP Affiliate Lindsey Lepley (PhD, ATC, Kinesiology); InCHIP Affiliate Stephanie Mazerolle (PhD, ATC, Kinesiology); InCHIP Affiliate Andrea Orsey (MD, MSCE, Pediatrics); InCHIP Affiliate Melissa Santos (PhD, Pediatrics) Graduate Student Reviewer: InCHIP Graduate Student Affiliate Amanda Zaleski (MS, Kinesiology)

InCHIP-School of Business Dual PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in Business and Health Behavior	N/A	<i>The members of this review committee are anonymous.</i>
InCHIP-School of Dental Medicine Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in Dental Health and Health Behavior	Frank Nichols (DDS, PhD, Oral Health and Diagnostic Sciences) InCHIP PI Angela Starkweather (PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, CNRN, FAAN, Nursing)	David Pendrys (DDS, PhD, Reconstructive Sciences); InCHIP PI Amy Mobley (PhD, Nutritional Sciences); Takanori Sobue (DDS, PhD, Oral Health and Diagnostic Sciences)
InCHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant Competition for Collaborative Research in Mental Health and Health Behavior	InCHIP Affiliate Victor Hesselbrock (PhD, Psychiatry)	Margaret Briggs-Gowan (PhD, Psychiatry); InCHIP Associate Director Deborah Cornman (PhD, InCHIP)
InCHIP-Neag School of Education Dual-PI Seed Grants for Collaborative Research in School and Child Health	InCHIP PI Kim Gans (PhD, MPH, Human Development and Family Studies) Ronald Beghetto (PhD, Educational Psychology)	InCHIP Affiliate Melissa Bray (PhD, Educational Psychology); Noel Card (PhD, Educational Psychology); InCHIP PI John Christensen (PhD, Communication); InCHIP Affiliate Jessica Goldstein (PhD, Educational Psychology); InCHIP Affiliate Kathryn Libal (PhD, Social Work); InCHIP Affiliate Catherine Medina (PhD, Social Work)

Results of InCHIP Internal and Dual-PI Seed Grant Competitions

InCHIP awarded a total of \$178,000 in seed grant funding in FY16: one award of \$15,000 in the faculty seed grant competition, two awards of \$2,500 each in the faculty summer stipend competition, two awards of \$1,500 each in the graduate student competition, one award of \$25,000 in the InCHIP-School of Business competition, two awards of \$25,000 each in the InCHIP-School of Dental Medicine competition, one award of \$50,000 in the InCHIP-Psychiatry competition, and two awards of \$15,000 each in the InCHIP-Neag School of Education competition:

InCHIP Seed Grant Awarded for Faculty/Researcher Affiliate (\$15,000)

- InCHIP Affiliate Xiaomei Cong (PhD, RN, Nursing)
“Bio-Genomic Markers for Management of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: A Pilot Study”

InCHIP Grant Development Summer Stipends Awarded for Junior Faculty (\$2,500)

- InCHIP Affiliate Caitlin Elsaesser (PhD, Social Work)
“Exposure to Multiple Forms of Victimization and Health Outcomes: An Integrative Approach”
- InCHIP Affiliate Lindsey Lepley (PhD, ATC, Kinesiology)
“Eccentric Exercise to Promote Muscle Recovery and Joint Health After ACL Injury”

InCHIP Seed Grants Awarded for Graduate Student Affiliates (\$1,500)

- InCHIP Graduate Student Affiliate Tosca Braun (MA, Psychological Sciences)
“Weight Bias as a Predictor of Post-Operative Weight Loss in Bariatric Surgery Patients: A Preliminary Test of a Theoretical Model”
Advisor: InCHIP Associate Director Amy Gorin (PhD, Psychological Sciences)
- Hayley Root (MS, ATC, Kinesiology)
“Role of Coaches’ Attitudes and Behaviors on Injury Prevention Program Effectiveness in Youth Athletes”
Advisor: InCHIP PI Lindsay DiStefano (PhD, ATC, Kinesiology)

InCHIP-School of Business Dual-PI Seed Grants Awarded in Business and Health Behavior (\$25,000)

- InCHIP Affiliate Suresh Nair (PhD, Operations and Information Management) & InCHIP Affiliate Craig Coleman (PharmD, Pharmacy Practice)
“Exploring the Cost-Effectiveness of Newer Anti-Diabetic Agents in the Era of Food and Drug Administration Mandated Cardiovascular Safety Trials”

InCHIP-School of Dental Medicine Dual-PI Seed Grants Awarded in Dental Health and Health Behavior (\$25,000)

- InCHIP PI Kim Gans (PhD, MPH, Human Development and Family Studies) & InCHIP Affiliate Deborah Redford-Badwal (DDS, PhD, Craniofacial Sciences)
“Formative Research to Inform Childhood Obesity and Dental Caries Interventions”
- I-Ping Chen (DDS, PhD, Oral Health and Diagnostic Sciences) & InCHIP Affiliate Kyle Baumbauer (PhD, Nursing & Neuroscience)
“Developing a Mouse Model for Symptomatic Apical Periodontitis”

InCHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grants Awarded in Mental Health and Health Behavior (\$50,000)

- InCHIP PI Blair Johnson (PhD, Psychological Sciences) & InCHIP Affiliate Andrew Winokur (MD, PhD, Psychiatry)
“Placebo Response Investigations via Meta-analyses of Antidepressants (PRIMA)”

InCHIP-Neag School of Education Dual-PI Seed Grants Awarded in School and Child Health (\$15,000)

- InCHIP Affiliate Rory McGloin (PhD, Communication) & InCHIP Affiliate Jaci VanHeest (PhD, Educational Psychology & Kinesiology)
“Examining the Effects of a Novel Exergaming Experience in Middle-School Youth”
- InCHIP PI Lindsay DiStefano (PhD, ATC, Kinesiology) & InCHIP Affiliate Jennifer McGarry (PhD, Educational Leadership)
“Effectiveness of Brain Breaks to Improve Physical Literacy”

A summary of each of these new seed grant projects is provided below.

Abstract of InCHIP Seed Grant for Faculty/Researcher Affiliates

InCHIP Affiliate Xiaomei Cong (PhD, RN, Nursing) – “Bio-Genomic Markers for Management of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: A Pilot Study”

The epidemic of illegal and prescribed narcotic use among pregnant women has seen a three-fold rise in neonatal narcotic withdrawal also known as Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) in the past decade, and now affects 5.6 per 1000 births. However, no objective bio-genomic-behavioral markers of infant stress and well-being related to NAS have been investigated, and none are available for better managing NAS infants in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). The purpose of this research is to explore the relationships between hormonal biomarkers, genetic variations, and gut microbiome patterns with clinical bio-physiological and behavioral responses of NAS and its management. Specific Aims are to: (1) Explore the correlations of infant salivary cortisol and oxytocin levels with clinical markers of NAS as measured by the Finnegan’s score, NICU pain/stressors experienced by infants, and the need of medication use for NAS treatment, (2) Determine whether single nucleotide polymorphism (SNPs) in the candidate genes are associated with Finnegan’s Scores, NICU pain/stressors and the need of NAS treatment, and (3) Explore the linkage of gut microbiome patterns with Finnegan’s score, NICU pain/stressors, and the need of NAS treatment. Design: A prospective longitudinal observational design will be used. Sample/Setting: The study will be conducted in the Level 4 NICU in the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center (CCMC) at two sites, Hartford and Farmington. Annual enrollment of NAS infants is estimated to be about 40. In this pilot, 30 NAS infants will be recruited: gestational age ≥ 33 weeks and birthweight ≥ 2000 g. Exclusion criteria: Congenital anomalies, intubated infants, inotropic cardiac support, sepsis, and steroid use after birth. Measurements and Data Collection: Data collection will begin after informed consent from parents with infant enrollment in the NICU and follow-up for 2 or 3 weeks of their NICU stay until discharge. Finnegan scores measuring clinical severity of narcotic withdrawal will be assessed for all NAS infants every 3-4 hours/day. Saliva samples will be collected and salivary cortisol and oxytocin levels will be assessed 3 times/week, all in the morning. To obtain DNA samples, buccal swabs will be collected and the DNA regions of interest will be genotyped, including SNPs in the OPRM1, COMT and OXTR genes. Stool samples

will be collected 3 times/week and 16S rRNA gene sequencing will be conducted for evaluation of the microbiome. Infant Pain, Stressors, and Medication use and other interventions done will be documented daily. Data Analysis: Statistical methods including descriptive, correlational, and regression analyses will be conducted to test the hypotheses. The findings from this pilot will provide a foundation for researchers and clinicians to develop strategies to better predict neuro-behavioral outcomes in NAS infants and to provide corresponding intervention at an earlier stage to promote health behavior in early life stage. The proposed project will provide an interdisciplinary platform for investigators of nursing, neonatology, microbiology, and genetics and across UConn and CCMC, which meet the goals of InCHIP.

Abstracts of InCHIP Grant Development Summer Stipends for Junior Faculty

InCHIP Affiliate Caitlin Elsaesser (PhD, Social Work) – “Exposure to Multiple Forms of Victimization and Health Outcomes: An Integrative Approach”

Exposure to violence is associated with serious consequences for development, including impaired mental health, increased aggression and substance use. However, not all exposure results in negative outcomes. Studies assessing consequences of violence exposure have traditionally been siloed, with researchers focusing on one form of violence exposure, and each “area” assessing outcomes in relation to exposure without accounting for other possible exposure sources. However, youth are commonly exposed to multiple forms of violence (e.g., child maltreatment, inter-parental violence, community violence). The specific consequences of different types of exposure for developmental, mental health, and substance abuse outcomes has not been explored. Understanding whether particular types of exposure to violence are associated with particular types of outcomes is critical to effectively targeting interventions. Emerging literature on “stress-sensitization,” moreover, suggests that a young person’s past exposure to violence might change the response by “priming” a negative reaction to exposure later in life, such that it takes less stress to elicit negative symptoms when there has been past exposure. Additionally, in line with the eco-developmental framework, positive experiences in the school and family may change a child’s reaction to victimization. The present study will assess whether pathways between multiple forms of violence and health outcomes are moderated by specific child-based characteristics and environment-based contexts. Drawing data from the Consortium of Longitudinal Studies in Child Abuse and Neglect, a multi-site longitudinal study of high risk youth, the present study takes a comprehensive, developmental approach to identifying the consequences of violence and victimization during adolescence in four specific aims: (1) To assess the relative and cumulative contribution of multiple forms of victimization (i.e., maltreatment, inter-parental violence, community violence exposure) on health outcomes (substance use, mental and behavioral health) during adolescence, (2) To evaluate whether the adverse consequences of victimization on development are more pronounced among adolescents with a history of maltreatment, (3) To evaluate the mediating role of PTSD, social and attention problems across forms of victimization and outcomes, and (4) To evaluate the protective role of family functioning and school engagement in buffering these relations across multiple forms of victimization. The proposed study will target a special call from the NIH for research on the health determinants and consequences of violence and its prevention in an R03 via NICHD. The grant period will be used to further develop a theoretical framework and analytic plan.

