

ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2022-JUNE 30, 2023 UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR SOCIAL AND URBAN RESEARCH

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During the past year, UCSUR produced more than 25 peerreviewed publications and participated in more than 60 funded research projects, the majority of which involve multidisciplinary collaborations.

MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR

I am happy to update the University community on the recent activities and accomplishments of the University Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR).

During the past year, UCSUR produced more than 25 peer-reviewed publications and participated in more than 60 funded research projects, the majority of which involve multidisciplinary collaborations. UCSUR continued its nationally recognized research in family caregiving, financial exploitation of older adults, and technology and aging. As part of that effort, I am codirector and coprincipal investigator of the Administration for Community Living's National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research organization's Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Family Support program. This is a five-year, \$4.3 million center grant focused on facilitating the rapid translation and dissemination of state-of-the-art research and training into direct services and support programs designed to improve care, health, and quality of life of persons with disability, their families, and informal caregivers.

UCSUR also released the State of Aging, Disability, and Family Caregiving in Allegheny County report, an update of a similar 2014 effort. Using secondary data and a largescale telephone survey, the project characterizes older adults across a broad range of dimensions including demographics; income and poverty; health; work and retirement; living arrangements; housing and neighborhood conditions; and caregiving, disability and aging service use. The report has been broadly disseminated to local aging service providers and policymakers. In addition, during this year UCSUR replicated the State of Aging study in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania and that report will be released next year.

UCSUR also continues to be a key resource for data and analysis to inform regional public policy through the Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center (WPRDC), which currently provides access to more than 300 downloadable data sets (many updated on a frequent basis). WPRDC also offers several data extraction and visualization tools that enhance user access and support statistical analyses. Our Urban and Regional Analysis (URA) Program continues to conduct research focused on major economic and demographic trends in the Pittsburgh region and in national and international contexts, regional development, community change, and workforce development. URA also is leading an update to the UCSUR 2018 Regional Quality of Life Survey, with a report to be released in the coming year.

UCSUR continues to build its permanent research infrastructure. Highlights include our regional research registry with more than 9,000 local residents (including 1,200 family

caregivers) willing to participate in research studies; continued refinement of the UCSUR Survey Research Program (SRP) in-house longitudinal multi-mode survey data management and collection system; and continued expansion of our Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities.

Finally, UCSUR celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2022, and we continue to recognize this milestone with special activities and events that we hope will further engage the University community with our work. I hope this report will give you a sense of the value that UCSUR provides to the university and broader community.



Scott R. Beach, PhD Interim Director, UCSUR

WHO WE ARE

University Center for Social and Urban Research

The mission of UCSUR is to work collaboratively to conduct interdisciplinary research that improves communities and addresses social, economic, health, and policy issues most relevant to society. UCSUR carries out this mission by: (1) providing research support infrastructure and training; (2) conducting original research in a few focused areas, including urban impact analysis, survey methodology, and psychosocial aspects of aging; and (3) enhancing access to local and national policy-relevant data.



To achieve the strategic goals of the Center, UCSUR maintains a permanent research infrastructure available to faculty and the community with the capacity to:

- conduct all types of survey research and quantitative data analysis;
- acquire, manage, store, and analyze secondary and administrative data sets including Census data and data of unique local interest;
- 3. **obtain, format, and analyze** spatial data;
- 4. **carry out** regional econometric modeling;
- 5. **design and carry out** descriptive, evaluation, and intervention studies; and
- 6. **conduct** qualitative data collection and analysis.

Our research infrastructure is organized under four core programs:

- Survey Research Program, which is responsible for all aspects of survey research and quantitative data analysis;
- 2. Urban and Regional Analysis Program, which acquires, manages, and analyzes secondary and administrative data sets; does regional econometric modeling; and obtains, formats, and analyzes spatial data;
- 3. **Gerontology Program,** which provides expertise in the design, measurement, and analysis of descriptive, evaluation, and intervention studies focused on older adults; and
- 4. Qualitative Data Analysis Program, which supports the collection and analysis of openended text data using rigorous computer-based methods

Goals

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. UCSUR promotes and coordinates interdisciplinary research focused on the social, economic, and health issues most relevant to our society. Specific goals of UCSUR fall into four broad domains:

- 1. **Provide** state-of-the-art research support services and infrastructure for investigators interested in interdisciplinary research in public policy and the social, behavioral, and health sciences
- 2. **Support** the community service mission of the University by providing data and conducting policy analysis for the region
- Develop nationally recognized research programs within the center in a few selected areas (currently family caregiving, elder abuse, and technology and aging)
- Support the teaching mission of the University by offering interdisciplinary training and mentoring diverse graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and junior faculty members

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 next 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:

Gerontology

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

Offers a rigorous approach to qualitative data collection and analysis, including focus group facilitation; in-depth interviewing; cognitive interviewing; analysis of textual or website 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 reporting.

Survey Research

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. Features a 45-line telephone bank for Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI).

Urban and Regional Analysis

Promotes scholarly analysis of urban and regional development through multidisciplinary research and technical assistance 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 civic engagement, aids in the evaluation of policy alternatives, and applies GIS and neighborhood indicators to understand community revitalization.

Projects conducted in all 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:

online panel/research registry
samples: Geographically and
demographically targeted samples
using commercially available
web panels or in-house research
registries. These are also useful
for cost-effective samples of
rare populations.



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 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, landline and cellular. 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 or online /
research registry 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/webbased), 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 and incentives.

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; and
- **pretesting** the instrument.

Participant Recruitment and Screening

In addition to assisting with primary survey data collection, SRP can assist researchers with locating, contacting, screening, consenting, and scheduling research participants. We use a variety of sample sources (e.g., telephone samples, research registries) and methods (telephone, web, social media) to cost-effectively recruit and enroll research participants for observational, clinical, and intervention studies.

Research Registry

UCSUR has developed and maintains an IRB-approved research registry currently containing more than 9,000 local residents who have agreed to be contacted for surveys and other research studies. The participants are recruited to the registry on an ongoing basis from the pool of respondents to UCSUR-conducted population-based telephone surveys. The registry includes detailed contact information and demographic information including age, gender, race, education level, marital status, household composition, employment status, and income. This allows for targeting of participants for studies with specific eligibility requirements. External investigators can contract with SRP to access the registry for study recruitment. SRP has added an indicator for participants who

are providing unpaid care to an ill or disabled family member or friend (i.e., family caregivers). To date, more than 1,200 family caregivers have been identified who are willing to participate in research studies.

