



University Center for  
Social and Urban Research

**40 YEARS**

Enhancing Lives and  
Transforming Communities

annual report

July 1, 2011–June 30, 2012



# UCSUR

University Center for  
Social and Urban Research

## Annual Report

July 1, 2011–June 30, 2012

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# Who We Are

## University Center for Social and Urban Research

The University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR) was established in 1972 to serve as a resource for researchers and educators interested in the basic and applied social and behavioral sciences. As a hub for interdisciplinary research and collaboration, UCSUR promotes a research agenda focused on the social, economic, and health issues most relevant to our society. UCSUR maintains a permanent research infrastructure available to faculty and the community with the capacity to:

1. Conduct all types of survey research, including complex web surveys;
2. Carry out regional econometric modeling;
3. Analyze qualitative data using state-of-the-art computer methods;
4. Obtain, format, and analyze spatial data;
5. Acquire, manage, and analyze large secondary and administrative data sets including Census data;
6. Design and carry out descriptive, evaluation, and intervention studies; and
7. Provide information technology services for the collection, management, and analysis of sensitive research data to assure the highest levels of security and privacy.

The long-term goals of UCSUR fall into three broad domains:

1. Provide state-of-the-art research and support services for investigators interested in interdisciplinary research in the behavioral, social, and clinical sciences;
2. Develop nationally recognized research programs within the center in a few selected areas; and
3. Support the teaching mission of the University through graduate student, postdoctoral, and junior faculty mentoring, teaching courses on research methods in the social sciences, and providing research internships to undergraduate and graduate students.

Achieving these goals requires that we continually upgrade and improve the research infrastructure of the center, and that we recruit, develop, and maintain a core staff of investigators capable of being leaders in their fields.



# Message from the Director



*Richard Schulz*

The publication of this Annual Report for 2012 marks the 40th anniversary of the University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR). It seems appropriate to pause for a moment and briefly reflect upon some of the people and events that have had a strong influence in shaping the organization as it exists today.

The center was established in 1972 as the University Center for Urban Research (UCUR) with a mandate to “bring together, in an organized and integrated fashion, the many research activities and some of the service activities of the University of Pittsburgh which focus on urban phenomenon.” Drs. Brian Vargus and Clyde McDaniel served as founding codirectors.

In 1973, Dr. Jiri Nehnevajsa assumed the role of director, expanding the programmatic areas of research within the center and establishing the foundation for the development of the survey research program. In 1978, Dr. Vijai Singh accepted an appointment as director of UCUR. Through a series of discussions with a great many members of the faculty, it became clear that the University needed a high quality, multidisciplinary social science research facility with a

strong quantitative methodological orientation. This organization was to assist the University in fulfilling its urban mission by undertaking social and policy-oriented research and providing technical assistance to local governments and community organizations. Thus, in November 1978, with the approval of the Program Policy Committee, the chancellor, and the provost, the center was renamed the University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR), and its mission was expanded.

I was recruited to the University of Pittsburgh in 1984 to serve as director of gerontology, a University-wide position with the goal of developing research on aging throughout the University. With appointments in the Department of Psychiatry and UCSUR, I had the privilege of helping to build a research capacity in aging that is second to none among U.S. universities. Having UCSUR as a home base for these initiatives was a key factor in achieving these successes. My commitment to the mission and goals of the center have grown over the years as my administrative responsibilities increased when I became associate director of the center in 1988 and director in 1999.

The center has undergone many changes over the last 40 years. It now occupies its seventh different campus location, as we continue to expand. Over the years, countless faculty from different disciplines have participated in UCSUR’s research programs. While certain research areas, such as urban and regional analysis, have been a part of the center since its inception, the center continues to expand into new areas of inquiry reflecting the research interests of the faculty. Over the years, programs have included Risk and Emergency Management, Environmental Policy

Studies, Generations Together, Office of Child Development, Gerontology, Survey Research, and more recently GIS and Visual Analytics, and Qualitative Data Analysis. A major achievement of the last decade has been to put in place a permanent research infrastructure with the capacity to conduct all types of survey research; carry out regional econometric modeling; obtain, format, and analyze spatial data; acquire, manage, and analyze large secondary data sets; and carry out computer qualitative analysis. These services are used by faculty from every school of the University and provide a platform for training graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, and mentoring junior faculty and serving the community.

The center continues to aggressively pursue other opportunities to enhance its research infrastructure, broaden the range of support services available to faculty and the community, expand the participation of faculty and graduate students in center research programs, and strengthen University-community collaborations. The center serves as the interdisciplinary crossroads for schools throughout the University and has become a major resource in mentoring and supporting the research careers of junior faculty and postdoctoral students.

I am particularly proud of the academic productivity of the center. Staff of the center have been involved in hundreds of externally funded research projects and peer-reviewed publications, have published more than a dozen books, and have received major national awards for their achievements.

To all the faculty, staff, and students who make this center a vital part of the University community, I express my deepest and sincerest thanks.

# Programs

In response to faculty interests and current domestic policy issues, UCSUR develops interdisciplinary research programs that address regional and national policy issues. The resources described in the previous section are provided by one or more of these programs. As new policy issues emerge, UCSUR is prepared to facilitate and coordinate the development of additional programs identified by interested faculty. Existing research programs include:

## Survey Research Program (SRP)

**Program Director**  
**Scott Beach**

Maintains a highly experienced staff of survey professionals, trained interviewers, and data management specialists. Services are available to faculty, staff, and students throughout the University and to local, state, and federal agencies and others working in the public interest. Offers the capability to execute any or all phases of a survey research project, including sample design, questionnaire construction, data collection, data processing, statistical analysis, and reporting.

## Urban and Regional Analysis (URA)

**Program Director**  
**Sabina Deitrick**

**Associate Program Director**  
**Ralph Bangs**

Promotes scholarly analysis of urban and regional issues through multidisciplinary research in local, national, and international issues. Furthers our understanding of the causes and consequences of regional economic development and

social change, enhances the analytic basis for public policy decisions, and aids in the evaluation of policy alternatives.

## Gerontology

**Program Director**  
**Richard Schulz**

**Associate Program Director**  
**Judith Matthews**

Initiates, coordinates, and facilitates research on aging. In collaboration with faculty in more than a dozen different disciplines (e.g., psychiatry, anesthesiology, rheumatology, nursing, epidemiology, engineering, computer science), program faculty and staff play an active role in developing proposals for research focused on psychosocial, behavioral, cognitive, and physical aspects of aging.



## Qualitative Data Analysis Program (QDAP)

**Program Director**  
**Donald Musa**

Offers a rigorous approach to qualitative data collection and analysis including focus group facilitation; interviewing; analysis of textual or Web site information; audio and video transcription and analysis; data preparation, cleaning, and

management; codebook development and testing, coding and multi-coder adjudication; reliability and validity reporting; and results analysis and expression.

## Geographical Information Systems and Visual Analytics Program

**Program Director**  
**Ken Sochats**

Provides analytical services relating to mapping and visual display. Program staff has expertise in creating sophisticated maps and the analysis and mining of extremely large databases. The staff has expertise in applying these techniques to a wide variety of disciplines including education, medicine and health, crime, and emergency management.

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*Projects conducted in these areas illustrate the center's commitment to enhancing scientific understanding of social phenomena while generating information for improved policymaking in both the public and private sectors.*

# What We Do: Center Resources

## Survey Research Services

UCSUR provides survey research services through the Survey Research Program (SRP). SRP maintains a highly experienced staff of survey professionals, trained interviewers, and data management specialists. SRP services are available to faculty, staff, and students throughout the University and to local, state, and federal agencies and others working in the public interest.

SRP is able to carry out any or all phases of a survey research project, including sample design, questionnaire design, data collection, data processing, statistical analysis, and reporting. SRP staff have the training and experience to design scientifically valid studies customized to client research needs. SRP can help clarify study objectives and provide advice on how to obtain the highest quality data within available resource constraints. More specifically, SRP provides assistance in the following areas:

### Sample Design

SRP staff provide advice on sampling methodology and sample size to meet study objectives and budget. Services include in-house development of specialized sample frames, or consultation with commercial sampling firms to obtain an



appropriate sample. Examples of the types of samples provided include:

- **Random digit dialing (RDD) samples:** particularly suited for telephone surveys of the general population, computer-generated telephone numbers are used to target specific geographic areas, including both listed and unlisted phone numbers. RDD sampling for any region of the United States is available.
- **Targeted/listed samples:** samples to reach specific subgroups or rare populations. These are useful for telephone recruitment of participants for larger studies. They are also used for supplementing RDD samples with oversamples of rare populations.

### Data Collection Methodology

SRP staff can provide:

- Advice on the most productive and cost-effective method of data collection (mail, telephone, in-person, or internet/Web-based), and the effective use of technology for surveys.
- Specification of procedures for maximizing response rates within the framework of available resources. For example, recommended number of attempts to contact respondents, securing initial cooperation, following-up incomplete interviews, converting refusals into acceptances, and use of mixed-mode designs.

### Questionnaire Development

SRP staff can provide assistance with all aspects of the development of a reliable and valid instrument, including:

- Writing, formatting, and ordering questions
- Asking sensitive questions
- Instrument pre-testing

### Interviewing and Data Collection

SRP conducts local, regional, and national telephone and mail surveys with both



general and special populations, as well as in-person surveys in the Southwestern Pennsylvania region. SRP also conducts internet/Web-based surveys.