InCHIP Affiliate Lindsey Lepley (PhD, ATC, Kinesiology) – “Eccentric Exercise to Promote Muscle Recovery and Joint Health After ACL injury”

Restoring quadriceps muscle function after anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury may help prevent the post-traumatic osteoarthritis (OA) that affects over 50% of ACL injured knees. However, despite the best efforts of clinicians and researchers, a fundamental gap exists in our understanding of how to maximize quadriceps function after ACL injury. Concentric exercise is the current standard of care after ACL injury, utilized in effort to restore muscle function and promote joint health. However, multiple systematic reviews have shown that concentric exercise does not restore quadriceps muscle function and does not deter the onset of post-traumatic OA. A novel rehabilitation approach that has the potential to promote long-term knee joint health by targeting maladaptations in quadriceps function is eccentric exercise. The PI’s doctoral work directly illustrates this point, having demonstrated that eccentric-based exercise can be safely employed after ACL injury, and eccentrics produces larger gains in muscle strength and neural activity than concentric exercise. While this work provides important preliminary data, these non-invasive methods cannot elucidate the underlying neural and morphological benefits of eccentrics to the quadriceps muscle. Further the true efficacy of eccentric exercise to deter the onset of post-traumatic OA is unknown. This current lack of detail on the beneficial adaptations of muscles and joints to eccentrics

following ACL injury hinders the translation of this therapeutic approach into the clinic, as the groundwork that would support an evidence-based randomized clinical trial does not exist. This void in the literature continues, in part, because it is nearly impossible, and not practical, to obtain invasive serial measures in humans that are necessary for determining the underlying benefits of eccentrics. The use of an animal model circumvents this issue, and provides a means to facilitate the systematic detection of the benefits of eccentrics to muscle and joint health after ACL injury. Thus, the overall objective for this proposal is to test the central hypothesis that a rehabilitation protocol heavily biased towards eccentric contractions will attenuate maladaptations in neural activity and muscle morphology and promote joint health better than the currently practiced standard of concentric exercise using a novel rodent model of non-invasive ACL rupture. The strength of this K01 training plan rests, in part, on the PI's research environment, where she is able to work closely with senior scientists who are experts in animal models. This training should leave her uniquely positioned to assess the effects of eccentrics on recovery from ACL rupture through innovative translational mechanisms that will complement her background in human work. These studies will broaden and sharpen her research skills and the outcomes generated from this work will lay the groundwork to design a future NIH R01 evidence-based randomized clinical trial that will determine if eccentric exercise is beneficial to neuromuscular function and joint health in humans.

Abstracts of InCHIP Seed Grants for Graduate Student Affiliates

InCHIP Graduate Student Affiliate Tosca Braun (MA, Psychological Sciences) – “Weight Bias as a Predictor of Post-Operative Weight Loss in Bariatric Surgery Patients: A Preliminary Test of a Theoretical Model”

Obesity is a pressing public health crisis. Bariatric surgery, the current standard of care for morbid obesity, yields variable weight loss trajectories. Evidence suggests psychosocial factors are predictive of weight loss outcome. Weight bias, referring to experienced, anticipated, or internalized weight-based discrimination, has been directly linked to attenuated post-op weight losses in one study, and is known to affect factors shown predictive of weight gain, including psychological distress and dietary disinhibition (i.e., binge or emotional eating). The current study (n=224) seeks to test a novel theoretical model positing associations between baseline weight stigma dimensions, psychological distress, dietary disinhibition, and % Excess Weight Loss (%EWL) at 6-months post-op with bariatric surgery patients at Hartford Hospital. Self-compassion, a protective factor that refers to treating oneself as a loved one might, may be particularly salient for buffering these maladaptive linkages, and will be tested as a moderator thereof. Results from this pilot study will be used to apply for the RFA examining psychosocial predictors of bariatric surgery outcome. Increased understanding of the mediational links between dimensions of weight bias and %EWL, and factors that may buffer such links, has implications for treatment development. Interventions targeted to mobilizing such protective factors may optimize post-op weight maintenance outcomes among bariatric surgery patients, and ultimately reduce healthcare costs.

Hayley Root (MS, ATC, Kinesiology) – “Role of Coaches’ Attitudes and Behaviors on Injury Prevention Program Effectiveness in Youth Athletes”

Over 40 million children participate in organized sport in the United States annually, but each day approximately 8,000 children are treated in emergency departments (EDs) alone due to sport-related injuries, resulting in over \$925 million in healthcare costs. Exercise-based injury prevention programs (IPPs) used as a team warm-up can reduce these injuries dramatically but youth coaches do not commonly use these programs. Understanding the barriers and facilitators that drive IPP adoption and compliance at the youth sport level could dramatically enhance IPP dissemination and propagate injury reduction in athletes. Further, determining the relationship between coach compliance with IPPs and the effect on athlete injury risk is necessary to promote IPP adoption. The specific aims of this proposal are to identify specific factors that influence a community level youth sport coach's willingness to learn and implement an injury prevention program and to evaluate the relationship between a coach's compliance and fidelity with IPP strategies on athlete health outcomes. Two soccer leagues, approximately 200 athletes aged 8-14 (n=20 teams) will be offered a preseason educational training workshop. Coaches, parents, and athletes will all be invited to attend in order to learn the skills needed to successfully run a 10-minute exercise-based IPP. Following the workshop, coaches will be surveyed on their intentions to adopt an IPP as part of their team's warm-up. All athletes aged 8-14 will be invited to participate in the research regardless of the coaches' perceived IPP intentions following the workshop. The research team has previously conducted team-based interventions in this manner as it allows all athletes to benefit from the intervention without coercing athletes to participate in the research. All athletes on a team will perform the warm-up strategy their coach chooses to employ, but only participants who volunteer for the

study will be included in the data collection and analysis. Compliance data will be collected on all coaches who volunteer to participate in the study throughout the season in order to evaluate the relationship between neuromuscular control and IPP compliance. The long-term goal of the study is to determine key elements that drive behavior change in sport in order to improve dissemination and adoption of injury prevention and sport safety strategies. At the completion of this project, a translational framework for community level youth sport coach training will be developed that addresses barriers and facilitators to behavior change. This work will have a significant positive impact on strategies to reduce prevalent sport-related injuries in this key population of youth athletes.

Abstract of InCHIP-School of Business Dual-PI Seed Grant in Business and Health Behavior

InCHIP Affiliate Suresh Nair (PhD, Operations and Information Management) & InCHIP Affiliate Craig Coleman (PhD, Pharmacy Practice) – “Exploring the Cost-Effectiveness of Newer Anti-Diabetic Agents in the Era of Food and Drug Administration Mandated Cardiovascular Safety Trials”

Type 2 diabetes mellitus has reached epidemic proportions in the United States and more recently worldwide. Patients with type 2 diabetes are at a high risk for cardiovascular events, which is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality. A wider range of both oral and injectable therapies (compared to Type 1 diabetes) are available for controlling hyperglycemia in type 2 diabetics before insulin therapy becomes necessary. Moreover, many of the newer agents have benefits above and beyond that of maintaining good glycemic control, including the facilitation of weight loss and blood pressure reductions (both of which are proven predictors of cardiovascular disease). In December 2008, the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA’s) Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) provided guidance to researchers on Evaluating Cardiovascular Risk in New Antidiabetic Therapies to Treat Type 2 Diabetes. This guidance called for (mandated) a more thorough evaluation of the cardiovascular effects of agents to treat type 2 diabetes. As a result of this new mandate, data from large randomized controlled trials assessing cardiovascular safety of anti-glycemic agents are becoming available (for example, the EMPA-REG or “Empagliflozin, Cardiovascular Outcomes, and Mortality in Type 2 Diabetes” trial was published in Nov 2015 in the New England Journal of Medicine). Cost-effectiveness studies of anti-diabetic agents incorporating this high level cardiovascular data have not yet been done. And this is an opportunity that the Co-PIs wish to address using this proposal. Both have experience in modeling and simulation, and plan to use the data in these newer studies to build robust models to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of these treatments. The Affordable Care Act has \$1 billion set aside for comparative effectiveness research, and we could target those funds with this seed grant.

Abstracts of InCHIP-School of Dental Medicine Dual-PI Seed Grants in Dental Health and Health Behavior

InCHIP PI Kim Gans (PhD, MPH, Human Development and Family Studies) & InCHIP Affiliate Deborah Redford-Badwal (DDS, PhD, Craniofacial Sciences) – “Formative Research to Inform Childhood Obesity and Dental Caries Interventions”

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and the National Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research have prioritized the need for methodologically rigorous research in dental practice settings to study the effectiveness of theory-based behavioral and social interventions to reduce the risk of both childhood dental caries and obesity - disorders with high prevalence in U.S. children, especially high-risk low income and ethnically diverse children. Very little intervention research has been conducted in dental settings to date. The proposed research aims to collect qualitative and quantitative data from pediatric dental records, dental care providers and low income, ethnically diverse families using a Syndemics framework to inform the development of a behavior change intervention in dental practice to reduce dental caries and childhood obesity using an intervention matching approach. The Specific Aims are as follows: (1) To use the UCONN Pediatric Dental clinics’ electronic health record to examine the prevalence of obesity and dental caries on children (ages 3 to 16) and its association with demographic, clinical and behavioral factors using a Syndemics approach, (2) To conduct exploratory qualitative interviews with clinic and community dental providers and focus groups with families to explore intervention needs/wants and barriers/facilitators to achieving healthful dietary and oral health habits, (3) To conduct a survey with 200 parents of pediatric dental patients (aged 3-16) to further examine the association of dietary behaviors with body mass index and caries prevalence and gather quantitative data to inform intervention development, (4) To use the above mixed methods data in an intervention mapping approach to develop intervention prototypes to support oral health

professionals in delivering an intervention with families to encourage dietary change, and obesity and caries prevention, and (5) To conduct a second round of confirmatory qualitative interviews with clinic and community dental providers and focus groups with families to present initial intervention ideas and receive feedback. The results from this pilot study results will inform a future R21 or R34 grant application, which will in turn inform the development of a future R01. The long-term goal is to create an acceptable, effective intervention that can be widely disseminated into dental practice to reduce the risk of childhood dental caries and obesity.

I-Ping Chen (DDS, PhD, Oral Health and Diagnostic Sciences) & InCHIP Affiliate Kyle Baumbauer (PhD, Nursing & Neuroscience) – “Developing a Mouse Model for Symptomatic Apical Periodontitis”

Approximately 37 million people experience toothache in USA, as reported by the National Health Interview Survey in 2007. Symptomatic apical periodontitis (SAP) caused by endodontic infection contributes to 26% of pain in patients with toothache. Endodontic infection typically begins with caries followed by bacterial access to root canals. Pulpal and periapical pain resulting from inflamed or necrotic pulp are common reasons why patients seek dental treatment. Pulpitis presents as sharp, lingering pain to cold and/or hot and can easily be resolved by cleaning of root canals. In contrast, periapical pain, often described as spontaneous, throbbing, radiating pain to head or neck, can persist even after removal of infected pulp and treatment with pain medication. There is an urgent need to study pain mechanisms in periapical infection and to identify a potential drug that can rapidly alleviate periapical pain. An essential first step is to develop a suitable animal model together with appropriate outcome measurements to assess pain. Several methods have been described to create periapical lesions in mice as soon as in 7 days. However, it has never been examined whether these mice have symptomatic (painful) or asymptomatic (painless) apical periodontitis. The long-term goal of this project is to understand the mechanisms of periapical pain and to screen existing FDA approved drugs with anti-inflammatory and pain-relieving effects to alleviate periapical pain by local application. The research team will develop a mouse model for symptomatic apical periodontitis. They will use three methods to introduce periapical infection: (1) exposing and leaving pulp open, (2) intracanal placement of bacterial strains identified in endodontic infection, and (3) placing lipopolysaccharide (LPS) prepared from commonly identified gram-negative bacteria strains in endodontic lesions. Pain will be evaluated at days 3, 7, 14 and 21 days after operation by a validated behavior model, dolognawmeter. Expression of pain-related genes will be examined in periapical lesions and in the trigeminal ganglion (TG), and electrophysiology will be performed on TG. This work will be a significant contribution to endodontics research and health care.