Patient-Reported Outcomes Data Collection for Clinical Research

SRP conducts patient-reported outcomes (PRO) studies using telephone, web, in-person, and other technologies, including mixed-mode designs. These are typically part of clinical trials or intervention studies that follow patients over time. The SRP call center is staffed seven days per week by trained supervisory and interviewer staff members. SRP maintains a secure project dashboard that allows transfer of research participant data and contact information to initiate data collection protocols, schedule assessments, and enable two-way data dialog between the principal investigator's team and SRP staff members. SRP has conducted dozens of complex longitudinal PRO assessment studies with varying clinical populations and has consistently attained response/retention rates above 80 percent.

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WHAT WE DO: CENTER RESOURCES

Interviewing and Data Collection

SRP conducts local, regional, and national telephone, and mail surveys with both general and special populations, as well as inperson 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 fieldwork 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 re-training sessions occur as necessary.

Computer-assisted telephone

interviewing (CATI): A 45-line phone bank at UCSUR is dedicated to a computer-assisted telephone interviewing 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 ensures inclusion of cell phone only households, estimated at 70 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 computerassisted telephone interviewing, and provides the same advantages (automated skips, randomized experiments, etc.).

Audio computer-assisted selfinterviewing (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 ACASI 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 (EMA).

Web-based data collection: SRP

has the capability to conduct webbased surveys and other online data collection and management. UCSUR operates secure servers that host such activities and uses the University-approved Qualtrics software platform. This also includes the use of text-based surveys with links to Qualtrics.

Mobile device data collection:

SRP has capabilities to design applications for the collection of data on Smart Phones and other mobile devices. These include tools for the collection and integration of selfreported survey, location tracking, and physiological monitoring data for real-time ecological momentary assessment studies.

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-toreach 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.

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WHAT WE DO: CENTER RESOURCES

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 database 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 weighting 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 members 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

the official source of demographic and economic data for the state.

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.

Pittsburgh Regional Economic Model

Regional economic models describe the flow of monetary and labor resources within and across both regions and economic sectors. They are often used to assess the economic and labor impacts of policy alternatives, such as tax revisions, economic development, large-scale infrastructure investment, and many other similar scenarios.

UCSUR uses software developed by Regional Economic Models Inc. (REMI), of Amherst, MA for economic impact analysis and economic and demographic forecasting for an 11-county region of southwestern Pennsylvania. The Pittsburgh REMI model is supported by UCSUR in partnership with the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC), which uses REMI for planning transportation infrastructure and long-range forecasting. UCSUR has over 25 years of experience applying the REMI model to the Pittsburgh region. Previous applications of Pittsburgh's REMI model include economic, population, and labor market forecasting and regional economic impact analysis.

Geographic Information System

Geographic Information System (GIS) software is used to visualize and analyze spatial trends in data. UCSUR staff have decades of leadership experience using GIS systems to manage and analyze spatial data, including executing original research, database development and technical assistance. Our staff have led GIS-driven projects across a diversity of domains, including environmental policy, health care, land use and housing policy, and Social Determinants of Health (SDoH). SDoH are measures of the conditions in which people live and include factors such as socioeconomic status, educational achievement, and neighborhood physical environment. As researchers seek to measure the impact of SDoH on health outcomes they need access to spatial skills and knowledge. UCSUR GIS staff support health and medical studies by providing database development and spatial analysis skills to researchers who want to integrate spatial data into their studies. Services include geocoding patient addresses from medical health records and spatial

overlays of the residential point locations to assign measures of SDoH. UCSUR has also utilized GIS to characterize the neighborhood environments of the Pittsburgh Regional Caregiver, Quality of Life and State of Aging Survey respondents, demonstrating our commitment to integrating GIS and spatial analyses within our own work. Exemplary recent projects include the Allegheny County Age-Friendly Community Index (https://afci.ucsur.pitt.edu/ information.php), an interactive online map of age-friendly community indicator variables for every Census tract in Allegheny County. The map and underlying spatial database provide an overview of the availability and concentration of services and infrastructure to support older adults in Allegheny County.

Pittsburgh Perspectives

The URA Program has expanded public outreach with an online section of the UCSUR web page, which publishes short analyses of topics related to economic and demographic change in the Pittsburgh region.





WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA REGIONAL DATA CENTER

The Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center (WPRDC) launched in 2015 as a partnership between the University of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and the City of Pittsburgh. It provides an inclusive infrastructure for openly sharing civic information, and project staff provide a range of services as a civic data intermediary. Funding for the project is provided through the County and City, local and national philanthropic organizations, federal grants, fee for service projects, and University support provided through UCSUR.

Over the past year, the WPRDC provided the following services and infrastructure to the University and the broader community.

Support for Strategic University Community Initiatives

Whe WPRDC provides infrastructure for strategic initiatives of the University and community. It works to support many projects and initiatives by providing data, expertise, and tools. The project team enhances the University's mission by supporting community engagement, research, and education efforts. At a community level, the WPRDC supports a range of initiatives, including health equity, environmental sustainability, affordable housing, data justice, and digital equity.

Provide Access to Open Data

The WPRDC hosts open data on a variety of topics, and, in 2023 made major upgrades to the initiative's open data portal and website. Some of the most-used data includes County property sales and assessments, City crimes, County blood lead tests, COVID-19 vaccinations, Pittsburgh Regional Transit ridership, and 211, 311, and 911 requests for service. This data can be downloaded or accessed through an API and is used by students in many classes at the University, high school students from the Pittsburgh Dataworks Data Jam, and other members of our community.

Data Acquisition and Transformation Services

The WPRDC staff often collaborate on research and community projects to acquire data and make it available. We are partnering with NASA to provide several data feeds collected by climate satellites that can be used to inform responses to air quality issues and climate change. We also continue to partner with the County and City to publish data and maintain data feeds from their internal systems, and we continue to sustain a regularly updated collection of data to inform affordable housing preservation initiatives in Allegheny County in partnership with local housing advocates.

Data Visualization Tools and Dashboards

To help make data more relevant and useful to different people, the WPRDC has built exploration tools and dashboards using open data, including the University's Community Engagement and Outreach Map; the interactive Greenprint map supporting land conservation efforts with the Allegheny Land Trust; HouseCat, a tool to display data about subsidized residential properties; and a variety of tools that provide community statistics on health and housing.

Support to University Research, Analysis, and Special Projects

The WPRDC staff supports our colleagues at the University of Pittsburgh. Staff continue to maintain and improve the Community Engagement and Outreach Map, which highlights community partnerships involving the University. For the past several years, the WPRDC team has been collaborating with The Pittsburgh Study (TPS), a partnership of the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and the University of Pittsburgh. Staff also support a range of research efforts related to maternal and child health with colleagues in the School of Public Health. We continue to partner with colleagues at the University Library System and School of Computing and Information through the Civic Switchboard project, and this project was awarded support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to build a civic data literacy initiative for library workers.