SRP relies on a pool of experienced interviewers for telephone and in-person surveys. These include both undergraduate and graduate students, as well as non-students under the management of senior field work supervisors.

### Interviewer training and quality control:

Interviewers are trained in general and project-specific interviewing techniques, such as maintaining objectivity, reading questions as written, and securing respondent cooperation. Training involves a combination of lecture, written hand-outs, video instruction, and role-playing. Interviewers are continuously monitored during data collection for quality assurance, and periodic retraining sessions occur as necessary.

**Computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI):** A 45 line phone bank at UCSUR is dedicated to a computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) system. Interviewers read questions as they appear on the screen and enter the respondents' answers directly into the computer. CATI allows complex question contingencies, sample management, and call scheduling to be handled automatically.

**RDD cell phone surveys:** UCSUR has experience conducting random digit dialing (RDD) cell phone surveys in order to supplement traditional landline RDD telephone surveys. This methodology insures inclusion of cell-phone only households, estimated at 25 percent



of the U.S. population (and growing). Cell-phone only households are typically younger, more likely to be employed, and more ethnically diverse, and their exclusion can result in significant biases in landline-only surveys.

**Computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI):** With this type of interview an interviewer, using a laptop computer, reads questions to the respondent and then enters the answers directly into a database on the laptop computer. CAPI is programmed similar to computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI), and provides the same advantages (automated skips, randomized experiments, etc.).

**Audio computer-assisted self interviewing (Audio CASI, ACASI):** With this application a respondent operates a computer, the computer displays the questions on screen and plays recordings of the questions to the respondent who enters answers directly into a database on the computer. A respondent typically uses headphones with our Audio CASI solutions in order to maintain response privacy. ACASI enhances perceived privacy for sensitive questions and is ideal for less literate populations. ACASI is similar to CATI, CAPI, and CASI in programming requirements and function.

**Interactive voice response (IVR):** IVR is an automated system where a recorded voice administers survey questions/scripts and detects voice and keypad inputs from a home phone or cell phone. Privacy is enhanced by switching to IVR from a live interviewer for the administration of sensitive questions. IVR is also ideal for ecological momentary assessment.

**Web-based data collection:** SRP has the capability to conduct Web-based surveys and other online data collection and management. UCSUR operates secure servers that host such activities.

**Additional data collection services:** Telephone surveys using paper/pencil methodology, mail surveys, and in-person surveys in the Southwestern Pennsylvania region are also available.

## Surveys of special and hard-to-reach populations

UCSUR has conducted numerous surveys of special, hard-to-reach populations, including numerous clinical populations, children, and ethnically and linguistically diverse samples. UCSUR has conducted interviews in Spanish, Chinese, and Korean and has the capability to conduct international surveys.

## Data Management

Using a variety of computer programs, languages, database management software, and operating systems, SRP staff are available to perform a number of data management functions, including data base development, editing, coding, and survey data processing. SRP staff also have the capability to integrate survey respondent data with GIS-based spatial data, and with other secondary data sources.

## Statistical Analysis of Survey Data

SRP staff can perform statistical analyses of survey data, ranging from simple tabulations to relatively complex statistical modeling using a variety of statistical packages. Analytic capabilities include:

- Descriptive statistical analyses of survey responses, including calculations of sampling error, and statistical adjustments for unequal selection probabilities and non-response.
- Cross-classification analyses with demographic or other predictive factors.
- Multivariate analyses, including ANOVA, factor analysis, linear and non-linear regression, logistic regression, categorical methods, and structural equation modeling.
- Longitudinal analyses.

## Report Preparation and Presentation

SRP staff have experience in the production of a variety of reports, including:

- Simple tabulations
- Executive summaries

- In-depth narrative reports
- Oral presentations of results to interested parties

## Urban and Regional Analysis Services

UCSUR's Urban and Regional Analysis Program (URA) analyzes major economic and demographic trends in the Pittsburgh region in national and international contexts. URA brings together faculty, research staff, and graduate students to examine important urban and regional issues, with the results disseminated widely to state and regional policymakers, local officials, and community and economic development organizations. URA also partners with other researchers and organizations across the globe to advance urban and regional knowledge. URA's research extends from regional development to community change and examines their consequences for regional restructuring, equity implications, and policy analysis. In addition to the performance of the regional economy, specific strategic economic sectors are examined through in-depth studies and their implications for workforce development and job creation. The program also fosters the development of new methods of data collection and analysis. URA research is published in scholarly journals and technical reports and has been an important element of UCSUR's commitment to providing regional economic development analysis to both the academic community and the Pittsburgh region. Through URA's work, UCSUR is one of two research affiliates of the Pennsylvania State Data Center, the official source of demographic and economic data for the state. UCSUR maintains a repository for electronic and printed Census data and publications. For the latest urban and regional developments, visit The Pittsburgh Urban Blog (The PUB) at [www.ucsur.pitt.edu/thepub.php](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu/thepub.php).

# What We Do: Center Resources, continued

## The Pittsburgh Regional Economic Model

The Pittsburgh Regional Economic model is a large-scale regional econometric model developed by Regional Economic Models Inc. (REMI) and supported by UCSUR in partnership with the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission. The REMI model provides a powerful framework for economic analysis related to structural change in the Pittsburgh region and complements a variety of activities undertaken by the center. The center continues to maintain this model and provide support to local agencies as needed as part of the need for quality regional economic forecasting and impact analysis in the region.

UCSUR staff calibrates the Pittsburgh REMI model based on local conditions and our 12 years of experience applying the model to the Pittsburgh region. This capability to forecast future regional economic conditions and conduct detailed impact analysis of potential changes in the regional economy is unique in the region.

The model includes the seven county Metropolitan Statistical Area (Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Washington, and Westmoreland) plus Greene and Indiana counties. This model enables us to analyze economic and demographic impacts across the SWPA region. Recently, the REMI model was used for projects for the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Allegheny Places - The Allegheny County Comprehensive Plan, and the Taxpayer Return on Investment in Pennsylvania Public Libraries Study.

## Support of the Southwestern Planning Commission (SPC)

UCSUR continues to support the Southwestern Planning Commission (SPC) in developing its forecast of regional population and employment for the region for SPC's long range planning. This is a primary function of the REMI model, which is essential to regional planning because of its extensive demographic modeling capabilities. UCSUR staff provides both technical and research

consulting to SPC through the use of the REMI model and its applications to produce an accurate forecast for the region. SPC uses these baseline forecasts from the REMI model to evaluate a range of long term transportation projects for the region and decide on funding priorities. SPC is also required by federal mandate to provide 30-year projections of population and employment to the U.S. Department of Transportation as part of their planning process.



## Pittsburgh Economic Quarterly

UCSUR publishes the *Pittsburgh Economic Quarterly (PEQ)* to support organizations and staff involved with economic development throughout the region. *PEQ* highlights important economic and demographic trends that impact the regional economy and the competitiveness of the regional economy. *PEQ* is an extension of the continuing work done at UCSUR. Each issue includes the latest data on regional employment and economic conditions. Feature articles cover a variety of issues relating to the regional economy and how it is changing, along with analyses of other economic and social factors that directly impact the future of the region. Significant positive response to *PEQ* has resulted in substantial press coverage and has filled a major need in the region for ongoing study of current economic

trends. Recent issues of *PEQ* addressed these key topics:

- Characteristics of the Unemployed in Pittsburgh in 2012
- Profile of the Foreign-Born Population in the Pittsburgh Region
- Migration and Employment in the Pittsburgh Region
- Brownfield, Greenfield: Remediation and Redevelopment at Nine Mile Run
- Projecting the Impact of Demographic Change in Pittsburgh's Labor Force
- Who Moves to Lawrenceville and Why?
- Foreclosure, Vacancy and Crime
- Transit and Commuting Patterns in Southwestern Pennsylvania
- Demographic Features of Neighborhood Change in Pittsburgh
- Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful – Illegal Dump Survey Program Results
- Foreclosures in Pittsburgh's Hilltop Neighborhoods

## Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System (PNCIS)

The Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System (PNCIS) is a property-based information system that has collected, curated, and shared over one hundred indicators from more than twenty data sets vital to community planning and revitalization efforts in Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh. Data available through the PNCIS include land use, vacancy, property ownership, crime, foreclosure, tax delinquency, and real estate sales. The data are made available to over 800 trained users representing 200 different organizations through the PNCIS Web site. Training is also provided in-class to students at local universities, many of whom have continued to use PNCIS in their careers. PNCIS promotes and assists in neighborhood development and revitalization through research and analysis to reduce blight,

promote neighborhood investment, and improve communities. UCSUR operates PNCIS in agreement with the Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development (PPND) and the City of Pittsburgh. PNCIS is also a partner in the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership, a consortium of over 35 local partners across the USA, based at the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C.

### **Pittsburgh Indicators Project: PittsburghTODAY.org**

PittsburghTODAY.org is an in-depth journalism and regional indicators program that compares Greater Pittsburgh with 14 other regions in hundreds of measures. The statistical indicators provide reliable and timely information that shows this region's strengths and weaknesses and how it compares with other regions. Additionally, PittsburghTODAY.org undertakes in-depth journalistic projects in subjects that are important to the region's future.