Abstract of InCHIP-Psychiatry Dual-PI Seed Grant in Mental Health and Health Behavior

InCHIP PI Blair Johnson (PhD, Psychological Sciences) & InCHIP Affiliate Andrew Winokur (MD, PhD, Psychiatry) – “Placebo Response Investigations via Meta-analyses of Antidepressants (PRIMA)”

Goals: PRIMA, a team combining 30+ years of expertise in the areas of meta-analyses, clinical trials and psychiatric treatment of depression, aims to use meta-analyses to improve understanding of the forces that drive high placebo responses that are widely prevalent in randomized controlled trials (RCTs) for depression. By evaluating theory-driven and novel hypotheses about placebo responding using the entire universe of RCTs for depression, including studies focusing on youth, new knowledge will be generated about the factors that make placebo effects bigger or smaller. In turn, new trials can better evaluate the efficacy of anti-depressant drugs, which is of urgent need. Moreover, placebo responding can be better harnessed for the purpose of self-healing. Method: This study will follow the latest and best meta-analytic methods and be reported in adherence to PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) standards. To systematically evaluate drug efficacy for the most currently prescribed antidepressant drugs, the study team will collect all available published and unpublished placebo-controlled RCTs on US FDA-approved drugs, which include selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs) and newer, more atypical drugs commonly classified as “Others.” All studies will be systematically coded for descriptive characteristics and potential moderators which include: (1) baseline severity of depression, (2) proportion of sample that is female, (3) age of sample, (4) geographic location, (5) venue: hospital vs. ER vs. outpatient clinic, (6) trial phase and drug approval status, (7) length of treatment in weeks, (8) published vs unpublished, (9) trial type: RCT vs comparator trial, (10) year of trial, (11) no. of pills per day, (12) no. of doctor/patient interactions, (13) severity of listed side effects, (14) use of high-intensity monitoring methods (e.g., blood draws, multiple clinic visits), and (15) funding sponsor (industry vs public). Baseline and endpoint measurements of depression will be used to calculate effect size for placebo arms, drug arms and drug-placebo separation. Similar procedures will be used for side effects. Statistical analysis will be performed using

Stata and R statistical software. The study team plans to pilot their strategy with vortioxetine (Brintellix), which would allow for preliminary data to apply for extramural funding in order to complete this database and a series of meta-analyses. The expected results promise to shift current research paradigms by revealing new factors driving placebo trends, as well as to improve clinical practice paradigms by identifying driving forces of the placebo response that can be harnessed to trigger self-healing.

Abstracts of InCHIP-Neag School of Education Dual-PI Seed Grants in School and Child Health

InCHIP Affiliate Rory McGloin (PhD, Communication) & InCHIP Affiliate Jaci VanHeest (PhD, Educational Psychology & Kinesiology) – “Examining the Effects of a Novel Exergaming Experience in Middle-School Youth”

Health and learning are improved in children whom engage in regular physical activity. However, there is, and has been a downward trend in physical activity among school-aged children which has led to \$3 billion being spent in direct medical expenses per year. As a result, there is a high demand for physical activity interventions and strategies that successfully engage children in long term physical activity. A novel immersive videogame, also known as exergaming, integrates the excitement of gaming and the physical activity of bicycling. The primary goal of this study is to determine if a fitness experience delivered via the novel exergaming fitness bicycle will be perceived positively and enjoyed by normal weight and overweight/obese children aged 11-13 years. Specific Aims are to: (1) determine if increased perceived realism, immersion and controller naturalness have a positive influence on experienced enjoyment and physical performance, (2) determine the influence of previous gaming experience on perceived realism, immersion, controller naturalness, enjoyment, and physical performance under two different ride styles, (3) explore the interaction between weight status and ride style on perception, enjoyment, and performance variables. Design and Sample: A randomized cross-over design will be used. In this pilot, we will recruit 55 normal weight and 55 overweight/obese children age 11-13 years. Measurements and Data Collection: Data collection will begin after parental consent and child assent. The children will complete three rides, a baseline standardized mile ride, a trail-style ten-minute ride and a ten-minute game-style ride. Anthropometric measurement, self-reported physical activity, previous video game play experience, and self-reported video game skill will be completed prior to the baseline ride. Post treatment ride assessments include perceived controller naturalness, perceived realism, perceived immersion and enjoyment of gameplay experience. Performance data such as average speed, distance, wattage output and heart rate will be measured throughout the various rides. Data Analysis: Methods including descriptive, correlational, and ANOVA analyses will be conducted to test the various hypotheses. The findings from this pilot will allow the research team to design a longitudinal weight loss intervention using the novel exergaming approach. This multi-disciplinary research team is highly motivated to use the results of the proposed study to apply for federal support and continue to collaborate with the support of the InCHIP-NSOE Collaboratory. The proposal, as designed, meets the goals of the InCHIP-NSOE Collaboratory and will enable the multi-disciplinary research team to pursue federal support for these unique physical activity interventions.

InCHIP PI Lindsay DiStefano (PhD, Kinesiology) & InCHIP Affiliate Jennifer McGarry (PhD, Educational Leadership) – “Effectiveness of Brain Breaks to Improve Physical Literacy”

Although daily physical activity is effective for preventing or reducing obesity and obesity-related comorbidities in children, fewer than half of U.S. children are meeting the 60-minutes per day physical activity guideline from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). In order to be physically active, children must develop physical literacy, which is: (1) the ability to control their body during movement, (2) the confidence and motivation to be active, (3) the knowledge about physical activity, and (4) actual engagement in physical activity. Unfortunately, vast numbers of children lack physical literacy during adolescence predisposing them for future musculoskeletal injuries and hindering their likelihood to be physically active throughout their lifetime. There is a critical need to establish a sustainable, effective strategy to improve children’s physical literacy to promote a lifetime of physical activity participation. The overall objective is to establish the preliminary effectiveness of a video-based exercise intervention, or “BrainErgizersTM,” that can be incorporated into the school day as a classroom physical activity brain break. The central hypothesis of this study is that brief 5-minute BrainErgizersTM, consisting of interactive, fun sport-based exercises that challenge the body with appropriate movement instruction (e.g., “land softly”, “bend your knees”), will be a feasible, sustainable strategy to improve physical literacy and reduce injury risk. The specific aims of this proposal are to evaluate the effectiveness of the BrainErgizersTM on physical literacy and musculoskeletal injury risk in children (Aim 1), and identify challenges and facilitators for adoption of BrainErgizersTM into the school day, through a mixed methods approach (Aim 2). Two elementary/middle schools

will be recruited to participate in this study and receive the BrainErgizers™ Intervention during the 2016-17 academic year. Physical literacy and musculoskeletal injury risk will be evaluated at the beginning (September) and end (May) of the 2016-17 academic school year (Aim 1). Integration of BrainErgizers™ into the classroom will be monitored throughout the school year. This project is significant because it is expected to represent an early step in a continuum of research that will ultimately lead to the widespread adoption of an evidence-based intervention to decrease child obesity and related comorbidities.

K. InCHIP External Funding Updates (as of June 30, 2016)

- In FY16, InCHIP PIs applied for **87 new external grants**, requesting \$72.6 million in total costs, \$54.5 million in direct costs, and \$18.1 million in indirect costs.
- This past fiscal year, InCHIP PIs were awarded **33 new external grants**, which they used to initiate innovative multidisciplinary research projects in the health domains of alcohol and substance use, autism, cancer, complementary and alternative approaches to medicine, diabetes, dissemination and implementation science, exercise science, global health, health disparities, HIV, obesity, sexual risk behavior/reproductive health, and treatment adherence and retention in care. The **new grant awards amounted to \$10.0 million in total costs**, \$8.0 million in direct costs, and \$2.0 million in indirect costs.
- For FY16, InCHIP had **\$51.5 million in active grants across all years**, including 39.1 million in direct costs and \$12.4 in indirect costs.

(A list of newly awarded and active grants, their funding agencies, and the total costs, direct costs, and indirect costs associated with each is contained in [Appendix 1 on pages 51-61](#).)

- For **actual research expenditures in FY16 alone**, there were **\$11.3 million in total costs expended** on InCHIP external grants (see Figure 1), **\$8.7 million in direct costs** (see Figure 2), and **\$2.6 million in indirect costs** (see Figure 3). In the past 13 years since InCHIP's inception in FY02, total costs have increased substantially from \$1.3 million to \$11.3 million. FY16 represents the highest actual research expenditures ever for InCHIP PIs.