WHAT WE DO: CENTER RESOURCES

Course Design and Personalized Learning

The WPRDC has been actively involved in providing learning opportunities for students. The Regional Data Center has also supported independent student public interest technology projects, and has supported students working through the Center for Analytical Approaches to Social Innovation Grief to Action initiative.

Training

Building on earlier work with libraries, the WPRDC staff have recently developed and launched two new data literacy programs in 2022 and 2023. One workshop series is designed to support data stewards and other data workers as they build equity into their data practices. The second workshop is focused on building skills and confidence of trusted community ambassadors.

Technical Assistance

The WPRDC often consults with faculty, staff, and community partners that are looking to use data in their work. We primarily do this through consultations and ad-hoc requests

Provide Publishing Platforms

Over 20 organizations publish data through the WPRDC's open data portal. The WPRDC helps partners big and small by providing a shared infrastructure for publishing open data. The open data portal provides the ability to download complete data sets or access data through an API, all with complete metadata and a license enabling re-use.

Representing the University of Pittsburgh in External Networks

The WPRDC represents the University in several different national networks focused on civic data, open data, and technology. Participation in these networks helps us to connect our work to other practitioners.



GERONTOLOGY SERVICES

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 over 30 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. Program faculty and staff play an active role in developing proposals for research focused on psychosocial, behavioral, cognitive, and physical aspects of aging. Our principal goals are to:

- Stimulate the development of externally funded research in six areas:
 - 1. physical and mental health of older adults
 - 2. use of technology to improve older adults' quality of life
 - 3. work and retirement
 - 4. aging and social institutions
 - 5. socialization and social support
 - 6. cultural differences and aging
- Operate as the information hub for interdisciplinary, aging-related research and training resources throughout the University
- Assist in the development of new gerontological training and service programs that serve the research and training missions of the University



Graduate Certificate in Gerontology

This educational 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 offered both on-campus as well as through Pitt Online. They may also select specialty tracks focused on prevention and healthy aging, family support, 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. Information about this Graduate Certificate in Gerontology Program can be found at: agingcertificate.pitt.edu.

WHAT WE DO: CENTER RESOURCES

Center for Caregiving Research, Education and Policy

In collaboration with the Health Policy Institute, the Gerontology Program of UCSUR launched the Center for Caregiving Research, Education, and Policy. The mission of the Center is to enhance research on caregiving; train professionals and family caregivers to be as effective as possible; institute support programs integrating caregivers into existing health care services, long-term services and support systems; and inform public policy on the role of caregivers in state and national health care regulations.

For more than three decades our multidisciplinary faculty and clinicians at the University of Pittsburgh and UPMC have been at the forefront of research documenting the impact of caregiving on family caregivers and the persons they care for, developing intervention strategies to mitigate the negative effects and enhance the positive effects of caregiving, and formulating policy to support caregivers. The Center consolidates and synergizes this expertise to accelerate the impact of our research on policy, health care systems, and the health of family members who are providing and receiving care.



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 website analysis, audio and video transcription, data coding and analysis, and results reporting.

Data Collection and Management

QDAP staff have the expertise to collect and manage a range of gualitative data utilizing a variety of methods and sources. This includes conducting in-depth interviews, facilitating focus groups, and collecting qualitative data from both traditional and innovative sources such as document and textual material, videos, images and other visual material, and web sources such as websites, blogs and emails. 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 indepth interviews, open-ended survey answers, field notes, transcripts from focus groups, web blogs, e-mails, website 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 work 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; NVivo, another widely used qualitative data analysis software package; 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. In addition, we offer training seminars and one-on-one training sessions for faculty, staff and students in using ATLAS.ti, NVivo and Transana.

Services Provided

- Study design, management and coordination
- Interviewer training and management
- Participant recruitment
- Data collection including focus group facilitation, in-depth interviewing, cognitive 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, NVivo, Transana)

WHAT WE DO: CENTER RESOURCES

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 2020 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; and
- 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 up-to-date neighborhood information on the UCSUR website (www.ucsur.pitt.edu).



UCSUR is a repository for electronic and printed Census information, including Census 2020 data.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

UCSUR's IT Department continues to partner closely with Pitt-IT, the Network Operations Center (NOC), and the NOC's efforts within Microsoft's Azure Cloud Services. This allows UCSUR IT to offer traditional infrastructure solutions comprised of on-premises data centers, servers, networking hardware, desktop computers, and enterprise application software. In addition, UCSUR IT can also offer cloud infrastructure solutions which support dynamic, multilayered systems that would be too costly and complex to operate locally. This approach allows UCSUR IT to achieve an optimal IT infrastructure that provides business grade high-performance storage, a low-latency network, security, an optimized wide area network (WAN), virtualization and zero downtime.

The UCSUR IT Department goals are to

- provide a positive customer experience by providing secure and uninterrupted access to IT services
- develop and launch solutions efficiently and effectively
- Enable real-time data collection and dissemination
- Improve employee and client productivity

STEVEN D. MANNERS RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

2023

Daniel J. Bain, Geology and Environmental Science; Rebecca G. Reed, Psychology

2022

Sara Goodkind and Jeffrey Shook, School of Social Work Karen Jakubowski, Psychiatry Andrea Rosso, Epidemiology; and Andrea Weinstein, Psychiatry

2021

Michael R. Glass, Urban Studies Program

2020

Jessica Levenson, Psychiatry and Pediatrics Randall Walsh, Economics

2019

Jessica Hamilton, UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital Marlo Perry, School of Social Work

2018

Jamie Hanson, Psychology Junia Howell, Sociology Chelsea Pallatino, Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences

2017

Courtenay Dunn-Lewis, Health and Physical Activity Aidan Wright, Psychology

2016

Victoria Shineman, Political Science Alicia Sufrinko and Anthony Kontos, Orthopaedic Surgery

2015

Carissa Low, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute Elizabeth Votruba-Drzal, Psychology

2014

Anthony Fabio and Dara Mendez, Epidemiology Lyn Robertson, Medicine

2013

Brian Beaton and Rosta Farzan, School of Information Sciences Kathryn Monahan, Psychiatry Ming-Te Wang, School of Education

2012

Nicholas Castle, Graduate School of Public Health

2011

Jane Clougherty, Graduate School of Public Health

Fengyan Tang, School of Social Work

2010

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

Irina Murtazashvili, Economics Brian A. Primack, Medicine and Pediatrics

2008

Peter J. Gianaros and J. Richard Jennings, Psychiatry Elizabeth LaRue, School of Nursing Keith Morgenlander, Medicine