In 2012, projects included the Pittsburgh Regional Quality of Life Survey, the most detailed survey of life in the region that has been performed in decades. Along with our UCSUR colleagues, we surveyed more than 1,800 residents of the 32-county "Power of 32" region to determine residents' attitudes and behaviors. We have also produced several major journalistic reports and series in 2012 on immigrants in Pittsburgh, entrepreneurial Pittsburgh, the Marcellus Shale, and young adults in the region.

## **Gerontology Services**

### **Gerontology Research Registry**

The Gerontology Program at the University of Pittsburgh has been conducting federally-funded research on critical issues related to health, aging, and family caregiving for the past 20 years. Much of what is known about living with different illnesses has resulted from medical and psychological research such as that conducted in our program. This program is recognized as one of the leading social gerontology

research programs in the nation.

As part of our mission, we have created the Gerontology Program Research Registry, made up of individuals who are willing to be contacted for participation in future research studies on various issues.

### **Graduate Certificate in Gerontology**

This program is designed to serve individuals from diverse educational, employment, and professional backgrounds who are interested in acquiring basic knowledge about gerontology and geriatrics and specialized knowledge of aging and aging processes. Students may focus broadly on a course of study in a general multidisciplinary track, or they may select a track focused on prevention and healthy aging. They may instead choose to concentrate in areas of specialization including dentistry, gerontechnology, law, mental health, nursing, occupational therapy/rehabilitation, public health, and social work.

Whether to gain credentials and skills for a competitive advantage in the marketplace or to enhance understanding of aging to inform the delivery of services, programs, or products, students may solely enroll in this certificate program or they may pursue the certificate in conjunction with a degree program. Credits earned for the certificate may often be applied toward a degree program.

The general multidisciplinary track is also available through Pitt Online (visit [www.online.pitt.edu](http://www.online.pitt.edu)), and more information about this Graduate Certificate in Gerontology can be found at: [www.ucsur.pitt.edu/gerontology\\_certificate.php](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu/gerontology_certificate.php).

### **Technology and Aging**

Several projects within the Gerontology Program are examining the utility and acceptability of emerging technologies intended to enable older adults to live as independently as possible and to support family caregivers. With input from potential end-users and other stakeholders, social scientists and health professionals are partnering with technology

developers to ensure the usability of intelligent systems and devices for these target populations. This effort is supported by the Quality of Life Technology Center, an engineering research center funded by the National Science Foundation which involves multidisciplinary collaboration among a cadre of researchers from the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University.

In addition to privacy concerns and policy issues related to collection of personal data and technology adoption, our team investigates how target users interact with novel hardware and software for monitoring safety, health, and functional status as a basis for intervention. Technologies being studied include a multi-user health kiosk for community-residing older adults with limited access to personal computers for health monitoring and information, computer vision technology that enables in-home assessment of functional capabilities and caregiving quality, and a virtual coaching system to promote adherence to recommended health behaviors.

## **Qualitative Data Analysis Services**

The Qualitative Data Analysis Program (QDAP) at UCSUR provides a resource to the University community in all aspects of qualitative data collection and analysis. Experienced QDAP staff can carry out or assist with all phases of a qualitative research project including study design; project management and coordination; data collection utilizing interviews; focus groups; and document or Web site analysis; audio and video transcription; data coding and analysis; and results reporting.

### **Data Collection and Management**

QDAP staff has the expertise to collect and manage a range of qualitative data utilizing a variety of methods and sources. This includes conducting in-depth interviews, facilitating focus groups, and collecting qualitative data

# What We Do: Center Resources, continued

from both traditional and innovative sources such as document and textual material, videos, images and other visual material, and Web sources such as Web sites, blogs, and e-mails. QDAP provides high quality transcription of audio and video recordings for further analysis. QDAP staff can provide management services ranging from full project management to assistance in the management of data collection including recruitment, screening, and scheduling of participants, depending on project needs. Using qualitative data analysis and management software, QDAP staff can also organize and manage qualitative data in preparation for analysis.

## Value-Added Coding

Accurate and reliable coding is central to qualitative and mixed methods analysis. QDAP offers a rigorous approach to analyzing a variety of qualitative materials. Experienced coders deliver the data you need in a timely and expert manner from a wide variety of sources. Original material for analysis might include in-depth interviews, open-ended survey answers, field notes, transcripts from focus groups, Web blogs, e-mails, Web site content, videos and images, results from database searches (such as LexisNexis™), congressional testimony, historical texts, and a host of other unstructured but digitized data sets. QDAP staff works with your research team to craft an analysis plan and codebook with a tailored methodology designed to code the material for key concepts and relationships. Multiple coders can quickly and reliably extract the data you need to reach valid inferences.

QDAP employs University of Pittsburgh students and UCSUR professional staff trained in data collection and in using qualitative analysis software. We maintain a 15-station transcription and qualitative data coding lab which utilizes Olympus transcription software; ATLAS.ti, a widely used qualitative data analysis software package that supports project management, enables multiple

coders to collaborate on a single project, and generates output that facilitates the analysis process; Transana, a video coding software package; and a specialized, in-house program for quality control which calculates inter-coder reliability statistics and simplifies adjudication of coder disagreement. On the QDAP Web site, we support the Coding Analysis Toolkit (CAT), a Web-based suite of tools which facilitates post-coding analysis of qualitative data. In addition, we offer training seminars and one-on-one training sessions for faculty, staff, and students in using ATLAS.ti, Transana, and other qualitative data analysis software.

## Services Provided

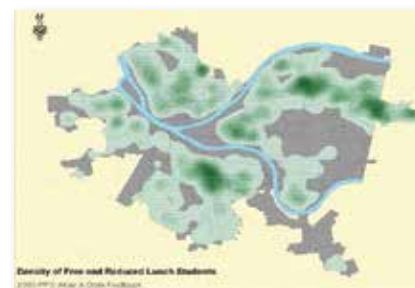
- Study design, management, and coordination
- Interviewer training and management
- Participant recruitment
- Data collection including focus group facilitation, in-depth interviewing, and document analysis
- Transcription of audio and video recordings
- Data preparation, cleaning, and management
- Codebook development and testing
- Coding and coding adjudication
- Coder reliability and validity reporting
- Results analysis and expression
- Software training for qualitative data analysis software (ATLAS.ti, Transana, Coding Analysis Toolkit)

## Geographical Information Systems and Visual Analytics Services

### Geographic Information Services

A Geographic Information System (GIS) is an information system designed to work with data referenced by spatial or geographic coordinates. GIS technology has proven to be invaluable in many areas

of application, including municipal and federal government operations, health care, business management, and the social and natural sciences. It is a complex technology with many subtle nuances that requires considerable training, tools, and experience to fully exploit.



*Sample analytic map showing where impoverished students reside.*

## Visual Analytics

Visual Analytics (VA) is the use of graphical, image, and other pictographic techniques to display and navigate large sets of data for the purpose of discovering relationships among the data. Analysts are quickly overwhelmed by large listings or tables of data. Through visualization techniques, millions of data points can be summarized in displays such as dashboards, maps, and diagrams. Color, size, position, orientation, and other features are used to represent characteristics of the data. Specialized tools have been developed to highlight relationships and changes in relationships. Anomalies are easily detectable. Real time and varying data can be shown by animation.

## Services Provided

- GIS needs analysis
- GIS system design and implementation
- Custom GIS programming
- Digital spatial database design, development, and maintenance
- Network analysis
- Global positioning systems
- Web-based systems
- Spatial and simulation modeling
- Integration of artificial intelligence techniques

- Consulting
- Training
- Education
- Satellite and aerial imagery
- System integration
- Real time GIS

## Experience

UCSUR has decades of experience in applying GIS technology to many situations. Our efforts have consistently withstood the test of time and post-project scrutiny. Refer to Web site for specific examples: [www.ucsur.pitt.edu](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu).

## Acquisition and Management of Secondary Data

UCSUR provides assistance for secondary data acquisition and management to the academic community and to the Pittsburgh region as a whole. As an affiliate of the Pennsylvania State Data Center, the official source of demographic and economic data for the state, UCSUR is a repository for electronic and printed Census information, including Census 2010 data. UCSUR also acquires and maintains a variety of government statistics, economic and labor market data, and other types of secondary information on a regular basis. This information is available to the academic community and to the general public.

The data acquisition and management services UCSUR provides include:

- Assistance in acquiring secondary data stored at UCSUR to interested individuals and organizations.
- Assistance in locating and acquiring a variety of other types of secondary information.
- Expertise and consultation in the appropriate use and understanding of various secondary data sources.
- Evaluation and interpretation of policy relevant secondary information data

for government, business, labor, media, and other organizations.

UCSUR also conducts demographic, economic, and policy research and analysis and reports on secondary data and data trends relevant to the Pittsburgh region, both alone and in combination with various primary data sources. This research is reported through a number of venues, including research reports and newsletters, such as the *Pittsburgh Economic Quarterly*, and up-to-date neighborhood information on the UCSUR Web site ([www.ucsur.pitt.edu](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu))

## Information Technology Infrastructure

In 2009 UCSUR invested over \$200,000 in its information technology (IT) infrastructure. UCSUR provides a robust data management system that focuses on security and data integrity for the programs housed at UCSUR.