Figure 1: Actual Total Costs Expended Per Year on InCHIP External Grants

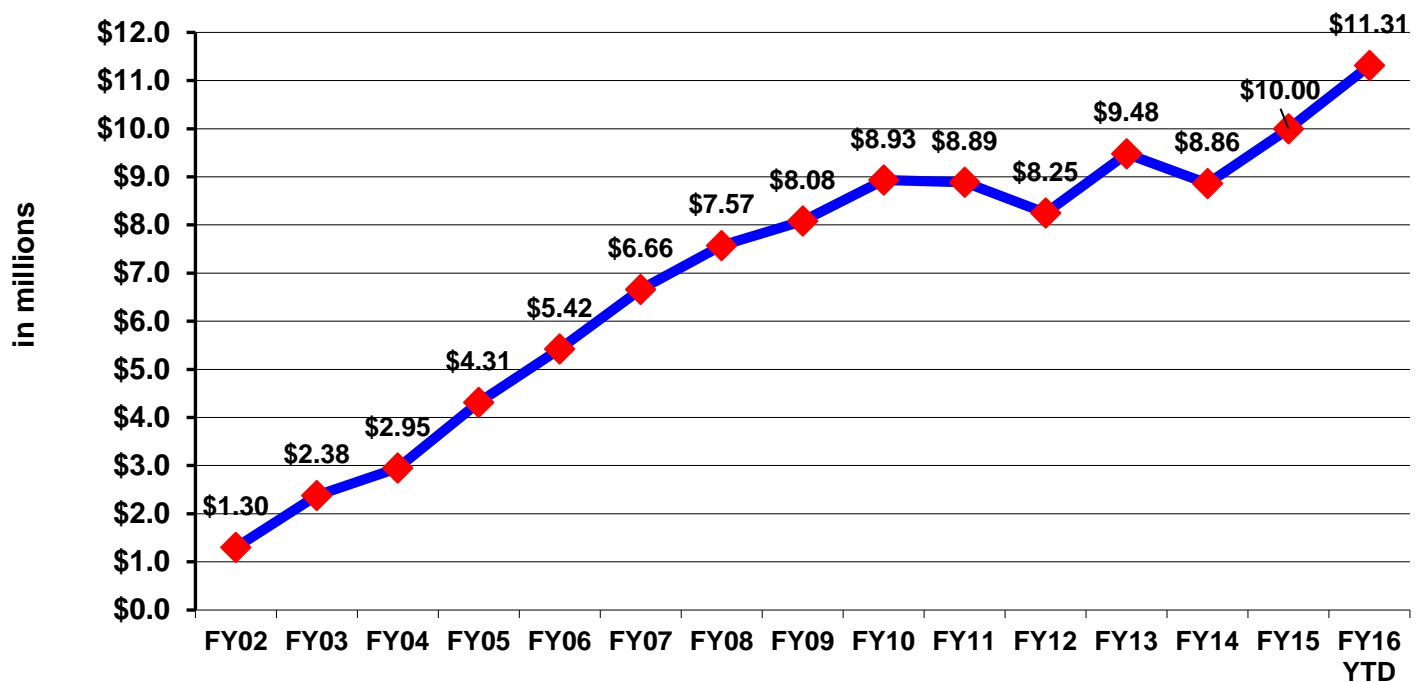


Figure 2: Actual Direct Costs Expended Per Year on InCHIP External Grants

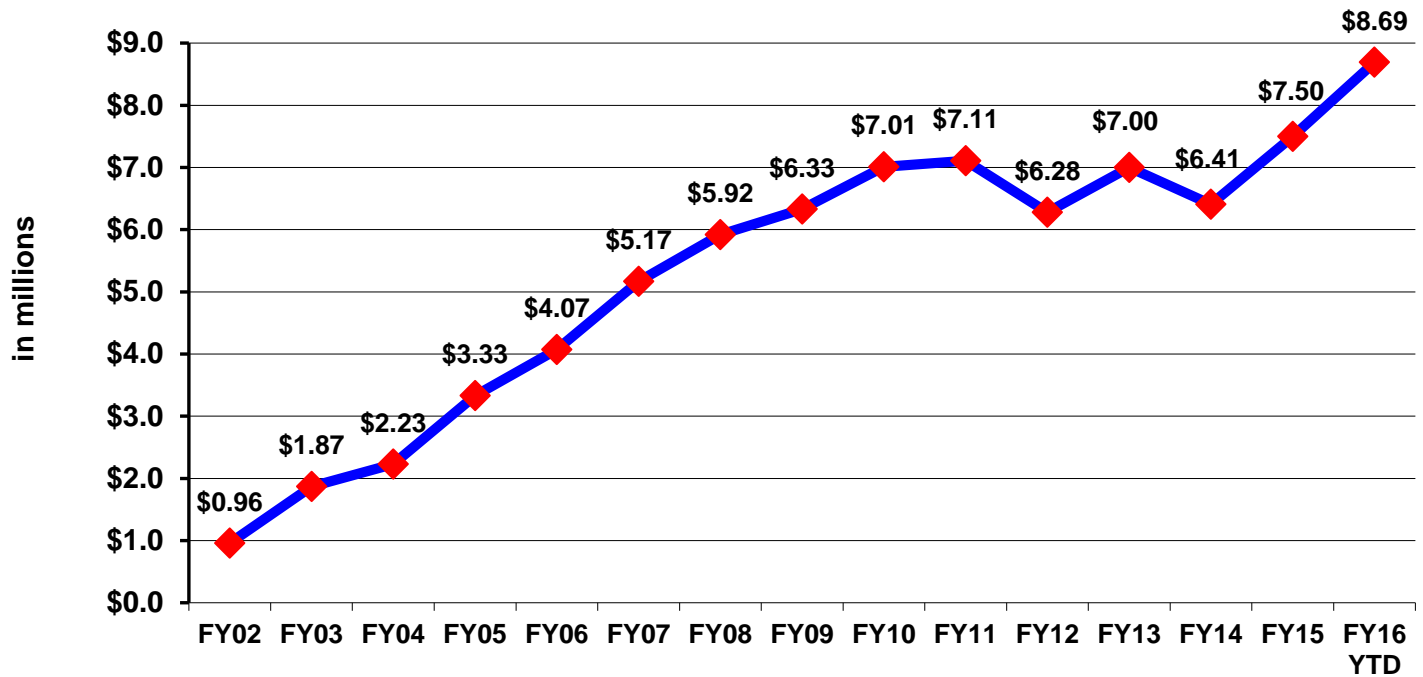
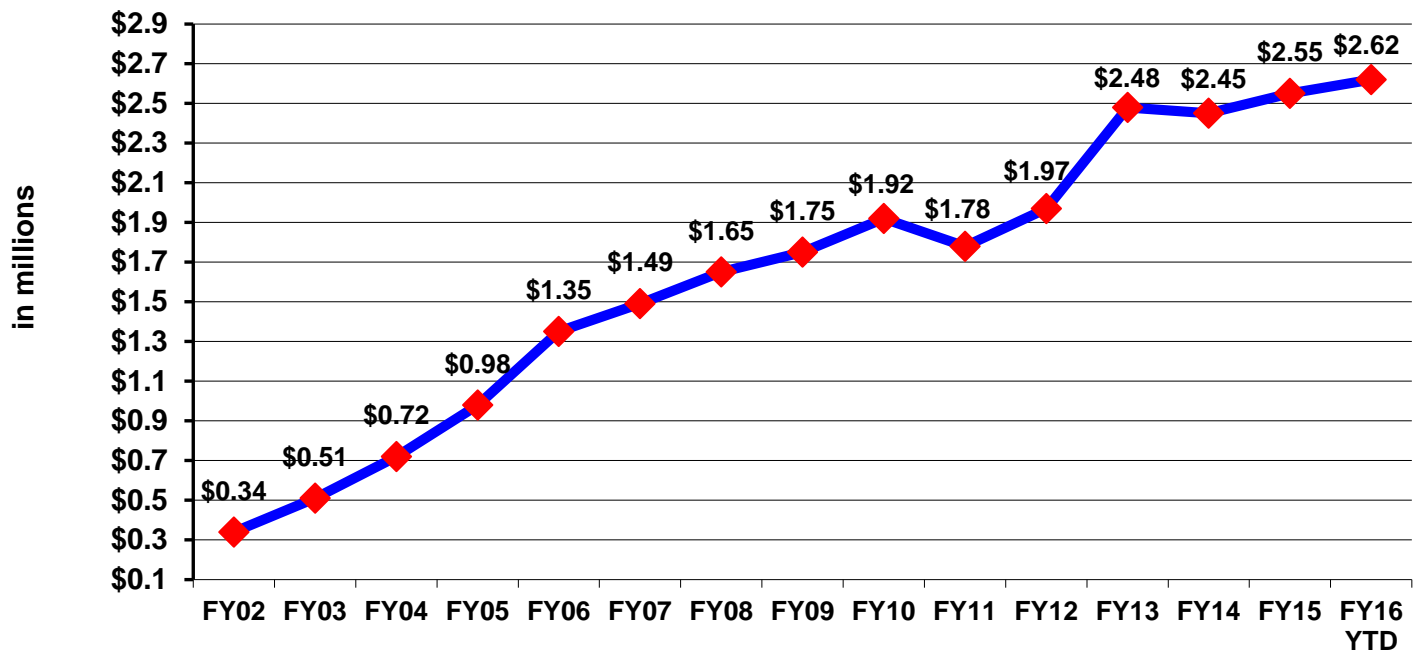
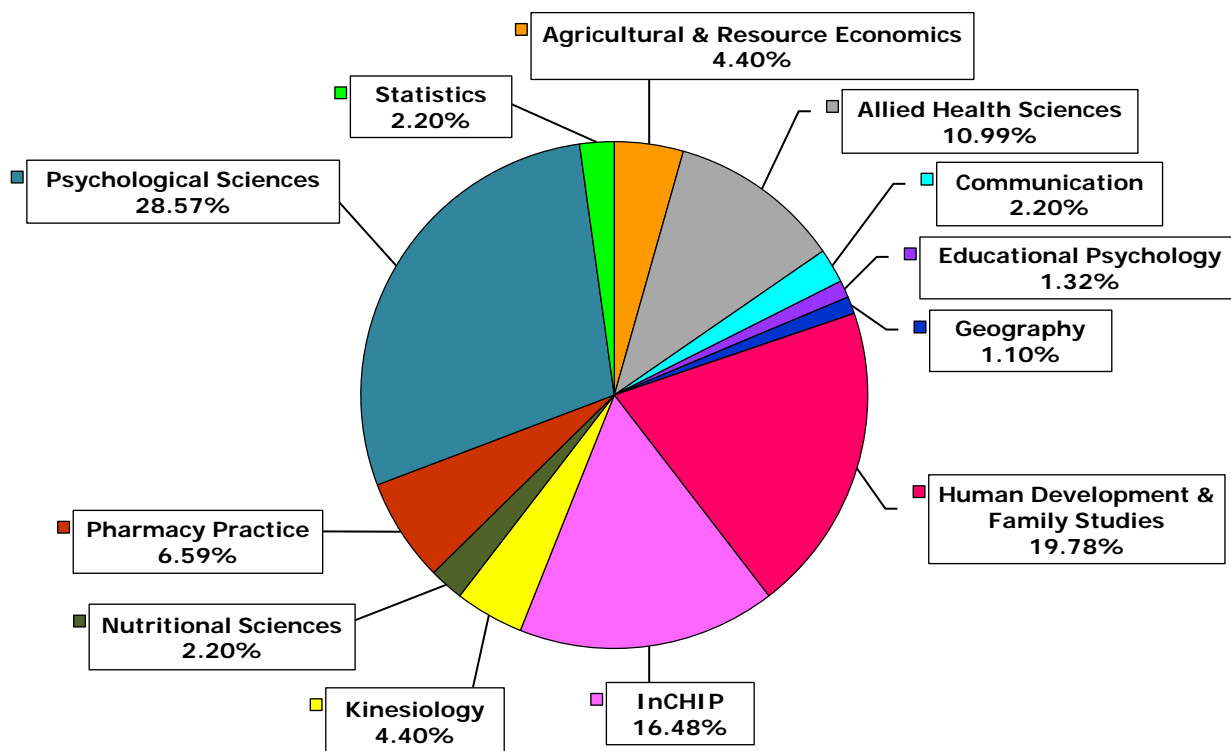