2007

Patricia Isabel Documet, Behavioral and Community Health Sciences Jeffrey Shook and Michael Vaughn, School of Social Work

2006

Shanti Gamper-Rabindran and Aaron Swoboda, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs Larissa Myaskovsky, VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System

2005

Charlotte Brown, Center on Race and Social Problems Bruce S. Ling, Institute for Doctor-Patient Communication

Eva Marie Shivers, School of Education

2004

Ellen Olshansky, School of Nursing; Seung-Hyun Yoo, Graduate School of Public Health Susan Zickmund, Medicine

2003

Lisa Brush, Sociology William Klein, Psychology Audrey Murrell, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business Pamela Peele, Health Economics Daniel Rosen, School of Social Work Jeannette Trauth, Graduate School of Public Health

2002

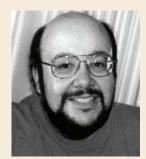
Scott F. Kiesling, Linguistics Maureen Porter, Administrative and Policy Studies

2001

Paul E. Griffiths, History and Philosophy Miriam Hertz, Health Information Management

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 Research Development Awards program in recognition of Mr. Manners' contributions to the Center and the University community. These awards support pilot research in the social, behavioral, and policy sciences that has the potential of leading

to larger, externally funded projects of interest to local/national foundations or state/federal agencies. The proposed research must align with UCSUR's mission of working collaboratively to conduct interdisciplinary research that improves communities and addresses social, economic, health, and policy issues most relevant to society.



Steven D. Manners

CORE STAFF

Administration

Interim Director: Scott Beach

Business Manager: Greg Six Administrators: Anna Aivaliotis, Donna M. King Financial Administrator: Abena Boadi-Agyemang

Pre-Award Administrators: Kyle Palmer, Carrie Rodzwicz

Administration -Technology Services

IT Director/Database Administrator: **Robert Keene**

Systems Administrator: Eric Wolfe

Senior Research Programmer: David Walker

Research Programmers: Rhaven Nelson, Ross Reilly, Steven Saylor

Survey Research

Program Director: Scott Beach Senior Research Specialist:

Janet Schlarb

Senior Fieldwork Supervisor: Lynda Connelly

Fieldwork Supervisors: Olivia Kirsch, Patricia Lietz, Olivia Wilson

Fieldwork Supervisor/ Research Specialist: Amber Barton

Amper Barton

Research Specialist: Christine Byerly

Research Specialists/ Interviewers: Victoria Casilli, Luke Farkas, Ana Geibel, Paula Kubrick, Brandon Self, Susan Stringfellow Center Manager, National Research and Training Center on Family Support: Julie Klinger

Outreach Coordinator, National Research and Training Center on Family Support: **Heather Tomko**

Urban and Regional Analysis

Program Director: Sabina Deitrick**

Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center Director: Robert Gradeck

Regional Economist: Christopher Briem

GIS Database Analyst: Ellen Kinnee

Project Manager: Elizabeth Monk

Gerontology

Program Director: Richard Schulz Associate Program Director: Judith Matthews

Gerontology Certificate Project Coordinator: Jennifer Bissell

Qualitative Data Analysis

Research Specialists: David Halpern, Kevan Schultz

FACULTY ASSOCIATES

Charles David Boucek Anesthesiology

John P. Williams Anesthesiology

Steven Albert Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

Jessica Griffin Burke Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

Mary Hawk Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

Richard Boyce Biomedical Informatics

Amber E. Johnson Cardiology

Melissa Bilec Civil and Environmental Engineering

David Sanchez Civil and Environmental Engineering

Kenneth Sochats College of General Studies

Caitlin Bruce Communication

Catherine V. Palmer Communication Science and Disorders

Jacob Biehl Computing and Information

Alexandros Labrinidis Computing and Information

Daniel Mosse Computing and Information

Eleanor Mattern Computing and Information

Jeremy Kahn Critical Care Medicine Douglas White

Critical Care Medicine Mary Marazita

Dental Medicine Robert Weyant Dental Medicine

Randall Walsh Economics Linda DeAngelo Education

Michael Gunzenhauser Education

Maureen Porter Education

Vince N. Mosesso Jr. Emergency Medicine

Steven H. Belle Epidemiology

Jane A. Cauley Epidemiology

Andrea Kriska Epidemiology

Lindsay Nakaishi Family Medicine

Sabina Deitrick Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

Marcela Gonzalez Rivas Graduate School of Public and International Affairs

Jennifer Brach Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Anthony Delitto Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Bambang Parmanto Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Howard B. Degenholtz Health Policy and Management

Meredith Hughes Health Policy and Management

Everette James III Health Policy and Management

Laurence A. Glasco History Lisa S. Parker

Human Genetics

Mary Besterfield-Sacre Industrial Engineering

Kathleen McTigue Internal Medicine

Lawrence Feick Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business

** Indicates participating faculty, not UCSUR staff **Carrie R. Leana** Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business

Ronald A. Brand

Mary Crossley Law Vivian Curran

Richard Correnti Learning Research and Development Center

Kevin Crowley Learning Research and Development Center

Mary Ann Steiner Learning Research and Development Center

James M. Roberts Magee-Women's Research Institute

Kaleab Z. Abebe Medicine

Derek C. Angus Medicine

Robert M. Arnold Medicine

Sonya Borrero Medicine

Michael Fine Medicine

Manisha Jhamb Medicine

Jared W. Magnani Medicine

Anne B. Newman Medicine

P. Sudhakar Reddy Medicine

Linda Robertson Medicine

Eric Rodriguez

Medicine

Leslie P. Scheunemann Medicine

Robert E. Schoen Medicine Galen Switzer Medicine Debra K. Weiner Medicine **Denise Charron-Prochownik** Nursing Rose E. Constantino Nursing **Jill Radtke Demirci** Nursing Annette DeVito Dabbs Nursing Heidi Donovan Nursing Willa M. Doswell Nursing Jennifer Hagerty Lingler Nursing Faith Luyster Nursing Ann M. Mitchell Nursing Margaret Rosenzweig Nursing Elizabeth A. Schlenk Nursing Jennifer Seaman Nursing Susan Sereika Nursing Paula Sherwood Nursing Angela Caldwell **Occupational Therapy** Pamela Toto **Occupational Therapy** Joseph McCarthy Office of the Provost Parmjeet Randhawa Pathology Elizabeth Miller Pediatrics **Raymond Pitetti** Pediatrics **Kristin Ray** Pediatrics