Utilizing the latest technology, UCSUR provides its staff and researchers the tools needed to stay on the cutting-edge. The information technology systems deployed are redundant and reliable. The technology that UCSUR uses to support its mission is enterprise level software. UCSUR uses the latest techniques in data storage, virtualization, and remote access, enabling the center to cut costs, increase security, and provide the greatest flexibility to continue to support research in a fluid environment.

Relying on the University of Pittsburgh's infrastructure provided by CSSD, UCSUR's IT infrastructure works closely with its CSSD counterpart to ensure that the latest security and network trends are met.

## Program Evaluation Services

UCSUR can assist faculty at the University of Pittsburgh and community agencies with their program evaluation

needs. We provide assistance in developing and designing evaluation plans, collecting and analyzing data, and writing evaluation reports. Depending on the focus of the project, these services can be provided by the Survey Research Program, Qualitative Data Analysis Program, Urban and Regional Analysis Program, or Gerontology Program.

UCSUR's interdisciplinary staff has evaluation experience in a wide range of content areas, including social service programs, behavioral and mental health services, public health programs, and educational services. UCSUR has conducted evaluations on family support, home visiting, after school and youth development, conflict resolution, developmental disabilities, maternal and child health, fatherhood, and parent education programs, among many others.

In addition, UCSUR has expertise in developing and implementing management information systems and needs assessments. UCSUR provides training and technical assistance to increase the capacity of staff to carry out evaluations, either independently or in collaboration with program evaluation specialists.

Specific evaluation services offered include:

- Development of evaluation designs, including process and outcome evaluations.
- Assistance with program design, focusing on connecting program activities to expected outcomes (program logic models).
- Needs assessments.
- Selection of appropriate outcomes and measurement methods.
- Identification of assessment instruments.
- Development of surveys for program evaluation.
- Data analysis consultation and research design.
- Referral to evaluation consultants with expertise in specific content areas.

# Faculty Development Awards



Steven D. Manners

In memory of Steven D. Manners, who began working at the center in 1974 and served as its assistant director from 1989 until his death in September 2000, UCSUR initiated a Faculty Development Awards program in recognition of Mr. Manners' contributions to the center and the University community. UCSUR offers annually two awards of up to \$10,000 each. Faculty may apply for awards in two categories: (1) Research Development Grants to support pilot research in the social, behavioral and policy sciences; and (2) Infrastructure Development Awards aimed at enhancing faculty capabilities to carry out interdisciplinary research in the social, behavioral and policy sciences.

- 2012 awardee: Nicholas Castle, Graduate School of Public Health.
- 2011 awardees: Jane Clougherty, Graduate School of Public Health; Fengyan Tang, School of Social Work.
- 2010 awardees: Shanti Gamper-Rabindran, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs; Jennifer H. Lingler, School of Nursing; Werner Troesken and Randall Walsh, Economics; Jennifer Nicoll Victor, Political Science.
- 2009 awardees: Irina Murtazashvili, Economics; Brian A. Primack, Medicine and Pediatrics.
- 2008 awardees: Peter J. Gianaros and J. Richard Jennings, Psychiatry; Keith Morgenlander, Medicine.

- 2007 awardees: Patricia Isabel Documet, Behavioral and Community Health Sciences; Jeffrey Shook and Michael Vaughn, School of Social Work.
- 2006 awardees: Shanti Gamper-Rabindran and Aaron Swoboda, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs; Larissa Myaskovsky, VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System.
- 2005 awardees: Charlotte Brown, Center on Race and Social Problems; Bruce S. Ling, Institute for Doctor-Patient Communication; Eva Marie Shivers, School of Education.
- 2004 awardees: Ellen Olshansky, School of Nursing; Seung-Hyun Yoo, Graduate School of Public Health; Susan Zickmund, Medicine.
- Due to the large number of 2003 applications, UCSUR funded six awards: Pamela Peele, Health Economics; William Klein, Psychology; Daniel Rosen, School of Social Work; Lisa Brush, Sociology; Audrey Murrell, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business; Jeannette Trauth, Graduate School of Public Health.
- 2002 awardees: Maureen Porter, Administrative and Policy Studies; Scott F. Kiesling, Linguistics.
- 2001 awardees: Miriam Hertz, Health Information Management; Paul E. Griffiths, History and Philosophy.

## Board of Visitors

### **Mr. Michael A. Bryson**

Chair, UCSUR's Board of Visitors  
University of Pittsburgh Trustee  
Pittsburgh, PA

### **Anderson Dodd Smith, PhD**

Georgia Institute of Technology  
Atlanta, GA

### **Mr. Earl F. Hord**

Emeritus Trustee  
University of Pittsburgh  
Queen Creek, AZ

### **James House, PhD**

ISR, University of Michigan  
Ann Arbor, MI

### **Larry C. Ledebur, PhD**

Cleveland State University  
Cleveland, OH

### **Ms. Cynthia L. Roth**

Vice Chancellor, University of  
Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA

# Core Staff

## Administration

### Director

Richard Schulz

### Associate Director

Scott Beach

### Business Manager

Greg Six

### Administrators

Anna Aivaliotis, Donna M. King

### Administrative Assistant

Philip Crain

### Systems Administrator

James R. Lefcakis

### Systems Support

Eric J. Wolfe

## Survey Research

### Program Director

Scott Beach

### Research Associate

Donald Musa

### Senior Research Specialists

Janet Schlarb, Stephen Strotmeyer

### Database Programmer/Database Administrator

Robert Keene

### Senior Fieldwork Supervisor

Lynda Connelly

### Fieldwork Supervisors

Olivia Kirsch, Olivia Wilson

### Fieldwork Supervisors/Research Specialists

Amber Barton, Carrie Rodzwick

### Research Specialists

Brian Alley, Christine Byerly, Patricia Lietz

## Urban and Regional Analysis

### Program Director

Sabina Deitrick\*\*

### Associate Program Director

Ralph Bangs\*\*

### Regional Economist

Christopher Briem

### Research Specialist

Robert Gradek

### SWPA Indicators Project Director

Douglas Heuck

### SWPA Indicators Research Manager

Milana Nick

### SWPA Indicators Research Coordinator

Emily Craig

## Gerontology

### Program Director

Richard Schulz

### Associate Program Director

Judith Matthews

### Associate Program Director, Geriatric Education Center

John Hennon

### Statistician/Data Manager

Scott Sankey

### Project Coordinators

Amber Barton, Jennifer Bissell, Sally Hostein, Julie Klinger

## Qualitative Data Analysis

### Program Director

Donald Musa

### Program Assistant Director

Laurel Person Mecca

### Research Specialists

David Halpern, Kevan Schultz

## Geographical Information Systems and Visual Analytics Program

### Program Director

Ken Sochats\*\*

## Generations Together

### Emeritus Director/Journal Editor

Sally Newman\*\*

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*\*\* Indicates participating faculty, not UCSUR staff*



# Faculty Associates

The following individuals serve as faculty associates, representing numerous schools, departments, institutes, and centers.