Figure 3: Actual Indirect Costs Recovered Per Year from InCHIP External Grants

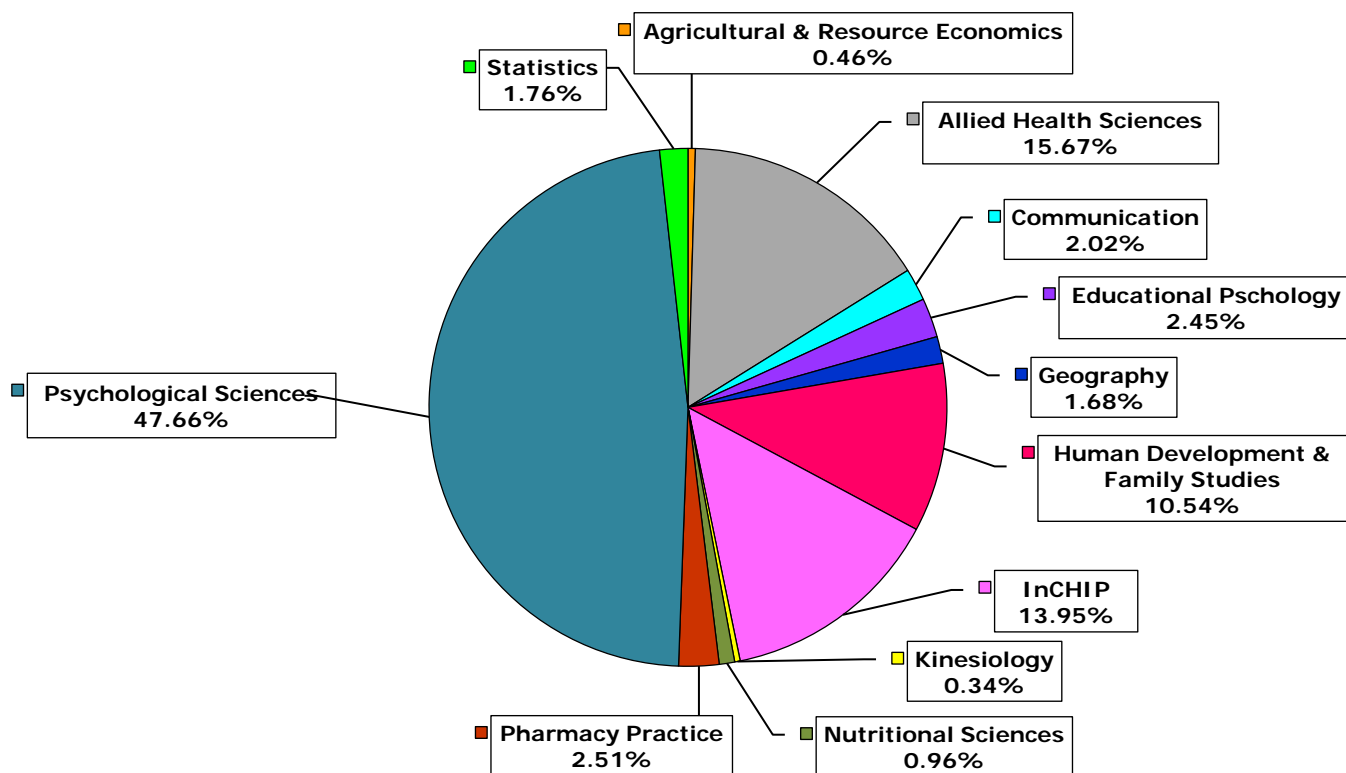


- Figures 4 and 5 below show the percentage distribution of active InCHIP grants and InCHIP grant dollars by academic department.

**Figure 4: Percentage Distribution of Number of Active InCHIP External Grants by Department
(Out of 91 Total Grants as of June 30, 2016)**



**Figure 5: Percentage Distribution of Current InCHIP Grant Dollars by Department
(Total Costs across All Years of Grants as of June 30, 2016)**



L. InCHIP Student Highlights

Students working with InCHIP PIs benefit tremendously from the unique research, collaborative, professional, and mentorship opportunities available through the Institute. InCHIP graduate students consistently publish in many of the most prestigious peer-reviewed journals in their fields, present at professional conferences around the world, and secure internal and external funding for research projects. Moreover, they provide an invaluable asset to InCHIP PIs as substantial contributors to collaborative research projects and grants.

This year, InCHIP internal and external grants funded about 50 graduate students across multiple departments. Total yearlong graduate student funding from InCHIP grants was approximately \$640,000.

Below are a few featured highlights of graduate student research involvement (most of which is multidisciplinary) and accomplishments in FY16:

- **Adam Blanchard** (Kinesiology) was the study co-coordinator for the "The Influence of Cardiorespiratory Fitness on Firefighter Cardiovascular Health Under Conditions of Heavy Physical Exertion" (FIT and FIRED UP) study under InCHIP Principal Investigator (PI) Linda Pescatello (PhD, Kinesiology). FIT and FIRED UP examined 24 firefighters for the influence of cardiorespiratory fitness on markers of sudden cardiac death and cardiovascular disease before and after a maximal physical effort. Blanchard authored three poster presentations this fiscal year.
- **Pramila Karki** (Allied Health Sciences) was an author on four peer-reviewed journal articles this year. She has also been actively involved in the "Secondary HIV Prevention and Adherence Among HIV-Infected Drug Users" project with InCHIP PI Michael Copenhaver (PhD, Allied Health Sciences). It is a randomized, controlled comparative-effectiveness trial which seeks to test the relative efficacy and cost-effectiveness of an adapted, brief version of an evidence-based intervention (EBI), in relation to the original EBI targeting HIV-positive drug users.
- **Lauren Lamberti** (Kinesiology) was an active member of the Studies in Prevention, Intervention Research in Exercise (SPIRE) team. She was a graduate coordinator on the concurrent exercise and blood pressure meta-analysis project. Lauren also worked on a series of meta-analyses that investigated the immediate, short-term blood pressure lowering effects of exercise on post exercise hypotension. The SPIRE team included her major advisor, Dr. Pescatello, as well as InCHIP PI Blair Johnson (PhD, Psychological Sciences) and InCHIP Affiliate Hayley MacDonald (PhD, Kinesiology). Lamberti was also a member of the InCHIP project, "The Influence of Cardiorespiratory Fitness on Firefighter Cardiovascular Health Under Conditions of Heavy Physical Exertion," under Dr. Pescatello. Specifically, her role on this project focused on processing blood for analysis of biomarkers, DNA, and RNA. This year, she has been an author in two papers, given two oral conference presentations, and presented two posters.
- **Kayla Vosburgh** (Allied Health Sciences) has been actively involved with a pediatric obesity prevention study at Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC), working under PI Sharon Smith (MD, CCMC) and Co-Investigator and InCHIP PI Valerie Duffy (PhD, RD, Allied Health Sciences). This research study utilized a food/activity preference survey, created by Dr. Duffy, which was completed by patients and their families at CCMC's Pediatric Emergency Department and Primary Care Center. Vosburgh was responsible for enrolling study participants, training undergraduate research assistants, managing undergraduate students in the Coordinated Dietetics Program during their research rotation at CCMC, and providing nutrition education to CCMC patients. After recruiting 1000 participants, the research team worked to extend the study to an online version, which will provide tailored nutrition messages to participants. Vosburgh, Duffy, and InCHIP Affiliate Carolyn Lin (PhD, Communications) also worked on piloting an innovative, evidence-based smartphone app in low-income schools to facilitate childhood obesity prevention. This year, Vosburgh was an author on an oral conference presentation as well as a poster presentation.
- **Roman Shrestha** (Allied Health Sciences) has authored ten research publications this year and is first author on eight of them. He also received two student travel awards, gave three oral conference presentations, and presented four posters. In terms of ongoing projects, he has been actively involved in the "Secondary HIV Prevention and Adherence Among HIV-Infected Drug Users" project with Dr. Copenhaver and Karki. He has also been working on "Cooperative Re-Engagement Controlled Trial (Project CONNECT)," a new collaboration

between the CT Department of Public Health (DPH), CT HIV treatment sites, selected private clinics, and the Yale University School of Medicine. Project CONNECT is a randomized controlled trial (RCT) designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the anti-retroviral treatment and access to services (ARTAS) intervention adapted to DPH Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) workers, as compared to clinical standard of care to improve linkage and re-engagement in HIV care.

- **Yin Wu** (Kinesiology) has taken the lead on study coordination for a Tai Chi comparative effectiveness intervention study, which is scheduled to start in the fall 2016. This intervention study is entitled, “Comparing the Benefits of Practicing Two Tai Chi Routines Designed for Different Health Outcomes.” Also participating in the study are several leading experts from Kinesiology, Health Psychology, Physical Therapy, Preventive Medicine, and Public Health: Dr. Pescatello, InCHIP PI Crystal Park (PhD, Psychological Sciences), and InCHIP Affiliates Susan Glenney (PT, DPT, MS, GCS, CSCS, Kinesiology), Beth Taylor (PhD, Kinesiology), and Richard Fortinsky (PhD, Medicine/Center on Aging). The primary aim of this study is to compare the health benefits of two different types of Tai Chi routines. For this study, Wu was awarded a Center on Aging/Connecticut Institute on Clinical and Translational Science (CICATS) Small Grant in the amount of \$7,119. In addition, Wu worked on two meta-analyses, the first being, “The Clinical Utility of Yoga As Antihypertensive Therapy: a Meta-Analysis” with Drs. Pescatello, Park, and Johnson. The purpose of this meta-analysis was to investigate the clinical utility of yoga as an antihypertensive lifestyle therapy and to identify potential moderators of this response while adhering to contemporary, high quality methodological standards. The other meta-analysis was entitled, “The Antihypertensive Benefits of Tai Chi Exercise among Older Adults: A Meta-Analysis,” and was conducted in collaboration with Drs. Pescatello and Johnson. The purpose of this meta-analysis is to investigate the clinical utility of Tai Chi as an antihypertensive lifestyle therapy and identify potential moderators of this response while adhering to contemporary, high quality methodological standards. This year, Wu has been an author on two peer-reviewed publications and three poster presentations.

M. Conclusion

FY16 was a remarkable year for InCHIP, transitioning from a Center to an Institute that fosters multidisciplinary research collaborations, not only between individual researchers but also across UConn centers and institutes. InCHIP’s ever increasing network of affiliated researchers continued to be highly successful, with 87 grant submissions (requesting \$72.6 million in total costs), 33 new external grant awards (\$10.0 million in total costs), and 91 active grants across all years (\$51.5 million in total costs). Contributing to the success of these researchers were InCHIP’s efforts at catalyzing new multidisciplinary research initiatives and collaborations in a broad array of health domains, both domestically and globally. In addition, InCHIP researchers received a variety of exemplary research support services and resources from the Institute, including (1) information about relevant funding opportunities and potential collaborators, (2) seed grant funding for pilot research projects, (3) networking events where they could meet and network with other researchers from across UConn, other institutions, and the community, (4) training and mentoring (for junior researchers) in successful grant applications, (5) assistance with writing grant applications, including the data analysis sections and budgets, and (6) presentations by and opportunities to meet with nationally and internationally recognized leaders in health behavior research. Overall, this was a year of considerable expansion and growth for InCHIP, who worked hard to develop and support researchers and multidisciplinary research teams, for the purpose of optimizing research and scholarship efforts in health and wellness at UConn.