Pouran Famili Periodontics Pam Smithburger Pharmacy Victoria Hornyak Physical Therapy James J. Irrgang Physical Therapy Andrew Lynch Physical Therapy Jessie VanSwearingen Physical Therapy **Boris Birmaher** Psychiatry Dana Bovbjerg Psychiatry David Brent Psychiatry Charlotte Brown Psychiatry **Daniel Buysse** Psychiatry **Duncan Clark** Psychiatry Mary Amanda Dew Psychiatry Andrea Dimartini Psychiatry Richard Morycz Psychiatry Vishwajit Nimgaonkar Psychiatry **Paul Pilkonis** Psychiatry Neal Ryan Psychiatryy Stephen Smagula Psychiatry Sarah Stahl Psychiatry **Kaitlin Szanto** Psychiatry Ellen Whyte Psychiatry **Kirk Erickson** Psychology

Peter Gianaros Psychology Thomas Kamarck Psychology Kathryn Roecklein Psychology **Daniel Shaw** Psychology Steven E. Stern Psychology-Johnstown **Rory Cooper Rehabilitation Science** and Technology Dan Ding **Rehabilitation Science** and Technology Mary Goldberg **Rehabilitation Science** and Technology Rafael J. Engel Social Work **Catherine Greeno** Social Work Elizabeth Mulvaney Social Work Helen Petracchi Social Work Mary Rauktis Social Work Kathleen M. Blee Sociology Lisa D. Brush Sociology Vijai P. Singh Sociology **Jackie Sith** Sociology Daniel Hall Surgery James D. Luketich Surgery **Aaron Brenner** University Library System

PROJECTS*

Access to Kidney Transplantation in Minority Populations (AKT-MP) PI: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Larissa Myaskovsky, University of New Mexico

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 02/21-01/25

Telephone interviews with N=398 end-stage kidney disease patients to compare the efficacy and costeffectiveness of two approaches to help Hispanic/Latino and American Indian patients overcome barriers to completing transplant evaluation and receiving a kidney transplant.

Biobehavioral Studies of Cardiovascular Disease Pls: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR Study Pl: Peter Gianaros, Psychology

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 05/18-06/23

Telephone recruitment of participants for the NOAH (N=389) and eBACH (N=150) studies designed to advance mechanistic and translational science on the neurobiology of cardiovascular disease risk in midlife.

Caregiver Stress and Sleep Study (CARES) PI: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Stephen Smagula,

Psychiatry

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 10/22-present

Recruitment of caregivers of dementia patients for enrollment in a large MRI-based study. The research goal is to clarify the modifiable 24-hour behavioral and thought patterns that drive depression risk and resilience in caregivers, and understanding neurobiological markers of variability in depression risk.



Caring for OutPatiEnts after Acute Kidney Injury (COPE-AKI) Consortium

PI: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Kaleab Z. Abebe, School of Medicine

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 10/1/21-9/30/26

The goal of the COPE-AKI Consortium will be to develop and test interventions to enhance processes of care and identify key pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic interventions to reduce morbidity among these highrisk patients. UCSUR will conduct telephone interviews with approximately 2,000 AKI patients at 30 days, 90 days, 6 months, and 1 year to assess global health-related quality of life, AKI-specific health-related qualityof life, provider interactions, and social support.

Community HealthChoices Evaluation - NSOC (National Study of Caregiving)

PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Olivia Kirsch, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Howard Degenholtz,

Graduate School of Public Health Funder: Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (Office of Long-Term Living)

Period: 07/17-12/23

Telephone interviews (~N=1000) with unpaid caregivers to participants in Community HealthChoices (CHC) - a Pennsylvania managed care program for Medical Assistance recipients - in order to evaluate the impact of CHC.

Daily Diaries for Late Life Suicide Assessment

PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Katalin Szanto, Psychiatry Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 01/22-08/24

UCSUR assisting with morning and evening web-based assessments tracking emotional and sleep data. Collected data supports the larger research objective to understand the interacting risk and protective factors related to biological and psychosocial factors of aging that lead to the elevated suicide rate in late life.

Effects of COVID-19 on Family Caregivers

Study PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR Heidi Donovan, School of Nursing A. Everette James, Healthy Policy Institute

Julie Klinger, National Research and Training Center on Family Support, Health Sciences Heather Tomko, National Research and Training Center on Family Support, Health Sciences

Funder: The National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research

Period: 04/20-present

A mixed mode (web & phone) survey of persons from a local area research registry, and persons associated with several national disability and caregivingrelated organizations. The goal of the survey was to assess the impacts of the pandemic on employment, financial well-being, social interactions, health behaviors, and physical and mental health. Responses were received from over 600 family caregivers and nearly 3000 non-caregivers.

Identifying Predictors of Poor Health-Related Quality of Life among Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Donors

Pls: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR Study Pl: Galen Switzer, Medicine

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 01/18-12/23

Telephone interviews with several hundred pediatric stem cell donors and their family members to gather information that will be used to design interventions to improve quality-of-life in donors and their families.

Jefferson Area Community Data and Technical Assistance Pls: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR Mary Phan-Gruber, Jefferson Regional Foundation

Funder: Jefferson Regional Foundation Period: 01/19-06/23

This project leverages UCSUR's expertise in qualitative analysis, survey design, focus groups, database tools and training to provide analysis, guidance and technical assistance to the Foundation and Jefferson Community Collaborative. UCSUR is filling an essential role in the production of community data, evaluations and in building local capacity in the application of data for community impact through various projects.

News and Information Survey

PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Rhaven Nelson, UCSUR Study PIs: Sarah Goodkind, School of Social Work

Jeffrey Shook, School of Social Work Funder: UCSUR (Manners Award) Period: 05/23-present

A Qualtrics web survey of UCSUR research registry members to provide a nuanced, localized understanding of residents' information sources and usage; perceptions of trust and disinformation in the region. This survey will help identify points of weakness and resilience that will complement alternative computational approaches to understanding disinformation flows. Further, our work will identify previously hidden opportunities to strengthen ties across communities and improve citizens' abilities to connect with those outside their immediate information network.

On the Move: Optimizing Participation in Group Exercise PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Jennifer Brach, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Funder: Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute

Period: 10/14-present SRP is using Interactive Voice Response (IVR) among group exercise participants to track falls, activity, and hospital visits monthly over the course of one year.

PA Link / Customer Satisfaction Survey

PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR Study PIs: Steven Albert, Behavioral and Community Health Sciences Patrick Lally, Pennsylvania Department of Aging

Funder: Pennsylvania Department of Aging

Period: 04/23-10/23

The aim of this study is two-fold. First, to study the effectiveness of text-message invitations to gather customers satisfaction data via a web-based survey. Second, to gauge customer satisfaction within the PA Link to Community Care and PA Link to Aging and Disability Resources programs. UCSUR conducted text / web-based surveys with telephone follow-up surveys of non-respondents.