Charles David Boucek	Anesthesiology	Margaret Potter	Health Policy and Management	Charlotte Brown	Psychiatry
John P. Williams	Anesthesiology	Seymour Drescher	History	Tammy Chung	Psychiatry
Hugo Nutini	Anthropology	Laurence A. Glasco	History	Duncan Clark	Psychiatry
Richard Scaglione	Anthropology	Edward K. Muller	History	Patricia Cluss	Psychiatry
Steven Albert	Behavioral and Community Health Sciences	Lisa S. Parker	Human Genetics	Ronald Dahl	Psychiatry
Jessica Griffin Burke	Behavioral and Community Health Sciences	Anthony J. Silvestre	Infectious Diseases/Microbiology	Mary Amanda Dew	Psychiatry
Mary Hawk	Behavioral and Community Health Sciences	Mary Besterfield-Sacre	Industrial Engineering	Andrea Dimartini	Psychiatry
Edmund Ricci	Behavioral and Community Health Sciences	Kenneth Sochats	Information Sciences	Linda J. Ewing	Psychiatry
Ravi Sharma	Behavioral and Community Health Sciences	Terry Miller	Institute of Politics	Amy Herschell	Psychiatry
Mark Redfern	Bioengineering	Christine Kush	Katz Graduate School of Business	Jordan Karp	Psychiatry
Gary M. Marsh	Biostatistics	Carrie R. Leana	Katz Graduate School of Business	Robert S. Marin	Psychiatry
William R. Love	Business Information Systems	Marick F. Masters	Katz Graduate School of Business	Karen A. Matthews	Psychiatry
Stanley J. Kabala	Center for Environmental Research and Education	John E. Prescott	Katz Graduate School of Business	Timothy Monk	Psychiatry
Vijai P. Singh	Chancellor Office	Ronald A. Brand	Law	Lisa A. Morrow	Psychiatry
Melissa Bilec	Civil and Environmental Engineering	Mary Crossley	Law	Jennifer Morse	Psychiatry
Amy Landis	Civil and Environmental Engineering	Vivian Curran	Law	Richard Morycz	Psychiatry
Ronald D. Neufeld	Civil and Environmental Engineering	Lawrence A. Frolik	Law	Benoit H. Mulsant	Psychiatry
Frank A. Ghinassi	Clinical Administration	David Herring	Law	Edward P. Mulvey	Psychiatry
Catherine V. Palmer	Communication Science and Disorders	Alan Meisel	Law	Vishwajit Nimgaonkar	Psychiatry
Connie A. Tompkins	Communication Science and Disorders	Richard P. Correnti	Learning Research and Development Center	Paul Pilkonis	Psychiatry
J. Scott Yaruss	Communication Science and Disorders	Mary Kay Stein	Learning Research and Development Center	Bruce Pollock	Psychiatry
John Wilds	Community/Government Relations	James M. Roberts	Magee-Women's Research Institute	Charles F. Reynolds III	Psychiatry
Rami Melhem	Computer Science	Derek C. Angus	Medicine	Jules Rosen	Psychiatry
Daniel Mosse	Computer Science	Robert M. Arnold	Medicine	Neal Ryan	Psychiatry
Taieb Znati	Computer Science	Amber Barnato	Medicine	Magda Stouthamer-Loeber	Psychiatry
James Guggenheimer	Dental Medicine	Cindy L. Bryce	Medicine	Peter Gianaros	Psychology
Mary Marazita	Dental Medicine	Michael Fine	Medicine	Martin Greenberg	Psychology
Titus Schleyer	Dental Medicine	John Kellum Jr.	Medicine	Christina Groark	Psychology
Robert Weyant	Dental Medicine	Anne B. Newman	Medicine	Thomas Kamarck	Psychology
Frank Giarratani	Economics	P. Sudhakar Reddy	Medicine	William Klein	Psychology
Gene Gruver	Economics	Linda Robertson	Medicine	John Levine	Psychology
Carl I. Fertman	Education	Eric Rodriguez	Medicine	Robert McCall	Psychology
Michael Gunzenhauser	Education	Robert E. Schoen	Medicine	Kathryn Roecklein	Psychology
Meryl K. Lazar	Education	Rakesh Sindhi	Medicine	Daniel Shaw	Psychology
Steven R. Lyon	Education	Stephanie Studenski	Medicine	Katherine Wisner	Psychology
Maureen Porter	Education	Galen Switzer	Medicine	Steven E. Stern	Psychology-Johnstown
Joan I. Vondra	Education	Mark Unruh	Medicine	Mary Goldberg	Rehabilitation Science and Technology
Vince N. Mosesso Jr.	Emergency Medicine	Debra K. Weiner	Medicine	Nancy Condee	Slavic Languages and Literatures
Paul M. Paris	Emergency Medicine	Andrew N. Weintraub	Music	Vladimir Padunov	Slavic Languages and Literatures
Marcia Landy	English	Edward Stricker	Neuroscience	Ralph Bangs	Social Work
Jane Clougherty	Environmental and Occupational Health	Catherine Bender	Nursing	Larry E. Davis	Social Work
Steven H. Belle	Epidemiology	JiYeon Choi	Nursing	Rafael J. Engel	Social Work
Joyce T. Bromberger	Epidemiology	Rose E. Constantino	Nursing	Rachel Fusco	Social Work
Jane A. Cauley	Epidemiology	Willa M. Doswell	Nursing	Catherine Greeno	Social Work
Andrea Kriska	Epidemiology	Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob	Nursing	Lovie Jackson	Social Work
Joel L. Weissfeld	Epidemiology	Judith A. Erlen	Nursing	Lambert Maguire	Social Work
Jonathon Erlen	Falk Library/Public Health	Jennifer Lingler	Nursing	Helen Petracchi	Social Work
William B. Kory	Geography	Faith Luyster	Nursing	Mary Rautkis	Social Work
Carolyn Ban	Graduate School of Public and International Affairs	Ann M. Mitchell	Nursing	Tracy M. Soska	Social Work
Louise Comfort	Graduate School of Public and International Affairs	Jill Radtke	Nursing	Hide Yamatani	Social Work
Sabina Deitrick	Graduate School of Public and International Affairs	Elizabeth A. Schlenk	Nursing	Joyce Bell	Sociology
David Y. Miller	Graduate School of Public and International Affairs	Paula Sherwood	Nursing	Kathleen M. Blee	Sociology
Jennifer Brach	Health and Rehabilitation Sciences	Aletha Akers	Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Services	Lisa D. Brush	Sociology
Nicholas Castle	Health Policy and Management	Joan C. Rogers	Occupational Therapy	Akiko Hashimoto	Sociology
Howard B. Degenholtz	Health Policy and Management	Patricia Beeson	Office of the Provost	Daniel Hall	Surgery
Judith R. Lave	Health Policy and Management	Juan Manfredi	Office of the Provost	James D. Luketich	Surgery
Beaufort B. Longest Jr	Health Policy and Management	Alberta Sbragia	Office of the Provost	Ron Shapiro	Surgery
		James J. Irrgang	Orthopedic Surgery	Larry Feick	University Center for International Studies
		Bruce S. Rabin	Pathology	Carolyn J. Carson	Urban Studies Program
		Parmjeet Randhawa	Pathology		
		Raymond Pitetti	Pediatrics		
		Abhay Vats	Pediatrics		
		Selma F. Witchel	Pediatrics		
		Pouran Famili	Periodontics		
		Roberta Farrah	Pharmacy		
		Jessie VanSwearingen	Physical Therapy		
		John Hurwitz	Political Science		
		Boris Birmaher	Psychiatry		
		David Brent	Psychiatry		



# Projects\*

## A Multi-Institutional Study of Hematopoietic Stem Cell Donor Safety

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Galen Switzer, Medicine

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health  
**Period:** 12/08-11/13

Telephone surveys of 400 adult and child stem cell donors before and after donation to assess quality of life and other donation-related outcomes.

## Adult to Adult Living Donor Liver (A2ALL) Transplantation Study: Health-Related Quality of Life Sub-Study

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Mary Amanda Dew, Psychiatry  
Andrea Dimartini, Psychiatry

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health  
**Period:** 09/10-08/14

Telephone interviews of 900 liver donors to explore health-related quality-of-life outcomes associated with donation over three years.

## An Examination of Residential Abuse in Assisted Living Facilities

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Nicholas Castle, Health Policy and Management

**Funder:** Department of Justice  
**Period:** 01/11-12/12

Consultation on a national study of resident-to-resident abuse in assisted living facilities.

## Asbury Heights Senior Living Community Telephone Survey

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
John Zanardelli, Asbury Heights

**Funder:** United Methodist Services for the Aging  
**Period:** 04/12-06/12

Telephone survey of 900 baby-boomers and older adults to ascertain need for and awareness of local senior living communities.

## Assessing Instructional Content and Interaction at Scale

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR  
Richard P. Correnti, LRDC

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health  
**Period:** 06/08-05/12

Assist in the development and administration of Web-based data collection tools for 120 K-12 teachers to assess instructional activities and the nature of interaction with students.

## Developing a GIS-based Survey Instrument to Examine Multiple Exposures in Neighborhood Health Research

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR  
Jane Clougherty, Environmental and Occupational Health

**Funder:** Graduate School of Public Health  
**Period:** 07/11-12/12

Web survey of 200 individuals from Pittsburgh, Pa. and New York City, N.Y. designed to help researchers better understand how people perceive the size and shape of their neighborhoods and how perceived “neighborhood scale” may differ across each city.

## Does a New Supermarket Improve Dietary Behaviors of Low-Income African Americans?

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR  
Tamara Dubowitz, RAND Corporation

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health  
**Period:** 05/10-04/14

Interviewer training, data management; and collection of 24-hour dietary recall telephone data in a study of the impact of a new grocery store on dietary behavior in 1,600 residents of low-income neighborhoods.

## EFRI-SEED: BUILD - Barriers, Understanding, Integration - Life Cycle Development

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR  
Melissa Bilec, Civil and Environmental Engineering

**Funder:** National Science Foundation  
**Period:** 08/10-07/14

Design and conduct of a web-based survey of 2,000 architects, engineers, and construction professionals focused on knowledge and attitudes toward Life Cycle Assessment methodology as a tool for sustainable design.

\*In alphabetical order by UCSUR principal investigator

# Projects, continued

## Ethnicity and Culture in Unrelated Stem Cell Donation

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Galen Switzer, Medicine

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health  
**Period:** 04/06-09/11

Conduct telephone surveys of 1600 stem cell donors to determine the role of ethnic and cultural factors on donor-related outcomes.

## Factors Contributing to Oral Health Disparities in Appalachia

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR  
Mary Marazita, Dental Medicine

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health  
**Period:** 04/11-03/15

Conduct prenatal and five post-birth follow-up telephone interviews of 1,000 new mothers—500 in Pittsburgh and 500 in West Virginia—to explore factors related to childhood oral health disparities.

## Genetic Predictors of Seasonal Affective Disorder

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR  
Kathryn Roecklein, Psychology

**Funder:** Faculty Award  
**Period:** 01/12-05/12

Recruitment of 120 community controls for investigating sequence variations in the gene for the photopigment melanopsin as a possible explanation for the relationship between season, environmental light levels, and depression.