Appendices

APPENDIX 1: InCHIP FY16 Newly Awarded and Active Grants (May 16, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

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*Indicates that the project was newly awarded in FY16										
Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	FY16 Direct Costs Awarded	FY16 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY16 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$30,159	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	01/20/15	01/19/16	University of Wisconsin / USDA	The Effects of the WIC Food Package Revisions on the Healthfulness of Food Purchases Among WIC Households: Analysis of Scanner Data (RIDGE)
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$24,591	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.5	01/01/15	06/30/15	Columbia University / NIH	Estimating State-Specific Annual Healthcare Cost Savings from Reducing Obesity
Andreyeva, Tatiana	AGRE	\$149,603	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	02/01/15	06/30/16	USDA / NIFA	Nutritional Quality of Foods in Non-CACFP Child Care Centers
Andreyeva, Tatiana *	AGRE	\$32,765	\$29,254	\$3,511	\$32,765	1	09/01/15	08/31/16	Duke University / RWJF	Supplementing Health Eating Research on In-Store Marketing Practices and Care on Education in Early Childhood to Prevent Childhood Obesity
Buckley, Thomas	PHAR	\$454,215	\$57,496	\$33,347	\$90,843	5	11/01/13	06/29/18	CT DPH	State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Pharmacy Initiative
Buckley, Thomas	PHAR	\$44,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	06/30/14	12/29/15	CT DPH	State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Pharmacy Initiative (SUPPLEMENT)

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Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	FY16 Direct Costs Awarded	FY16 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY16 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Buckley, Thomas *	PHAR	\$44,000	\$27,848	\$16,152	\$44,000	1	06/30/15	06/29/16	CT DPH	State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health - Pharmacy Initiative (Diabetes Enhanced) Year 3 (SUPPLEMENT)
Buckley, Thomas *	PHAR	\$119,398	\$110,998	\$8,400	\$119,398	1	06/30/15	06/29/16	CT DPH	The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
Butler, Lisa *	CHIP	\$3,675,301	\$581,394	\$189,637	\$771,031	5	05/01/16	04/30/21	NIH / NIMH	Multi-Sectoral Agricultural Intervention to Improve Nutrition, Health and Developmental Outcomes of HIV-Infected and Affected Children in Western Kenya
Butler, Lisa *	CHIP	\$114,093	\$22,977	\$13,327	\$36,304	3	05/01/16	04/30/19	UCSF / NIH / NIMH	Cognitive Behavioral and Structural HIV Prevention Intervention for Young Ugandan Women Engaging in High Risk Sexual Behavior
Butler, Lisa *	CHIP	\$79,197	\$4,805	\$2,786	\$7,591	4	05/01/16	04/30/20	UCSF / NIH / NCI	Promoting Early Diagnosis of Kaposi's Sarcoma in Uganda
Butler, Lisa *	CHIP	\$21,414	\$19,467	\$1,947	\$21,414	1	05/01/16	08/31/16	Global Strategies	Global Strategies Projects - PEP and NoviGuide
Butler, Lisa *	CHIP	\$80,521	\$11,413	\$6,620	\$18,033	3	05/01/16	04/30/20	UCSF / NIH / NIMH	Agricultural Intervention for Food Security and HIV Health Outcomes in Kenya

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Chafouleas, Sandra *	EDUC	\$1,259,296	\$724,166	\$165,561	\$889,727	2	07/01/15	06/30/17	US ED / IES	Exploring the Status and Impact of School-Based Behavior Screening Practices in a National Sample: Implications for Systems, Policy and Research
Christensen, John	COMM	\$67,351	\$0	\$0	\$0	3	12/01/12	08/31/15	NIH / University of Pennsylvania	Developing and Pilot Testing a Mobile Phone-Based HIV/STI Prevention Intervention
Copenhaver, Michael	AHSC	\$3,107,659	\$384,580	\$215,849	\$600,429	5	04/01/12	03/31/17	NIH / NIDA	Secondary HIV Prevention and Adherence Among HIV-infected Drug Users
Copenhaver, Michael	AHSC	\$697,150	\$129,409	\$10,021	\$139,430	5	04/01/13	03/31/18	NIH / NIDA	HIV Prevention and Adherence Among Priority Drug Using Populations
Cornman, Deborah	CHIP	\$120,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	3	11/01/09	10/31/16	CAPRISA	CAPRISA-CHIP Collaboration
Cornman, Deborah	CHIP	\$67,236	\$8,714	\$5,054	\$13,768	5	07/01/13	06/30/18	NIH / NIMH / Yale University	Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA)
Cornman, Deborah	CHIP	\$920,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	05/01/15	07/31/16	DoD / DHAPP	PHDP and GBV Prevention Programs for Soldiers in the Mozambican Armed Defense Forces
Cornman, Deborah *	CHIP	\$347,415	\$17,926	\$10,397	\$28,323	5	0/30/15	05/31/16	Yale / NIH	Working with HIV Clinics to Adopt Addiction Treatments Using Implementation Facilitation (WHAT IF?)
Cruess, Dean *	PSYC	\$121,163	\$20,000	\$11,600	\$31,600	4	04/01/16	03/31/20	Miriam Hospital / NIH/ NICCIH	Psychosocial, Immunological, and Biobehavioral Benefits of Stress Management Interventions for Chronic Diseases: Comprehensive Systematic Review and Meta-Analyses

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*Indicates that the project was newly awarded in FY16

Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	FY16 Direct Costs Awarded	FY16 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY16 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
DiStefano, Lindsay	KINE	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	07/01/13	12/31/15	Charles H. Hood Foundation, Inc.	Pediatric Sports Injury Prevention: Monitoring Changes Over Time
Duffy, Valerie	AHSC	\$431,947	\$56,274	\$28,160	\$84,434	5	09/30/13	08/31/18	NIH / UConn Health	Taste, Preferences, and Behavior: Effects of Nicotine and Flavorings in Electronic Cigarettes
Duffy, Valerie	AHSC	\$93,576	\$11,401	\$6,613	\$18,014	5	09/30/13	08/31/18	NIH / UConn Health	Manipulating Tobacco Constituents in Female Menthol Smokers
Duffy, Valerie *	AHSC	\$672,615	\$179,553	\$44,652	\$224,205	3	10/01/15	09/30/18	DSS / USDA / FNS	School and Family-Based SNAP-Ed
Eaton, Lisa	HDFS	\$3,065,906	\$367,337	\$91,576	\$458,913	5	07/11/11	04/30/16	NIH / NIMH	Serosorting Intervention for HIV Negative MSM
Eaton, Lisa	HDFS	\$298,725	\$29,468	\$15,351	\$41,819	5	06/01/13	03/31/18	NIH / NIDA / University of Pittsburgh	Understanding Delayed Access to HIV Prevention Services among Black MSM
Eaton, Lisa *	HDFS	\$29,647	\$19,242	\$10,405	\$29,647	1	04/01/15	03/31/16	NIH / NIDA / University of Pittsburgh	Understanding Delayed Access to HIV Prevention Services among Black MSM - Supplement
Fein, Deborah	PSYC	\$672,232	\$0	\$0	\$0	3	05/27/11	01/31/16	NIH / NIMH	Teaching Skills to Toddlers: A Program for Caregivers
Fein, Deborah	PSYC	\$1,414,455	\$249,602	\$135,707	\$385,309	5	09/25/14	05/31/19	Drexel / NIH	Early Detection of Autism Spectrum Disorders
Friedman, Roberta *	CHIP	\$14,991	\$13,036	\$1,955	\$14,991	0.3	10/01/15	12/31/15	Child Health and Dev. Institute of Connecticut Inc.	Researching and Developing a Policy Agenda for Obesity Prevention in Children, Birth to Two Years
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$23,324	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	08/01/14	07/31/15	NIH / UCSD	Promoting Physical Activity in Latinas via Interactive Web-based Technology

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Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	FY16 Direct Costs Awarded	FY16 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY16 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$414,514	\$54,867	\$31,823	\$86,690	1	09/01/14	05/31/15	NIH / Brown University	Improving Nutrition and Physical Activity Environments in Home-Based Child Care
Gans, Kim *	HDFS	\$39,618	\$26,509	\$13,109	\$39,618	1	06/01/15	05/31/16	NIH / Brown University	Improving Nutrition and Physical Activity Environments in Home-Based Child Care (SUPPLEMENT)
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$54,350	\$10,130	\$5,470	\$15,600	1	09/01/14	04/30/16	NIH / Brown University	Fresh to You: Multilevel Approaches in Low Income Housing to Increase F&V Intake
Gans, Kim	HDFS	\$76,774	\$25,938	\$15,045	\$40,983	1	09/01/14	02/29/16	NIH / Brown University	Innovative Approaches to Increase F&V Intake Thru Worksites: The Fresh Initiative
Gerrard, Meg	PSYC	\$288,613	\$44,505	\$25,813	\$70,318	1	09/15/14	06/30/18	University of Iowa / NIH	Smoking Associated Demethylation
Ghosh, Debarchana	GEOG	\$863,345	\$159,879	\$12,790	\$172,669	5	08/01/14	07/31/19	NIH / NIDA	Connecting People, Places, and Barriers: The Effect of These Connections on Adherence and Retention in Care for HIV-Infected Drug Users
Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	\$327,963	\$0	\$0	\$0	3.8	09/01/12	04/30/16	NIH / NCI / University of Hawaii	Self-Control as a Moderator for Effects of Mass Media on Adolescent Substance Use
Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	\$144,700	\$23,989	\$13,915	\$37,904	4	03/01/14	02/28/18	NIH / University of Georgia	Social Determinants of Inflammation and Metabolic Syndrome among African Americans
Gibbons, Frederick	PSYC	\$2,829,342	\$469,150	\$94,504	\$563,654	5	09/15/14	06/30/19	NIH / NIDA	Health Behaviors among Young Black Adults: Risk and Resilience
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$59,298	\$6,121	\$3,244	\$9,365	5	09/15/11	06/30/16	NIH / R01 / Drexel	Environmental and Acceptance-Based Innovations for Weight Loss Maintenance

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Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	12/01/13	06/30/15	UConn Health / CICATS	Thinking Big about Obesity: Building Team Science Initiatives at UConn and UCHC
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$193,821	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	09/01/14	12/31/15	Weight Watchers	Ripple Effects in Weight Watchers: Are Weight Watchers' Members a Catalyst for Change in Untreated Family Members?
Gorin, Amy	PSYC	\$432,705	\$131,252	\$60,711	\$191,963	2	12/01/14	11/30/16	NIH / NHLBI	Test of a Theory-Based Weight Loss Program for Couples: Project TEAMS
Harel, Ofer	STAT	\$889,402	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	04/09/10	01/31/16	NIH / NIMH	Dealing with Missing Data in HIV Prevention Trials
Harris, Jennifer	CHIP	\$279,593	\$60,035	\$7,204	\$67,239	2	01/01/15	03/31/18	Dell Foundation	Unhealthy Food Marketing Targeted to Children: Research to Evaluate Potentially Misleading Practices and Support Advocacy to Encourage Industry Change
Harris, Jennifer	CHIP	\$1,299,857	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	01/01/15	02/14/16	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Encouraging Industry and Government Action to Reduce Marketing of Unhealthy Foods to Children
Harris, Jennifer *	AHSC	\$45,819	\$9,106	\$5,281	\$14,387	5	05/05/15	02/28/18	Regents of the University of Michigan / NIH	Food Marketing Vulnerability and Increased Risk for Weight Gain in Adolescents
Harris, Jennifer *	AHSC	\$100,000	\$50,182	\$0	\$50,182	2	09/01/15	09/01/17	Center for Agriculture and Food Systems, Vermont Law School (CAFS) / USDA	National Agriculture Library Proposal FoodWorks: Pioneering State and Local Food Policies