Patient and Family Member Reactions to Biomarker-informed ADRD Diagnoses (PARADE) PI: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Jennifer Hagerty Lingler, Nursing

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 08/22-present

UCSUR will conduct assessments of subjects before and after disclosure of amyloid imaging results. The project will enable researchers to better understand the experiences and potential psychological impacts of receiving Alzheimer's biomarker results.

PHRESH: Pittsburgh Hill/Homewood Research on Neighborhood Change and Health

PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR Rhaven Nelson, UCSUR Study PI: Tamara Dubowitz, RAND

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 05/10-present

UCSUR provides interviewer training, programming for data collection, and data management in a study of 1,600 residents of two lowincome Pittsburgh neighborhoods.

*In alphabetical order by UCSUR principal investigator (PI)

PROJECTS*

State of Aging, Disability, and Family Caregiving in Allegheny County

Study PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Christopher Briem, URA, UCSUR Ellen Kinnee, URA, UCSUR Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR

Heidi Donovan, School of Nursing

Funder: Hillman Foundation Period: 05/21-10/22

Project to update UCSUR's 2014 study of older adults and the state of aging in Allegheny County. Project characterizes older adults across a broad range of dimensions including demographics, income and poverty, health, work and retirement, living arrangements, housing and neighborhood conditions, caregiving, aging service use, and overall well-being. Includes both secondary analysis of multiple data sources and primary data collection through a telephone survey of older adults (n = 1300).

State of Aging, Disability, and Family Caregiving in Westmoreland County

Study PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Christopher Briem, URA, UCSUR Ellen Kinnee, URA, UCSUR Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR Meredith Hughes, Health Policy and Management Everette James, Health Policy and

Management

Funder: Richard King Mellon Foundation

Period: 10/22-9/23

The project characterizes older adults in Westmoreland County across a broad range of dimensions including demographics, income and poverty, health, work and retirement, living arrangements, housing and neighborhood conditions, caregiving, aging service use, and overall well-being. Includes both secondary analysis of multiple data sources and primary data collection through a telephone survey.

The Couples' Daily Lives Study

PI: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Lynn Martire, Penn State University

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 07/22-04/23

Recruitment of older couples for a large study that researches the effects of close relationships on health and well-being. Specifically, the study is designed to learn more about the daily experiences of adults aged 65 or older with chronic back pain and their partners.

The Healthy Allegheny County Teen Survey (HATS)

PI: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Elizabeth Miller, Pediatrics Funder: Allegheny County

Period: 2/23-06/23

Qualtrics web questionnaires that engages young people (9th to 12th grade) around critically important data about youth strengths, health behaviors, and barriers to care seeking to guide interventions for youth in schools and in their neighborhoods. This survey is a collaboration among school districts, University of Pittsburgh Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, youth-serving community partners, the University of Pittsburgh Center for Social and Urban Research, and the Allegheny County Health Department, and The Pittsburgh Study (TPS).

The Hemodialysis Opioid Prescription Effort (HOPE) Consortium

PI: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Laura Dember, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 10/22-02/24

Telephone interviews using REDCap to help assess the perception of pain on quality of life among people receiving maintenance hemodialysis.

The Impact of Post-Acute Care Payment Changes on Access and Outcomes

PI: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Natalie Leland, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Funder: National Institute on Aging Period: Period: 10/21-06/23

The study will examine the impact of Medicare's new payment models for skilled nursing facilities and home health agencies on access to care and quality outcomes. Telephone interviews with institutional and home health administrators.

The National Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Family Support at the University of Pittsburgh

Study PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Janet Schlarb, SRP, UCSUR Richard Schulz, Gerontology,

UCSUR Heidi Donovan, School of Nursing

- Julie Klinger, National Research and Training Center on Family Support, Health Sciences
- Bambang Parmanto, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
- Heather Tomko, National Research and Training Center on Family Support, Health Sciences

Funder: The National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research

Period: 09/19-08/24

Through a \$4.3M grant from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research, the Center will serve as a national hub that leverages modern medical research to improve the care, health, and quality of life of all persons with disabilities and the families who support them.

Undergraduate Student Satisfaction and Retention Study PI: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Study PI: Joseph McCarthy, Office of the Provost

Funder: Office of the Provost Period: 09/97-06/23

Telephone interviews and webbased surveys of University of Pittsburgh undergraduate students (n=1800+ per year) and withdrawing students (n=600+ per year) to determine factors related to student satisfaction and retention.

Understanding Factors Influencing Financial Exploitation among Diverse Samples of Older Adults Study PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Richard Schulz, Gerontology, UCSUR Sara Czaja, Weill Cornell Medical College

David Loewenstein, University of Miami

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 04/17-03/23

The aims of this project are to: examine the impact of financial scam susceptibility on incidence of financial exploitation (FE); examine the impact of socio-demographic factors and social integration/isolation on scam susceptibility and FE; examine the impact of general cognitive abilities and financial skills/advice and support on scam susceptibility and FE, and as mediators of relationships between socio-demographic factors, social integration/isolation, scam susceptibility and FE; and examine the impact of psychosocial factors on scam susceptibility and FE.

Widowed Elders' Lifestyle after Loss (WELL)

PIs: Scott Beach, SRP, UCSUR Robert Keene, SRP, UCSUR Sarah Stahl, Psychiatry

Funder: National Institute of Mental Health

Period: 02/15-present

Technical support for a study which is testing the feasibility of a behavioral intervention that uses technology and motivational health coaching to encourage a regular routine of healthy eating, sleeping, and physical activity among older adults who are at high-risk for depression following the death of their spouse.

Competitiveness Research

PIs: Christopher Briem, URA, UCSUR Vijai Singh, Sociology

Funders: Heinz Endowments, Consolidated Natural Gas

Period: ongoing

Projects include analysis of factors which promote regional competitiveness in Pittsburgh.

Allegheny County Quality of Life Survey

PI: Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Pittsburgh Foundation, The Heinz Endowments

Period: 12/22-04/24

Survey of over 2,000 Allegheny County residents, updating previous 2011 and 2018 surveys, with added sections and modules reflecting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey and dissemination conducted with partner UrbanKind.

Penn Hills Study PI: Sabina Deitrick, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Jackson/Clark Associates Period: 07/22-03/23

Analysis and comparison of Census tract and block group data for Penn Hills Township and analysis of real estate and outside investors data in Penn Hills housing market.

AISP Equity in Practice Learning Community Fellow

PI: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Funder: University of Pennsylvania Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy Period: 6/23-12/25

Working as a fellow in the program to support two local data sharing partnerships through the learning community.