## Global/International Programs and Activities

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR  
Larry Feick, University Center for International Studies (UCIS)

**Funder:** UCIS  
**Period:** 10/11-12/11

Web survey of 430 University of Pittsburgh faculty members about the University's current strengths and weaknesses in its global/international programs and activities, and faculty perceptions of how the University should move forward.

## Health Literacy Consumer Survey

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Terry Miller, Institute of Politics

**Funder:** Hospital Council of Western Pennsylvania and Highmark  
**Period:** 10/11-09/12

Telephone interviews of 1000 residents of Southwestern Pennsylvania to determine the level of health literacy in the region and ascertain preferred sources of health information.

## Impact of Nocturnal Hemodialysis on Sleep Apnea, Sleep Quality, and Daytime Symptoms

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Mark Unruh, Medicine

**Funder:** National Institute of Health  
**Period:** 07/07-05/12

Conduct telephone interviews assessing sleep quality of 100 patients receiving nocturnal hemodialysis. Patients also provide daily diary data (four times/day for one week) via IVR (interactive voice response) technology.

## Interpersonal Functioning and Emotion in Borderline Personality

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Paul Pilkonis, Psychiatry

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health  
**Period:** 07/07-06/12

Recruitment of 150 community subjects across the range of Borderline Personality Disorder for a study of interpersonal functioning and emotion in borderline personality.

## IVR Falls Intervention

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR  
Steven Albert, Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

**Funder:** Centers for Disease Control  
**Period:** 10/10-01/13

Monthly Interactive Voice Response (IVR) telephone interviews over two years with 100 older adults participating in a falls prevention trial.

## Phase Shift Tolerance in the Elderly

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Timothy Monk, Psychiatry

**Funder:** National Institute on Aging

**Period:** 04/07-03/13

Telephone interviews with 1600 Allegheny County residents age 65 and older over four years to study the impact of former shift work on long-term sleep quality and health outcomes.

## Pittsburgh Project on Brain Pathways to Heart Health

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR  
Peter Gianaros, Psychology

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health

**Period:** 02/12-01/17

Recruitment of 120 community controls for a study on blood pressure reactivity to psychological stress and greater preclinical carotid atherosclerosis.

## Pittsburgh Public Schools' Excellence for All

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR  
Shannah Tharp-Taylor, RAND Corporation

**Funder:** Fund for Excellence (consortium of Pittsburgh foundations)

**Period:** 03/08-09/11

Conduct web-based and paper surveys of 30 principals, 120 teachers, and 2000 students from Pittsburgh Public Schools (K-12) as part of an evaluation of the Instructional Improvements Initiative.

## Social Behaviors and Health in Older Adulthood: A Secure Base from which to Thrive

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Brooke Feeney, Carnegie Mellon University

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health

**Period:** 04/11-03/13

Telephone recruitment of 250 older couples over two years for a study of specific social behaviors that are responsible for the effects of social relations on health and well-being in older adulthood.

## The Challenge of Providing Care to People with Multiple Sclerosis

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Elizabeth Morrison, University of California, Irvine  
Aileen Wiglesworth, University of California, Irvine

**Funder:** North American Research Committee on Multiple Sclerosis

**Period:** 09/11-04/12

Telephone interviews of 200 persons with MS to learn how persons with multiple sclerosis are treated by their caregivers.

## The Pittsburgh Regional Quality of Life Survey

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR  
Douglas Heuck, PittsburghToday, UCSUR

**Funder:** PittsburghToday, UCSUR

**Period:** 07/11-present

Telephone interviews of 2200 residents in the 32-county region surrounding Pittsburgh about a variety of topics to assess quality of life.

## Tropman Soundings

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Diana Bucco, The Forbes Fund

**Funder:** The Forbes Fund

**Period:** 01/12-12/12

Web-based surveys of 200 Pittsburgh area human service organizations about topics relevant to the non-profit sector.

## Undergraduate Student Satisfaction and Retention Study

### Principal

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Juan Manfredi, Office of the Provost

**Funder:** Office of the Provost

**Period:** 09/97-present

Conduct telephone and Web-based surveys of University of Pittsburgh undergraduate students (n=1800 per year) and withdrawing students (n=400 per year) to determine factors related to student satisfaction and retention.

## Projects, continued

### Understanding Race and Culture in Living Donor Kidney Transplantation

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR  
Larissa Myascovsky, Pittsburgh VA Healthcare System

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health

**Period:** 09/09-08/14

Telephone interviews with 1200 kidney transplant candidates focusing on attitudes, knowledge, and family factors in transplant decision-making.

### Understanding Race and Culture in Living Donor Kidney Transplantation Among Veterans

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Stephen Strotmeyer, SRP, UCSUR  
Larissa Myascovsky, Pittsburgh VA Healthcare System

**Funder:** Pittsburgh VA Healthcare System

**Period:** 04/10-07/12

Telephone interviews with 600 veteran kidney transplant candidates focusing on attitudes, knowledge, and family factors in transplant decision-making.

### University of Pittsburgh Off-campus Living Survey

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR  
Deborah Bon, University of Pittsburgh  
Julie Gismondi, University of Pittsburgh

**Funder:** University of Pittsburgh

**Period:** ongoing

Web survey of 2400 University of Pittsburgh students not residing in campus housing focused on evaluations of off-campus apartments and landlords to be used in the development of a landlord "report card" Web site.

### Veterans Impact of Chronic Pruritus

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR  
Suephy Chen, Atlanta VA

**Funder:** Atlanta VA Healthcare System

**Period:** 04/10-12/11

Conduct telephone surveys of 2000 veterans across the United States to assess the prevalence and impact of chronic pruritis.

### Western Pennsylvania Manufacturing Industry Study

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR  
Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR  
Christine Kush, Katz Graduate School of Business

**Funder:** Katz Graduate School of Business - Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence

**Period:** ongoing

Assist with the conduct and statistical analysis of a bi-annual web-based survey of 100 local manufacturing firms focusing on their performance and business practices

### PA CleanWays

**Principal**

**Investigator:** Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR

**Funder:** PA CleanWays

**Period:** Completed 07/12

Provide "as-needed" GIS mapping services for the PA CleanWays sites.

### Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System

**Principal**

**Investigator:** Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR  
**Funders:** Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development, multiple funders

**Period:** 07/03-12/12

Enhance and expand access to data and information to help Pittsburgh and Allegheny County residents, organizations, and governments improve their communities.

### Small Colleges and Universities and Their Economic and Community Impacts

**Principal**

**Investigators:** Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR  
William Lafe, Independent Consultant

**Funder:** McCune Foundation

**Period:** 10/09-09/11

The study assessed the economic and community impact of small, private liberal arts colleges located in Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia on the towns in which they are located. The study extended a pilot study conducted from 11/09-01/10 to focus on prototype colleges in order to test the proposed methodology and determine what factors play a key role in determining the colleges' economic and community impact.

## City of Pittsburgh Land Bank Business Plan

### Principal

**Investigator:** Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

**Funder:** The Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh

**Period:** 03/12-11/12

Provided information on tax delinquent properties in support of business planning efforts for the City of Pittsburgh's land bank.

## Hazelwood Neighborhood Profile

### Principal

**Investigator:** Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

**Funder:** The Heinz Endowments

**Period:** 11/11-06/12

Developed a report describing conditions in the Hazelwood neighborhood, and delivered a presentation to community stakeholders.

## Hill District Vacant Property Plan

### Principal

**Investigator:** Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

**Funder:** Hill District Consensus Group

**Period:** 03/12-11/12

Provide information on property in the Hill District in support of a plan for managing vacant land in the neighborhood.

## Hilltop Foreclosure Analysis

### Principal

**Investigator:** Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

**Funder:** NeighborWorks Western Pennsylvania

**Period:** 04/11-10/12

Provided a demographic profile of property owners in foreclosure using deed and mortgage data.

## Lawrenceville New and Former Resident Survey

### Principal

**Investigator:** Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

**Funder:** Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh

**Period:** 02/11-12/11

Survey of recent movers to and from the Lawrenceville neighborhood in Pittsburgh to help the community understand changes in neighborhood residents and why movers move to Lawrenceville.

## Pittsburgh Public School Realignment

### Principal

**Investigator:** Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

**Funder:** Pittsburgh Public Schools

**Period:** 04/11-09/12

Provided an analysis of school enrollment data and demographic and neighborhood trends in the City of Pittsburgh; provided GIS and technical services in support of the district's realignment process.

## Pittsburgh Youth Study

### Principal

**Investigator:** Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

**Funder:** Life History Studies Program/WPIC

**Period:** 04/12-12/12

Provided geocoding services and other data to support research efforts at the Youth Study.

## Evaluation of a First-person Vision Technology

### Principal

**Investigators:** Judith Matthews, Gerontology, UCSUR

Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR

Martial Hebert, Carnegie Mellon University

Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR

Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

**Period:** 06/10-05/12

Wearable devices equipped with audio and video sensors enable inferences to be made about what individuals are doing, when they might need or want assistance, and the nature of their interaction. Older adults, their spouses, and caregiving dyads dealing with moderate to severe dementia engage in usability testing of prototype first-person vision devices at home.