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*Indicates that the project was newly awarded in FY16

Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	FY16 Direct Costs Awarded	FY16 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY16 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Harris, Jennifer *	AHSC	\$74,808	\$66,793	\$8,015	\$74,808	0.5	03/01/16	08/31/16	Duke University / RWJF	Evaluating Healthy Kids' Meal Defaults
Harris, Jennifer *	AHSC	\$1,704,689	\$1,522,044	\$182,645	\$1,704,689	1	02/15/16	02/14/17	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Encouraging Industry and Government Action to Reduce Marketing of Unhealthy Foods to Children (RENEWAL)
Johnson, Blair	PSYC	\$64,149	\$10,364	\$6,011	\$16,375	5	07/01/12	06/30/16	NIH / NIAAA Miriam Hospital	Alcohol Consumption and HIV Behavior: Evaluating the Evidence
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$2,632,176	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	03/17/11	06/30/16	NIH / NINR	Nurse Delivered Cell-Phone HIV Adherence Intervention (Pick-It-Up)
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$3,327,281	\$392,263	\$227,512	\$619,775	5	02/01/12	01/31/17	NIH / NIDA	Behavioral Intervention to Enhance HIV Test/Treat (ITM2)
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$2,813,490	\$412,357	\$111,610	\$523,967	5	04/01/13	01/31/18	NIH / NIDA	Enhanced STI/HIV Partner Notification in South Africa
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$940,652	\$196,425	\$113,926	\$310,351	3	09/15/13	08/31/16	NIH / NIAAA	Influence of Food Insecurity on Adherence
Kalichman, Seth	PSYC	\$3,363,244	\$496,656	\$171,600	\$668,256	5	09/10/14	08/31/19	NIH / NIAAA	Comparative Effectiveness Trial for Retention-Adherence-Health
Kalichman, Seth *	PSYC	\$149,292	\$16,585	\$9,619	\$26,204	5	07/28/15	06/30/20	San Diego State University / NIH / NIMH	Enhanced Linkage to HIV Care Following Home-Based HIV Testing in Rural Uganda
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$1,082,533	\$276,203	\$26,422	\$302,625	3	08/23/14	05/31/17	NIH / NIDDK	A Randomized Trial Testing Lay Health Coaches for Obesity Treatment
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$35,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	08/23/14	06/30/15	Miriam Hospital / NIH	A State-Wide Initiative to Spread Effective Behavioral Weight Loss Strategies

APPENDIX 1: InCHIP FY16 Newly Awarded and Active Grants (May 16, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

*Indicates that the project was newly awarded in FY16

Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	FY16 Direct Costs Awarded	FY16 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY16 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Leahey, Tricia	AHSC	\$164,515	\$12,422	\$7,205	\$19,627	5	09/25/14	08/31/19	VCU / NIH	Low Intensity Weight Loss for Young Adults: Autonomous vs. Extrinsic Motivation
Lepley, Lindsey *	KINE	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500	1.5	11/02/15	05/31/17	New England American College of Sports Medicine	Targeting Neural Pathways after ACL Reconstruction Using Eccentric Cross-Exercise
Mobley, Amy *	NUTR	\$75,703	\$34,323	\$4,562	\$38,885	2	10/01/15	03/31/17	Child Health and Dev. Institute of Connecticut Inc.	Development of Evidence-Based Child Feeding Messages to Prevent Obesity in Early Childhood
Mobley, Amy *	NUTR	\$419,801	\$152,855	\$77,010	\$229,865	2	06/01/16	04/30/18	NIH / NICHD	Father-Focused Nutrition and Parenting Program to Help Prevent Childhood Obesity in Preschool Age Children
O'Connell, Meghan	CHIP	\$16,165	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	04/01/15	03/31/16	University of Mississippi / USDA / NFSMI	Assessing the Current Status of Nutrition and Wellness Components in Child Care Centers Participating in CACFP
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$356,253	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	09/01/13	06/30/16	NIH / NCCAM Massachusetts General Hospital	Preliminary Study of a Yoga Program to Catalyze Health Behavior Change
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$1,964,677	\$0	\$0	\$0	5	09/29/10	08/31/16	NIH / NCCAM	Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$168,010	\$22,689	\$10,913	\$33,602	5	11/28/11	11/28/16	VA Connecticut Healthcare System	Study of Returning Veterans (SERV)
Park, Crystal; Gutierrez, Ian	PSYC	\$106,078	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	09/01/13	08/31/16	NIH / NCCAM	Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy (SUPPLEMENT to Promote Diversity)

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*Indicates that the project was newly awarded in FY16

Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	FY16 Direct Costs Awarded	FY16 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY16 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$610,856	\$0	\$0	\$0	2	09/01/13	08/31/16	NIH / NCCAM	Development of a Translational Tool to Study Yoga Therapy (SUPPLEMENT)
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$44,863	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	09/01/14	02/29/16	CT BHI	Predicting and Enhancing Connecticut Breast Cancer Survivors' Health Behaviors
Park, Crystal	PSYC	\$1,474,771	\$251,599	\$113,046	\$364,645	4	09/15/14	06/30/18	NIH / NIGMS	Self-Regulation Skills as Predictors of URM Student Success Biomedical Research
Pescatello, Linda	KINE	\$19,800	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	08/23/14	09/30/16	Hartford Hospital / CT Space Grant	Investigating Deep Vein Thrombosis Risk in Women At Flight
Pescatello, Linda *	KINE	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	1	07/01/15	06/30/16	American College of Sports Medicine	The Effect of Compression Socks on Blood Clot Risk During Travel in Oral Contraceptive Using Women
Schifano, Elizabeth *	STAT	\$15,000	\$12,500	\$2,500	\$15,000	1	06/01/16	06/30/16	CCMC / CTDPH	Continued Collaboration on Easy Breathing program
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$279,084	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	01/01/15	08/31/15	RWJF / AHA	Voices for Healthy Kids: Healthy Drinks Hub
Schwartz, Marlene *	HDFS	\$59,611	\$53,224	\$6,387	\$59,611	1	07/01/15	08/31/15	RWJF / AHA	Voices for Healthy Kids: Healthy Drinks Hub (SUPPLEMENT)
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$247,558	\$106,676	\$12,801	\$119,477	2	01/01/15	12/31/16	Horizon Foundation	Improving Nutrition in Howard County: A Strategic Science and Policy Initiative
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$111,879	\$0	\$0	\$0	1.3	01/01/15	03/31/16	NIH / Yale University	School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policies, Obesogenic Behaviors and Weight Outcomes
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$46,470	\$29,411	\$17,059	\$46,470	1	04/01/15	03/31/16	NIH / Yale University	School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policies, Obesogenic Behaviors and Weight Outcomes (SUPPLEMENT)

APPENDIX 1: InCHIP FY16 Newly Awarded and Active Grants (May 16, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

*Indicates that the project was newly awarded in FY16

Principal Investigator	Dept	Total Costs Awarded	FY16 Direct Costs Awarded	FY16 Indirect Costs Awarded	FY16 Total Costs Awarded	Yrs	Start Date	End Date	Agency	Title
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$91,941	\$25,288	\$3,035	\$28,323	3	01/06/15	12/31/17	Partnership for a Healthier America	Evaluation of Commitments Made by Child Care Centers with Partnership for a Healthier America
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$45,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	01/01/15	04/15/16	Claneil Foundation	Improving Nutrition in Food Banks
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$28,843	\$0	\$0	\$0	1	01/01/15	09/30/15	State Education Resource Center (SERC) / USDA	Connecticut Smarter Lunchroom Pilot
Schwartz, Marlene	HDFS	\$219,225	\$55,474	\$32,175	\$87,649	3	02/01/15	02/28/18	University of Illinois / USDA	National Wellness Policy Study
Schwartz, Marlene *	HDFS	\$1,350	\$855	\$495	\$1,350	1	03/01/16	02/28/17	University of Illinois / USDA	National Wellness Policy Study (SUPPLEMENT)
Schwartz, Marlene *	HDFS	\$49,405	\$41,171	\$8,234	\$49,405	1	04/01/15	09/30/15	Action for Healthy Foods	Sugar Sweetened Beverage Policies
Schwartz, Marlene *	HDFS	\$49,991	\$44,635	\$5,356	\$49,991	1	08/01/15	07/31/16	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Testing the Impact of Improving the National School Breakfast Program
Schwartz, Marlene *	HDFS	\$189,950	\$127,846	\$15,342	\$143,188	1.5	02/01/16	06/30/17	RWJF / HER	Developing a reliable, valid measure of school wellness policy implementation: The WellSAT-I
Sobieraj, Diane *	PHAR	\$355,000	\$224,683	\$130,317	\$355,000	1	05/17/16	04/11/17	AHRQ	Pharmacologic Management of Asthma
Snyder, Leslie	COMM	\$972,191	\$-12,650	\$8,782	\$-3,868	1.9	07/25/12	04/30/16	NIH / Harvard	Evaluation of Graphic Warning Labels on Tobacco Packages and Related Supporting Messages
C. Michael White	PHAR	\$275,000	\$22,152	\$12,848	\$35,000	5	12/01/14	11/30/19	AHRQ	Evidence-Based Practice Center (EPC) V
TOTAL ACTIVE GRANTS AWARDED		\$51,467,463	\$8,747,366	\$2,642,964	\$11,390,330					

Department:

AGRE Agricultural & Resource Economics
AHSC Allied Health Sciences
ANTH Anthropology
CHIP Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy
COMM Communication
EDUC Education Psychology
GEOG Geography

HDFS Human Development and Family Studies
KINE Kinesiology
NUTR Nutritional Sciences
PHAR Pharmacy Practice
PSYC Psychological Sciences
STAT Statistics

APPENDIX 2: InCHIP Lecture Series 2015-16

Date	Speaker	Title / Topic	Lecture Co-Sponsors* (in addition to InCHIP)
9/14/15	Howard Leventhal, PhD <i>Rutgers University</i>	“Modelling Health Behavior In Daily Life (CSM)”	UConn Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion, UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health, UConn Department of Statistics
9/24/15	Janet Tomiyama, PhD <i>UCLA</i>	“Stress, Eating, and Biobehavioral Effects of Low-Calorie Dieting”	UConn Center for Environmental Health and Health Promotion, UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Health Disparities Institute/Ethel Donaghue Center for Translating Research into Practice and Policy, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health, Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, UConn Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program
10/1/15	Mark Weist, PhD <i>University of South Carolina</i>	“Interconnecting School Mental Health and Positive Behavior Support”	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Neag School of Education, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health, UConn School of Social Work

Date	Speaker	Title / Topic	Lecture Co-Sponsors* (in addition to InCHIP)
10/8/15	Alice Ammerman , DrPH <i>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</i>	"Heart Healthy Lenoir: A multi-level CVD risk reduction intervention in the stroke belt"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development, UConn Department of Communication UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Neag School of Education, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine, UConn Health, UConn School of Social Work
10/15/15	Jennifer Stinson, PhD, CPNP <i>University of Toronto</i>	"Improving Child Health Outcomes: Harnessing Electronic and Mobile Health Technologies"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health, UConn Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program
11/5/15	Melissa Riddle, PhD <i>NIH</i>	"Funding for Behavioral and Social Research: Finding New Partners and Opportunities"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health, UConn School of Pharmacy, UConn School of Social Work