Community Health Data Explorers PI: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Funders: The Pittsburgh Study; Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Project: Live Well Allegheny: Lifting Wellness for African Americans

Period: ongoing

The Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center has developed and maintained a data tool for presenting contextual community statistics in Western Pennsylvania. The tool is now used to support multiple projects at UCSUR.

Data Justice for Pittsburgh's Black Residents PIs: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR Tiffany Gary-Webb, Graduate

School of Public Health

Funder: de Beaumont Foundation Period: 10/23-10/26

Establish an initiative through the Black Equity Coalition and with the City of Pittsburgh to make data practices and infrastructures more just and inclusive. This initiative will develop a mini-public to bring community decision-making into city data stewardship and also focus on helping residents improve their health using data about the built environment.

Data Literacy

PI: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Hillman Foundation Period: 10/21-10/23

Development of two separate workshop series and toolkits designed to build data literacy among data stewards and new cohorts of community data ambassadors.

*In alphabetical order by UCSUR principal investigator (PI)

PROJECTS*

Developing a Plan to Strengthen the CKAN Open-source Open Data Ecosystem

PIs: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR Nora Mattern, School of Computing and Information

Funder: National Science Foundation (POSE Program)

Period: 09/22-09/23

This project developed a plan to strengthen the community around the CKAN software the Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center uses in its open data work.

DISCOVER Project Contributor PI: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Sustainable Pittsburgh Period: 2022-ongoing

Working as a member of the Defining Intersectional Sustainability to Collaboratively Optimize for a Vibrant and Equitable Region (DISCOVER) initiative of Sustainable Pittsburgh. Building beyond data and measurement, DISCOVER is creating a shared, inclusive framework for measuring progress, coordinating communications, and driving interventions toward regional sustainability outcomes and policies.

First Steps and Beyond – MCH Data Ecosystem PIs: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Ashley Hill, School of Public Health Funder: Allegheny Health Network Period: 7/23-12/23

The project is designed to research the data landscape of maternal and child health (MCH) data, explore issues related to data accessibility, and uncover data use cases. This project is conducted through The Pittsburgh Study.

HouseCat – Affordable Housing Catalog

PI: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Heinz Endowments, Anonymous Funder

Period: 03/20-ongoing

Development of a data tool and pipeline to provide information about subsidized housing to practitioners and policymakers working to preserve and expand the supply of affordable housing in Allegheny County.

Improving Community Engagement in the Design, Collection, and Use of Community Level Data and Small Area Estimates to Address Structural Determinants of Health PI: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Funder: CDC Foundation Period: 06/22-11/23

Project to improve the quality, efficiency, and utility of health surveys, such as BRFSS and PRAMS. Part of a cohort of four other peer organizations from around the U.S. to improve the use of small-area sample estimates included in the PLACES dataset. Convened local community members and researchers in conversations about inclusive research practices through this project. Jamil Bey of the UrbanKind Institute served as Co-PI on this project through the Black Equity Coalition

Neighborhood Change PI: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Funder: Heinz Endowments Period: 01/21-06/23

Explored data sources that can be used to measure residential mobility with the Carnegie Mellon CREATE Lab. Drafted a summary of data sources, their quality, potential biases, and ethical issues using neighborhood data to inform resident focus groups with the Black Equity Coalition.

Postpartum Mothers Mobile Study (PMOMS) Racism Indicators PIs: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR Dara Mendez, Graduate School of Public Health

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 6/21-12/22

Assembled a collection of communitylevel indicators related to structural racism. This data will provide community context to responses collected through the Postpartum Mothers Mobile Study (PMOMS) survey.

Synthetic Data

PI: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR Funder: N/A

Period: 06/22-01/23

The Urban Institute is developing software to create synthetic data and is partnering with UCSUR and Allegheny County on a pilot project to create synthetic data from Allegheny County human service records. UCSUR is playing an advisory role on the project.

Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center

PI: Robert Gradeck, URA, UCSUR

Funders: Allegheny County; City of Pittsburgh; Heinz Endowments; Hillman Foundation; Richard King Mellon Foundation; University of Pittsburgh Period: ongoing

The Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center (WPRDC) supports key community initiatives by making public information easier to find and use. The WPRDC is managed by UCSUR, and is in partnership with Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh.

Barriers to the Use of Disease-Modifying treatments in Sickle Cell Disease: Survey and Focus Groups of Patients, Caregivers, and Providers

Pls: David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR Study Pl: Terri Newman, School of Pharmacy

Funder: American Society of Hospital Pharmacists

Period: 08/22-present

Moderation, transcription, and coding of focus groups with patients and providers assessing drug treatment in sickle cell patients.

Inclusivity, Accessibility and Healthcare Equity at the Shadyside Family Health Center

PIs: David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR Study PI: Lindsay Nakaishi, UPMC St. Margaret Family Medicine Residency Program

Funder: Nimick Forbesway Foundation Period: 06/22-12/22

Transcription and coding of focus groups assessing patients' attitudes and beliefs towards inclusivity and diversity at a family medicine clinic.

Mobile Health Intervention for Rural Atrial Fibrillation PIs: David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR Study PI: Jared Magnani, School of Medicine

Funder: National Institutes of Health/ National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Period: 03/22-08/23

Moderation, transcription, and coding of focus groups with stakeholders about their lived experiences as persons with atrial fibrillation living in rural communities.

MyPlace Wellness Program

Pls: David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR Study Pl: Charley Lafe, ACTION-Housing Inc.

Funder: Self-funded/internal to organization

Period: 09/22-05/23

Moderation, transcription, and coding of focus groups with current members and alumni of ACTION-Housing Inc's MyPlace youth programs regarding development of an alumni program focused on providing life skills and information about healthy lifestyles for people who have aged out of the foster system.

Effects of Outdoor Artificial Light at Night on Circadian Activity Rhythms in Adolescents Versus Adults

PIs: Ellen Kinnee, URA, UCSUR Adriane Soehner, UPMC

Funder: University of Pittsburgh Clinical and Translational Science Institute

Period: 04/23-03/24

Conduct analyses in an existing harmonized sample of adolescents and young adults (aged 9-25) from the Neuroimaging and Pediatric Sleep Databank. Primary aims are to: (1) examine associations between outdoor ALAN exposure and circadian activity rhythm disruption; and (2) determine the extent to which associations between outdoor ALAN exposure and circadian disruption varies over adolescent development.