## First Person Vision for Objective Evaluation of Caregiving Quality

### Principal

**Investigators:** Judith Matthews, Gerontology, UCSUR

Jennifer Lingler, Nursing

Martial Hebert, Carnegie Mellon University

Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR

Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR

Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

**Funder:** National Institute of Nursing Research

**Period:** 03/12-02/14

This project explores the use of first person vision (FPV) technology to assess the interaction between persons with moderate to severe dementia and their family caregivers, as a basis for nurse-delivered intervention as well as development of an automated, intelligent assessment and intervention tool to reduce problem behaviors and decrease caregiver burden.

## Projects, continued

### Monitoring Human Performance with Wearable Accelerometers

#### Principal

**Investigators:** Judith Matthews, *Gerontology, UCSUR*  
Jennifer Brach, *Health and Rehabilitation Sciences*  
Jessica Hodgins, *Carnegie Mellon University*  
Mark Redfern, *Bioengineering*

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

**Period:** 09/09-08/12

Motion capture studies of persons with and without mobility disability, in order to learn how they perform complex actions involving locomotion and balance and to explore the utility of a wearable motion capture device for evaluation of mobility in non-clinical settings.

### Usability of a Multi-user Health Kiosk

#### Principal

**Investigators:** Judith Matthews, *Gerontology, UCSUR*  
Scott Beach, *SRP, UCSUR*  
Karen Courtney, *University of Victoria*  
Laurel Person Mecca, *QDAP, UCSUR*  
Richard Schulz, *Gerontology, UCSUR*  
Daniel Siewiorek, *Carnegie Mellon University*  
Asim Smailagic, *Carnegie Mellon University*

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

**Period:** 06/10-05/12

Laboratory and community-based testing of a prototype multi-user health kiosk designed for older adults to self-monitor selected physiologic and physical parameters, self-report health and functional ability, and share these data with designated health care providers.

### Virtual Coaching of Therapeutic Exercise for Knee Osteoarthritis

#### Principal

**Investigators:** Judith Matthews, *Gerontology, UCSUR*  
Elizabeth Schlenk, *Nursing*  
Reid Simmons, *Carnegie Mellon University*

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

**Period:** 06/10-05/12

Preliminary evaluation of responsiveness of persons with osteoarthritis of the knee and healthy controls to a virtual coach system that provides instruction, guidance, and feedback during performance of therapeutic exercise. Addresses the challenge of nonadherence to home-based regimens typically prescribed as an adjunct to outpatient physical therapy and for maintenance of functional gains achieved during intensive treatment.

### Adolescent Maternal Functioning

#### Principal

**Investigators:** Laurel Person Mecca, *QDAP, UCSUR*  
Kevan Schultz, *QDAP, UCSUR*  
Katherine Wisner, *Psychology*

**Funder:** Research Development Funds

**Period:** 07/11-02/12

Transcribed and coded focus groups with mothers and adolescents regarding participation in the RAPP study and ways in which the RAPP study sessions could be improved.

### Enhancing Motivation for CPAP Adherence in Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA)

#### Principal

**Investigators:** Laurel Person Mecca, *QDAP, UCSUR*  
David Halpern, *QDAP, UCSUR*  
Faith Luyster, *Nursing*

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health

**Period:** 01/12-present

Facilitation, transcription and coding of focus groups with OSA patients and their significant others to explore critical factors for adoption and use of CPAP to inform modification of a motivational intervention for CPAP.

### Experiential Learning for Veterans in Assistive Technology and Engineering (ELeVATE)

#### Principal

**Investigators:** Laurel Person Mecca, *QDAP, UCSUR*  
Mary Goldberg, *Rehabilitation Science and Technology*

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

**Period:** 03/11-02/12

Conduct a series of semi-structured interviews with ELeVATE student interns and mentors and code results to gauge satisfaction with the program and to assess students' domain knowledge and research skills.

### Freedom from Racism or Free to be Racist: Racial Harassment Policy in Higher Education

#### Principal

**Investigators:** Laurel Person Mecca, *QDAP, UCSUR*  
David Halpern, *QDAP, UCSUR*  
Joyce Bell, *Sociology*

**Funder:** Center on Race and Social Problems

**Period:** 04/12-10/12

Coded the top 100 U.S. universities' anti-discrimination policies to explore how racial harassment is defined and how discrimination is balanced with freedom of speech.

## Reaching Adolescents by Partnering with Parents (RAPP)

### Principal

**Investigators:** Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Aletha Akers, Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Services

**Funder:** Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

**Period:** 02/12-08/12

Conducted and transcribed interviews with mothers and adolescents regarding participation in the RAPP study and ways in which the RAPP study sessions could be improved.

## A Vulnerable Population within a Vulnerable Population: LGBTQ Youth in Child Welfare

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Rachel Fusco, Social Work

**Funder:** Central Research Development Fund

**Period:** 05/12-07/12

Transcribed interviews to inform training for public child welfare workers and to provide the foundation for future work in improving services and outcomes for child welfare involved LGBTQ youth in Pennsylvania.

## An Educational Intervention for Patients with Invasive Bladder Cancer

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Nihal Mohamed, The Mount Sinai Hospital

**Funder:** American Cancer Society

**Period:** 03/12-09/12

Transcribed focus groups and interviews with invasive bladder cancer patients regarding treatment decisions, self-care behavior, and subsequent quality of life.

## Barriers, Understanding, Integration - Life Cycle Development (BUILD)

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Melissa Bilec, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Amy Landis, Civil and Environmental Engineering

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

**Period:** 09/10-08/11

Facilitated, transcribed, and coded focus groups with members of the architecture, engineering, and construction (A/E/C) communities regarding barriers and possible solutions to life cycle assessment (LCA).

## Breastfeeding in Late Preterm Infant: A Grounded Theory Study

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Jill Radtke, Nursing

**Funder:** National Institute of Nursing Research

**Period:** 02/11-01/12

Transcribe interviews with mothers of late preterm infants (34-37 weeks gestation) regarding the process of breastfeeding initiation and continuation.

## Caregivers of Persons on Prolonged Mechanical Ventilation: Mind-Body Interaction Model

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
JiYeon Choi, Nursing

**Funder:** Central Research Development Fund

**Period:** 06/12-08/12

Transcribed interviews with family caregivers of persons on PMV to understand the extent of negative psychological and behavioral responses in caregivers.

## Child Protection, Free Speech and the Internet

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Monica Bulger, Oxford University

**Funders:** Oak Foundation, Oxford University Press Fell Fund

**Period:** 01/12-02/12

Transcribed a forum and interviews with high-level members of representative NGOs to discuss both familiar and newly-emerging policy issues with a view to promoting a better understanding of the different groups' (advocates of online child protection and advocates of freedom of expression) positions and sharing perspectives and information.

## Community Stressors and Susceptibility to Air Pollution in Urban Asthma

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Jane Clougherty, Environmental and Occupational Health

**Funder:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**Period:** 05/12-present

Transcription in English and transcription in Spanish and translation to English focus groups with New York City residents regarding key stressors in diverse NYC neighborhoods.

# Projects, continued

## Course Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement in Engineering

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Mary Besterfield-Sacre, Industrial Engineering

**Funder:** National Science Foundation  
**Period:** 03/12-08/12

Transcribed recordings of teams of engineering students solving an engineering problem.

## Decision Making Processes Regarding a Preventative Vaccine for Colorectal Cancer

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Linda Robertson, Medicine

**Funder:** Start-up Funds  
**Period:** 08/11-03/12

Coded interviews with adults regarding their decision to participate in a clinical trial for the MUC1 vaccine.

## Evaluation of Horizon Healthcare Innovations' (HHI) Patient-Centered Medical Homes

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Jeanne Ferrante, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

**Funder:** Horizon Healthcare Innovations  
**Period:** 05/12-present

Transcription of interviews with clinical staff regarding the process of transforming primary care practices into Patient-Centered Medical Homes and use of HHI's intervention.

## HEALTH for Families

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR  
Patricia Cluss, Psychiatry  
Linda Ewing, Psychiatry

**Funder:** National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities  
**Period:** 09/10-09/11

Transcribed and coded interviews with primary caregivers of low-income obese children ages 2-11 years regarding a weight management intervention program.

## Implementation of a Global Studies Certificate

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Michael Gunzenhauser, Education

**Funder:** Research Development Funds  
**Period:** 06/10-11/11

Transcribed interviews with a local school district's teachers and administrators in order to understand the process of starting a new Global Scholars' program in place of the International Baccalaureate program.

## International Study of Parking Enforcement

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Danielle van Jaarsveld, University of British Columbia

**Funder:** Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada  
**Period:** 05/12-present

Transcription of focus groups with parking enforcement officers to identify factors that will improve workforce engagement, job satisfaction, job performance, and employee well-being.

## Japanese Women's Resistance to Pap Smears in the U.S.

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kohhei Nakagawa, UPMC

**Funder:** UPMC Shadyside Hospital Competitive Research Fund  
**Period:** 05/11-09/11

Coded focus groups with indigenous Japanese women currently living in the U.S. regarding their knowledge of and potential resistance to cervical cancer screenings.

## Lapsed Use of the Internet Amongst Young People in the UK: Digital Choice or Digital Exclusion?

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Rebecca Eynon, Oxford University

**Funder:** The Nominet Trust  
**Period:** 09/11-05/12

Transcribed interviews with individuals identified as "lapsed Internet users" regarding why they stopped using the Internet and the implications of non-use of the Internet in the daily lives of these young people.