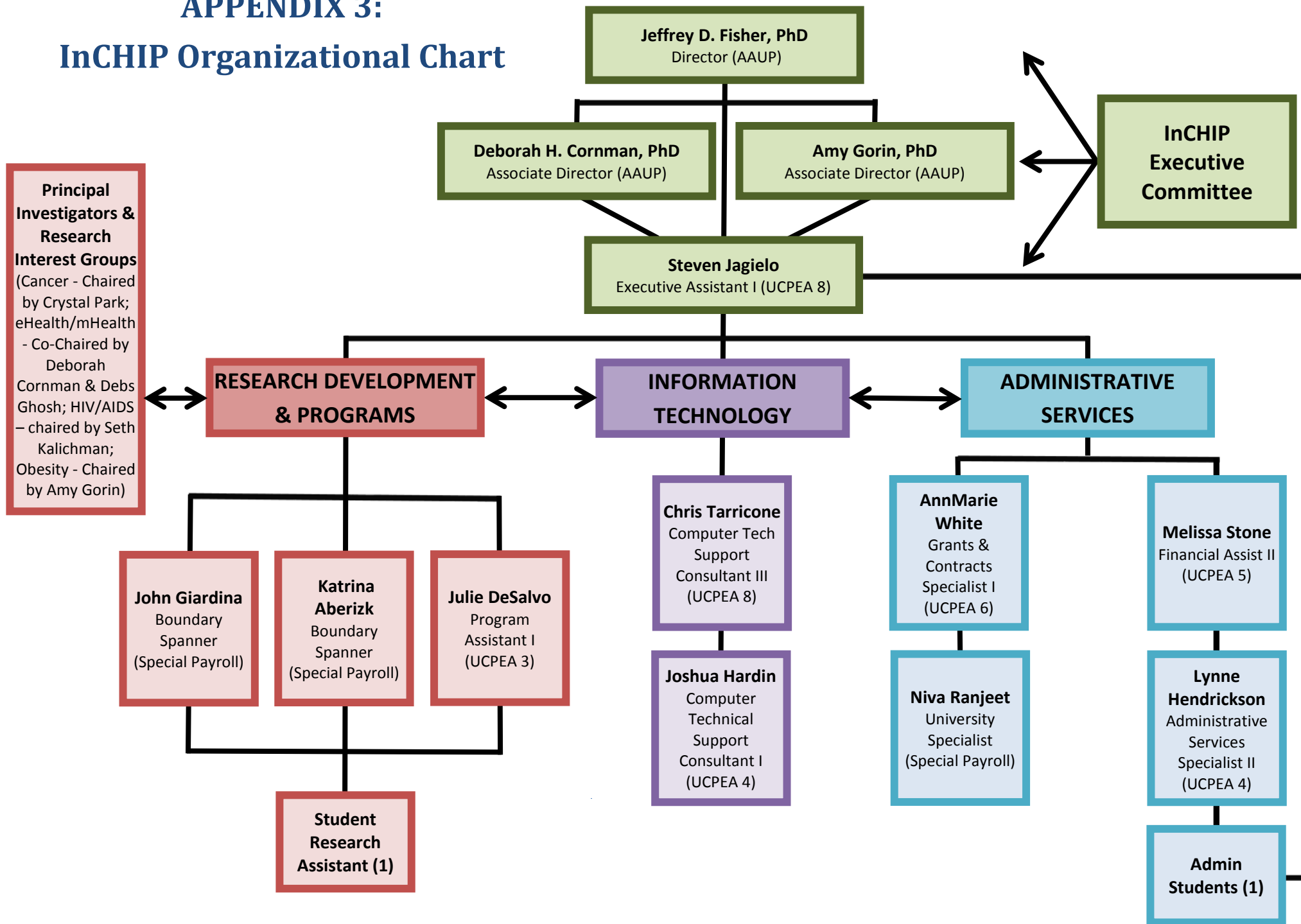
Date	Speaker	Title / Topic	Lecture Co-Sponsors* (in addition to InCHIP)
11/16/15	Rivet Amico, PhD <i>University of Michigan</i>	"Pre-exposure Prophylaxis: Research, Implementation and Advocacy"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health
12/3/15	Gregory A. Aarons, PhD <i>University of California</i>	"Facilitating Leadership and Organizational Change for Evidence-Based Practice Implementation"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health
1/21/16	James W Pennebaker, PhD <i>University of Texas at Austin</i>	"Current State of the Art About the Expressive Writing Methods and Health"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Department of Psychological Sciences, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health
1/28/16	Christine Gidycz, PhD <i>Ohio University</i>	"Sexual Violence: A Major Public Health Problem"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Anthropology, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health

Date	Speaker	Title / Topic	Lecture Co-Sponsors* (in addition to InCHIP)
2/18/16	Josh Smyth, PhD <i>Penn State</i>	"Real-time Ambulatory Assessment and Intervention"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine, at UConn Health, UConn School of Pharmacy
2/25/16	Ki Chon, PhD <i>University of Connecticut</i>	"Sensors and Wearable Devices for Vital Sign, Atrial Fibrillation and Underwater ECG Monitoring"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine, at UConn Health, UConn School of Nursing, UConn School of Pharmacy
3/10/16	Seth Noar, PhD <i>University of North Carolina</i>	"The Impact of Cigarette Pack Warnings"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health
3/24/16	Elsie M. Taveras, MD, MPH <i>Mass General Hospital for Children and Harvard Medical School</i>	"Improving Childhood Obesity Management – Learning and Applying Best Practices of Positive Outliers"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine, at UConn Health, UConn Department of Nutritional Sciences, UConn Department of Statistics

Date	Speaker	Title / Topic	Lecture Co-Sponsors* (in addition to InCHIP)
4/4/16	Alessio Fasano, MD <i>Mass General Hospital for Children and Harvard Medical School</i>	"Celiac Disease Genomic, Environmental, Microbiome and Metabolomic Study: A Paradigm of Multi-omics in Autoimmune Diseases"	Connecticut Children's Medical Center, UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, UConn Department of Allied Health Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health, UConn School of Nursing
4/7/16	Dolores Albarracín, PhD <i>University of Illinois</i>	"Online Information and HIV in US Counties: Theory Testing and Prediction"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine at UConn Health
4/14/16	Stephen Intille, PhD <i>Northeastern University</i> [Bio-CHIP Lecture Subseries]	"Measuring Behavior and Motivating Health Behavior Change Using Mobile Technology: Opportunities and (Difficult) Challenges"	N/A
4/28/16	Julie Wagner, PhD <i>UConn Health Center</i>	"Diabetes, Culture and Mental Health in Vulnerable Populations"	UConn Center for Public Health and Health Policy, UConn College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UConn Department of Communication, UConn Department of Human Development and Family Studies, UConn Marketing Department, UConn School of Business, UConn Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the Center for the Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace, UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity, UConn School of Business, UConn School of Medicine, UConn Health, UConn School of Pharmacy

* *The InCHIP Lecture Series is supported in part by the Office of the Vice President for Research*

APPENDIX 3: InCHIP Organizational Chart



APPENDIX 4: InCHIP Health Domains

InCHIP principal investigators (PIs) from a range of academic departments conduct research related to health behavior, health behavior change, health intervention and prevention in a variety of health domains. Since the formation of InCHIP (formally CHIP) in FY02, InCHIP PIs have secured research grants totaling **\$127 million** (in total costs) to study the dynamics of health behavior within specific populations and to develop interventions to reduce risk behaviors, support healthy behaviors, and inform best practices and health policy.

In FY16, InCHIP had **\$51.5 million** in active grants across all years in the following health domains: alcohol and substance use, autism, cancer, complementary and alternative approaches to medicine, diabetes, digital health, dissemination and implementation science, exercise science, global health, health disparities, HIV, obesity, school and child health, sexual risk behavior/ reproductive health, and treatment adherence and retention in care.

A brief description of each health domain follows.

Alcohol and Substance Use

InCHIP researchers design alcohol and substance use interventions for at-risk populations, from youth to newly-released prisoners transitioning back into the community.

Autism

Autism research at InCHIP addresses several critical topics in the field including early detection, parental training, and innovative interventions to help children with autism improve their social, communication, and gross motor skills.

Cancer

InCHIP cancer research is focused on studying and intervening along the entire cancer control continuum from primary prevention to early detection and diagnosis, treatment, survivorship, and end-of-life issues.

Complementary and Alternative Approaches to Medicine

InCHIP's alternative therapy researchers investigate the physical and mental health benefits of sustained yoga practice, have developed a translational tool that allows researchers to design and compare yoga interventions, and have examined the relationship between religiousness or spirituality and physical health.

Diabetes

InCHIP diabetes research includes the development, implementation, and evaluation of theory-driven diabetes self-care interventions that encourage provider involvement with patients' self-management of symptoms.

Digital Health

InCHIP's work in digital health is broadly focused to include electronic and mobile health research. Investigators capitalize on the use of mobile technologies, social media, web-based interventions, sensors, and other means to assess and modify target health behaviors. InCHIP is also home to Bio-CHIP, the first academic center of its kind worldwide to develop and apply biosensor-based eHealth technologies.

Dissemination and Implementation Science

InCHIP dissemination and implementation (D&I) research recognizes the gap between research and practice and is designed to advance the D&I of evidence-based practices in health promotion and disease prevention interventions.

Exercise Science

InCHIP researchers from UConn's top-ranked Kinesiology Department study a broad range of topics including exercise genomics and exercise interventions.

Global Health

About 15% of active InCHIP projects involve health behavior change interventions designed or adapted for sustainability around the world. InCHIP's research portfolio in Africa is especially robust and largely focused on the core problem area of HIV prevention and treatment.

Health Disparities

InCHIP health disparity research examines the differences in health-related outcomes (e.g., diet and obesity, vaccine completion, reproductive health) as a function of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, and other demographic variables.

HIV

InCHIP's historic roots are in HIV prevention and treatment research, with a special focus on HIV risk behaviors and an increasingly international scope.

Obesity

InCHIP obesity research seeks to understand and influence the individual, social, and environmental factors contributing to our nation's obesity epidemic. In 2015, InCHIP became home to the Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity which is dedicated to improving the world's diet, preventing obesity, and reducing weight stigma.

School and Child Health

InCHIP research on school and child health focuses on efforts to inform healthy, safe, supporting, and engaging environments for all children.

Sexual Risk Behavior/Reproductive Health

InCHIP's research on sexual risk behaviors includes the development and evaluation of interventions for pregnancy prevention, the reproductive health of people living with HIV, and the enhancement of partner notification practices around potential HIV/STI exposure.

Treatment Adherence and Retention in Care

InCHIP's research on treatment adherence and retention in care targets a variety of at-risk populations including men who have sex with men, people with poor literacy skills, and recently released prisoners transitioning back into the community.

(For more information on current InCHIP research projects within each health domain, please visit <http://chip.uconn.edu/research/chip-research-projects/>.)

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