*In alphabetical order by UCSUR principal investigator (PI)



PROJECTS*

Geospatial Analysis of Disparities in Access to and Use of Metabolic Disease Specialty Care PIs: Ellen Kinnee, URA, UCSUR Margaret Zupa, UPMC

Funder: University of Pittsburgh Clinical and Translational Science Institute

Period: 04/23-03/24

This study will newly link geographic data sources with patientlevel health information through geospatial analysis, in order to: (1) assess the prevalence and magnitude of barriers to metabolic disease specialty care in the form of drive time, public transportation access, and broadband internet access for adults with T2D and ASCVD; and (2) evaluate the impact of these factors on specialty metabolic disease care use before and after widespread availability of telemedicine.

Pediatric Health and Extreme Weather – Health Effects of Ambient Temperature (PHEW-HEAT) PIs: Ellen Kinnee, URA, UCSUR Jane Clougherty, Drexel University Perry Sheffield, Icahn School of

Medicine at Mount Sinai

Funder: National Institutes of Health Period: 08/19-08/24

This research will overcome gaps in child health and heat research by combining spatially and temporally resolved estimates of surface temperature in New York state with large statewide administrative clinical datasets. Further, social and co-morbidity effect modifiers will be considered in order to identify key subpopulations and modifiable risk factors across a rural-urban gradient. The design is tailored to work in concert with existing heat action plans used by municipal level health agencies such that those plans can most easily accommodate updated findings.

The Association of Patient Portal use with Cardiovascular Health Outcomes at a Large Academic Medical System

Pls: Ellen Kinnee, URA, UCSUR Amber Johnson, UPMC

Funder: UPMC Internal Funds Period: 11/22-12/23

Conduct a retrospective cross-sectional analysis using health records of patients seen at UPMC to analyze the relationship between use of telehealth and cardiovascular hospital admissions, procedures, and mortality.

Understanding Pediatric Susceptibility Across Temperature and Environment in New York (UPSTATE NY)

Pls: Ellen Kinnee, URA, UCSUR Jane Clougherty, Drexel University Perry Sheffield, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Funder: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Period: 06/22-06/25

Identify community stressors and resilience-enhancing assets that shape relationships between climate change-related exposures [heat, ozone (O3), fine particulate matter (PM2.5)] and child health. Particularly interested in assets which may bolster children's resilience to climate-related exposures in environmental justice (EJ) communities across Upstate NY.

Building Civic Open Data Capacity through Instructional Design PIs: Elizabeth Monk, URA, UCSUR Eleanor Mattern, School of

Computing and Information Funder: Institute of Museum and Library Services

Period 11/20-11/22

Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center is partnering with SCI to produce data literacy, management, and analytics instructional materials designed to: (1) foster MLIS students' capacity to engage in local civic data ecosystems in their careers; (2) build curation skills needed among civic data workers through curriculum for academic programs such as public policy, urban studies, and political studies; and (3) address existing data information needs among academic and public librarians and civic sector employees through professional development workshops and resources.

Civic Switchboard

PIs: Elizabeth Monk, URA, UCSUR Aaron Brenner, University Library System

Funder: Institute of Museum and Library Services

Period: 10/17-ongoing

Civic Switchboard aims to develop the capacity of academic and public libraries in civic data ecosystems. This project encourages partnerships between libraries and local data intermediaries, which will better serve data users, further democratize data, and support equitable access to information. The project will create a toolkit for libraries interested in expanding (or beginning) their role around civic information. Civic Switchboard is a partnership of UCSUR, the University Library System at the University of Pittsburgh, and the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

Engagement and Outreach Map PIs: Liz Monk, URA, UCSUR Steven Saylor, URA, UCSUR

Funder: University of Pittsburgh Office of Engagement and Community Affairs

Period: ongoing

Continued development of the University's Community Engagement Map, which serves as a catalog of information about universitycommunity partnerships.

Developing a Culturally-Relevant Digital Health Intervention to Treat Binge Eating and Obesity PIs: Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR Study PI: Rachel W. Goode,

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Funder: National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive, and Kidney Diseases Period: 04/23-present

Transcription and coding of interviews with Black women who binge eat, in order to identify barriers and facilitators to detecting and treating binge eating; to adapt a validated eating behavior and nutrition intervention guided by stakeholder input; and to use Semblie (a UNC-hosted, no-cost online platform that provides tools to build, deliver, and track digital health interventions) to construct a digital health tool to treat binge eating and prevent weight gain in Black women, the feasibility and preliminary efficacy of which will be examined in a pragmatic clinical trial.

DPT Students' Perceptions of Program Diversity and Comfort Working with Diverse Patient Populations

PIs: Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR Study PI: Ally Bove, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Funder: Internal/Start-up (Year of Diversity) Period: 09/22-03/23

Coding of focus groups with physical therapists about their experiences working with diverse patient populations.

PATH for Caregivers Study

PIs: Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR Study PI: Laura Dietz, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Funder: University of Pittsburgh Clinical and Translational Science Institute Period: 09/22-05/23

Transcription and coding of interviews surveying the needs assessments of relatives who serve as caregivers for children (e.g., grandchild/niece/nephew) due to substance use by the parents.

Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Survivor Support on Campus PIs: Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR Study PI: Lynissa Stokes, School of Medicine

Funder: Office of the Provost Seed Grant

Period: 02/23-06/23 Coding of focus groups exploring students' awareness of and recommendations for sexual misconduct prevention programming and marketing.

Stakeholder Engagement Analyses of Residual Risk Program for National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) PIs: Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR Study PI: Tina Ndoh, Graduate School of Public Health

Funder: University of Pittsburgh Momentum Funds

Period: 05/23-present Coding public comments and agency response to comments (RTC's) in order to assess effectiveness of community engagement in influencing environmental health standards.

Women's Acceptance and Receptiveness to a Formalized Peer Support Intervention to Promote CPAP Adherence

PIs: Kevan Schultz, QDAP, UCSUR David Halpern, QDAP, UCSUR Study PI: Jonna Morris, School of Nursing

Funder: Internal/Start-up

Period: 04/23-present

Coding of interviews and focus groups designed to improve understanding of the challenges women have initiating and using CPAP, their needs for support during this process, and potential receptiveness to a peer support mentor.

Disinformation Lab

PIs: David Walker, URA, UCSUR Steven Saylor, URA, UCSUR Michael Colaresi, Political Science

Funder: Pitt Cyber Accelerator Grant

Period: 2022-ongoing Providing support to the Disinformation lab by building tools to track disinformation in social media.

Studying Trust in Civic Data Portals PIs: David Walker, URA, UCSUR Jacob Biehl, School of Computing and Information

Funder: Pitt Cyber Accelerator Grant Period: 06/22-03/23

The goal of this project is to develop a better understanding of how intermediary organizations can enhance the trustworthiness of civic data.

*In alphabetical order by UCSUR principal investigator (PI)

PUBLICATIONS 2022-23

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