## New Brunswick Hospital – Community Health Assessment

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Jesse Crosson, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

**Funder:** Center for State Health Policy, Rutgers University

**Period:** 06/12-08/12

Transcribed interviews and focus groups to better understand community health needs; gain a firm knowledge of the scope of existing health care resources in the central New Jersey region; create more targeted services that address the top-priority needs identified by the community; and better coordinate services.

## Oxford e-Social Science

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Eric Meyer, Oxford University

**Funder:** Economic and Social Research Council

**Period:** 07/10-10/11

Transcribed interviews with researchers across all disciplines regarding the use and impacts of using information and communication technology to conduct scholarly research, or “e-research”.

## PARIS Community Electronic Health Record

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Andrew Burton-Jones, University of British Columbia

**Funder:** Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada

**Period:** 03/11-06/12

Transcribe interviews and focus groups with users of the Primary Access Regional Information System (PARIS) electronic health record system regarding the system’s efficacy.

## Pittsburgh Regional Initiative for Diabetes Education (PRIDE)

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Laurel Person Mecca, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Barbara Barnes, UPMC  
Luke Ling, UPMC

**Funder:** U.S. Department of Defense

**Period:** 07/11-03/12

Conduct, transcribe, and code interviews with 18-54 year olds at risk for Type II diabetes regarding a newly developed diabetes educational Web site.

## Preventing Postpartum Weight Retention Among Low-income, Black Women

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Sharon Herring, Temple University

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health

**Period:** 06/11-11/11

Transcribed interviews with Black mothers’ during pregnancy and over the first postpartum year regarding social contextual factors on weight-related behaviors.

## Public Health System Indicators Project (PHSIP)

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Margaret Potter, Health Policy and Management  
Leslie Fink, Graduate School of Public Health

**Funder:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**Period:** 12/11-12/11

Transcribed interviews to inform the development of accurate and reliable metrics for measuring the public health preparedness and response system.

## Robert Wood Johnson Partners: Building an Integrated Delivery System

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Alfred Tallia, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

**Funder:** University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

**Period:** 04/12-present

Transcription of interviews with people who have been involved in the process of trying to start an accountable care organization (ACO). The interviews ask participants to reflect on and describe their involvement in the process as well as to speculate about how they see different aspects of the organization playing out in the future.

## Sensemaking Following a Work-related Trauma

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Sally Maitlis, University of British Columbia

**Funder:** Social Science and Humanities Research Council

**Period:** 03/10-04/12

Transcribed interviews with professional artists regarding their careers following debilitating injury.

# Projects, continued

## Skin Cancer in Hispanic Communities

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Elliot Coups, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey  
Marsha Gordon, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

**Funder:** National Cancer Institute

**Period:** 06/11-07/11

Transcribed English interviews and translated and transcribed Spanish language interviews with Hispanic adults about their beliefs and behaviors regarding protection from the sun and their perceptions of risk of contracting skin cancer as a result of sun exposure.

## The Functions of Affect in Treatment Decisions of Rising PSA Patients

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Michael Diefenbach, The Mount Sinai Hospital

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health

**Period:** 02/12-07/12

Transcribed interviews with subjects with rising PSA levels regarding their treatment decision.

## The Girlfriends Project

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Mary Hawk, Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

**Funder:** UPMC

**Period:** 06/12-present

Transcription of interviews with women regarding participation in The Girlfriends Project, an educational intervention which focuses on HIV prevention for African American women.

## The Use of Mobile Technology in Caseworker Visits to Children in Federally Defined Foster Care

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Mary Rauktis, Social Work

**Funder:** Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare

**Period:** 06/11-09/11

Transcribed focus groups with social workers regarding mobile technology use while working in the field.

## ULab: European Laboratory Modeling the Technical Research University of Tomorrow

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR  
Monica Bulger, Oxford University

**Funder:** European Commission

**Period:** 07/11-08/11

Transcribed interviews with researchers at technical and research-intensive European universities regarding the impact of public outreach and engagement activities to inform understanding of how universities can best develop policies to build “the University of Tomorrow”.

## Veteran’s Evidence-based Research, Dissemination and Implementation Center (VERDICT): Learning and Relationships in Primary Care Clinical Microsystems

### Principal

**Investigators:** Donald Musa, QDAP, UCSUR  
David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR  
Michael Parchman, South Texas Veterans Health Care System

**Funder:** U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

**Period:** 07/09-10/11

Transcribed interviews with staff at VA clinics in the South Texas area regarding staff working with one another in order to promote learning among VA employees and resolve conflicts.

## Daily Individual and Marital Processes in Osteoarthritis

### Principal

**Investigators:** Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR  
Lynn Martire, Penn State University

**Funder:** National Institute on Aging

**Period:** 09/07-08/13

This study focuses on the effects of spousal social support and control on older osteoarthritis patients’ daily functioning, illness cognitions, and physical activity.

## Geriatric Education Center of Pennsylvania (GEC/PA)

### Principal

**Investigator:** Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

**Funder:** Health Resources and Services Administration

**Period:** 07/10-06/15

The GEC/PA is a consortium of the University of Pittsburgh, Penn State University, and UPMC, with Pitt as the lead institution. The GEC/PA focuses on training to enhance geriatric mental health expertise throughout the state.

## Intervention to Facilitate Family Caregiver Adaptation to Nursing Home Transition

### Principal

**Investigator:** Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

**Funder:** National Institute of Nursing Research

**Period:** 07/07-05/13

Assess the effects of an intervention designed to enhance health and quality of life of caregivers and their placed relatives by focusing on caregivers who recently placed their relative in a long-term care facility.

## Quality of Life Technology Engineering Research Center (QoLT ERC)

### Principal

**Investigators:** Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR  
Takeo Kanade, Carnegie Mellon University

**Funder:** National Science Foundation

**Period:** 06/06-05/13

By integrating information technologies and biomedical innovations, the QoLT ERC will allow people to independently perform valued and necessary activities of daily living so that they can more fully participate in society.

## Social Behaviors and Health in Older Adulthood: A Secure Base from which to Thrive

### Principal

**Investigators:** Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR  
Brooke Feeney, Carnegie Mellon University

**Funder:** National Institutes of Health

**Period:** 04/10-03/15

The purpose of this study is to identify specific social behaviors that are responsible for the effects of social relations on health and well-being in older adulthood. In particular, focus on social behaviors that occur within the closest relationships of older adults and involve the support of older adults' exploration, goal strivings, and continued self-growth.

## The Advanced Center for Intervention and Services Research, Research Methods Core

### Principal

**Investigators:** Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

Charles F. Reynolds III, Psychiatry

**Funder:** National Institute of Mental Health

**Period:** 07/11-06/16

Focus on the social, psychological, and behavioral factors relevant to understanding the interactive nature of physical illness and depression in late life.

## Competiveness Research

### Principal

**Investigator:** Vijai Singh, Office of the Chancellor

**Funders:** Heinz Endowments,  
Consolidated Natural Gas

**Period:** ongoing

Projects include analysis of factors which promote regional competitiveness of the biotech industry in Pittsburgh. Partner in a research network with Transatlantic Comparison of Continental Innovation Models. Project Director: Professor Ulrich Hilpert, University of Jena, Germany.



# Publications 2011–12

## Journals

- Castle, N., & Beach, S. (in press). Elder abuse in assisted living. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*.
- Choi, C.W., Stone, R.A., Kim, K.H., Ren, D., Schulz, R., Given, B.A., & Sherwood, P.R. (2012). Group-based trajectory modeling of caregiver psychological distress over time. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 44(1), 73-84. PMID: 22585179.
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- Garand, L., Lingler, J.H., Deardorf, K., Reynolds, C.F. III, DeKosky, S.T., Schulz, R., & Dew, M.A. (2012). Anticipatory grief in new family caregivers of persons with mild cognitive impairment and dementia. *Alzheimer Disease & Associated Disorders*, 26, 159-165. PMID: 21946013. PMCID: PMC3251637.
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- Kondziolka, D., Nawn, D., Zimmerman, B., & Sochats, K. (2012). Knowledge network for authoring, reviewing, editing, searching, and using scientific or other credible information. *Disruptive Science and Technology*, 1(1), 3-10.
- Kumar, S., Quinn, S.C., Kim, K.H., Musa, D., Hilyard, K.M., & Freimuth, V.S. (2012). The social ecological model as a framework for determinants of 2009 H1N1 Influenza vaccine uptake in the United States. *Health Education and Behavior*, 39(2), 229-243.
- Martire, L.M., Stephens, M.A.P., Mogle, J.A., Schulz, R., Brach, J., & Keefe, F.J. (in press). Daily spousal influence on physical activity in knee osteoarthritis. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*.
- Martire, L.M., Stephens, M.A., & Schulz, R. (2011). Independence centrality as a moderator of the effects of spousal support on patient well-being and physical functioning. *Health Psychology*, 30(5), 651-655. PMID: 21534676 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE].
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- Saunders, C.L., Landis, A.E., Mecca, L.P., Jones, A.K., Schaefer, L.A., & Bilec, M.M. (in press). Analyzing the practice of life cycle assessment: Focus on the Building Sector. *Journal of Industrial Ecology*.
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UMC88263-0113