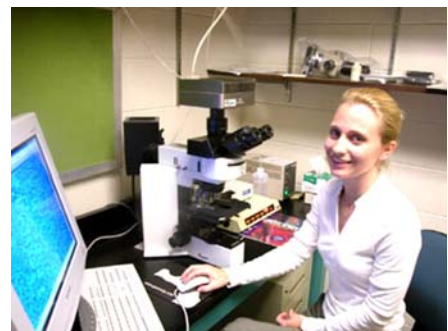




Research Experience for Undergraduates in

An Interdisciplinary Perspective on Women's Health

A Collaborative Among
The College of Medicine, the Department of
Women's Studies & the Office of Undergraduate Research





RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATES

An Interdisciplinary Perspective on Women's Health

A SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

***Sponsored by the Office of Undergraduate Research and the Honors College,
College of Medicine & the Department of Women Studies***

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

In recent years, there has been an increased awareness that gender-specific issues influence women's health more broadly and with a higher impact than previously recognized. These gender-specific differences are not simply limited to reproductive health, but extend to almost every other organ and tissue. Addressing gender-specific health issues has the most powerful effect on women's health, men's health, children's health and the health of the entire community. An interdisciplinary approach that encompasses women's physical, mental, and psychological health, as well as the politics of women's health provides the students with a unique perspective that will prepare them to engage in several medical, political, and social careers in women's health.

PURPOSE

The REU provides interdisciplinary training in women's health and offers students a unique opportunity to perform research in USF's College of Medicine the Department of Women Studies under the mentorship of professors in one or both of the institutes in preparation for an interdisciplinary undergraduate thesis or graduate program.

CURRICULUM

The 9-credit hour program, to which any undergraduate may apply, consists of three courses:

- A three-credit "Disease Processes in Women" course (WST 4900), consisting of lectures, discussions, and presentations by faculty members in medicine and women's studies disciplines. Students will learn the key research problems related to women and cardiovascular disease, cancer, obesity, diabetes, and aging. Nagwa Dajani, MD, Ph.D. and Kim Vaz, Ph.D. (Course Directors).

- WST 4320 The Politics of Women's Health which covers the medicalization of health, the role of disparities on physical, sexual, mental and emotional health of women. Marilyn Myerson, Ph.D.
- WST 4910 Directed Research with a selected faculty mentor.

Each student will complete a research proposal in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the TWO courses and present a report on that research at the REU's concluding colloquium, in July, 2007.

Students will also be encouraged to participate in workshops and social activities sponsored by the Office of Undergraduate Research, the Department of Women's Studies and the College of Medicine.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Fifteen students will be selected for this REU. Each REU Scholar will be paired with a faculty mentor in the College of Medicine or in the Department of Women Studies. Preference will be given to those students whose research experience relates to that of the faculty mentor. Typically, students will be considered for the program if they have begun their coursework in their academic major, completed a minimum of 60 hours, and have an expected graduation date no earlier than August 2008.

Fifteen \$500 stipends will be available to students who successfully complete this REU, and successfully maintain a minimum of 3.0 GPA.

Application must be received no later than March 1st, 2007 to the office of Undergraduate Research.

TO APPLY

- Submit a letter including your name, full contact information, major, and expected date of graduation.
- Describe prior research experience, previous mentors, and any resulting abstracts or publications.
- One letter of recommendation from a faculty member familiar with your qualifications. The letter should be sent directly to the Office of Undergraduate Research.
- A letter (or an email) from one of the prospective faculty members of the research program indicating their willingness to act as your research mentor.
- The application should be sent to:

Dr. Naomi Yavneh.
 Director, Office of Undergraduate Research
 The Honors College
 University of South Florida
 4202 East Fowler Avenue, SVC 1088
 Tampa, FL 33620
 813 974-4241
 Yavneh@honors.usf.edu

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH FOR UNDERGRADUATES

This 9 credit hour program is open to application by all undergraduate students from diverse disciplines who are interested in an interdisciplinary research program between the College of Medicine and the Women Studies at USF. Students typically enroll in research with one mentor, but students who are interested in directed research with 2 mentors from different disciplines are encouraged to secure approvals of both mentors to supervise their research.

For more information contact:

Dr. Kim Vaz
Department of Women's Studies
University of South Florida
4202 Fowler Ave., FAO 11
Tampa, FL 33620
Phone 813-974-0985
Fax 813-974-0336
vaz@cas.usf.edu
http://www.cas.usf.edu/womens_studies/index.html

Dr. Nagwa Dajani
Department of Neurosurgery, MDC 78
University of South Florida College of Medicine
12901 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33612
Phone. (813) 974-5724
Fax. (813) 974-3078
email ndajani@health.usf.edu
<http://www.hsc.usf.edu/medicine/neurosurgery/ceabr/index.html>

Participating Faculty Mentors and Their Research

Jahenshah Amin Ph.D., Physiology & Molec. Pharm, Ion Channels

Paula Bickford Ph.D., Neurosurgery, Aging, nutrition

Michael Barber Ph.D., Molecular Medicine, Moprotein Biology

Don Cameron Ph.D., Anatomy, Angiogenesis

Enrico Camporisi M.D., Anesthesia, Neural regeneration

Denise Cooper Ph.D., Internal Medicine, Molecular Genetics

Nagwa Dajani M.D., Ph.D., Neurosurgery, Aging and Stem Cells

Svitlana Garbuzova-Davis Ph.D., Neurosurgery, Neurodegenerative diseases and ALS

Carmelina Gemma Ph.D., Neurosurgery, Neurogenesis, CNS inflammation

Duane Eichler Ph.D., Molecular Medicine, Cardiovascular Pathology

Barbara Hansen Ph.D., Internal Medicine, Diabetes.

John Malone Ph.D., Pediatrics, Diabetes

Mark McLean Ph.D., Obstetrics & Gynecology, Steroidogenesis

Ron Mervis Ph.D., Neurosurgery, Dendritic & Synaptic Changes

Shyam Mohapatra Ph.D., Internal Medicine, Allergy, Nanotechnology

Lin Liu Ph. D. Obstetrics/Gynecology, Ovarian Stem cells

Andreas Seyfang Ph.D., Molecular Medicine, Parasitology/Candida

Rania Shamekh M.D., Neurosurgery, Aging/Parkinson's Disease

Jun Tan Ph.D., Psychiatry, Alzheimer's Disease

Xenia Tigno Ph.D., Physiology & Molec. Pharmacology, Diabetes

John Tsibris Ph.D., Obstetrics & Gynecology, Neovascularization

Alison Willing Ph.D., Neurosurgery, Stroke

Clare Zhang Ph.D., Pediatrics, Diabetes

In addition, students can conduct research in the laboratories of more than 200 faculty members in the College of Medicine and affiliated institutes and hospitals. Students must have the have permission of the faculty member and the program director to determine compatibility.

Department of Women's Studies Faculty and Affiliates

Core Faculty

Sara Crawley, Ph.D., Sexuality Studies, Human Sexual Behavior

Carolyn Eichner, Ph.D., The Politics of Motherhood

Gurleen Grewal, Ph.D., Holistic Health and Contemplative Practices

Marilyn Myerson, Ph.D., Women's Health, Human Sexual Behavior

Kim Vaz, Ph.D., Mental Health of Women of Color, Psychoanalytic Feminist Theory and Therapy

Affiliate Faculty in Women's Studies

Tamara A. Baker, Ph.D., Chronic pain, disparities in chronic pain management among older community-dwelling adults, assessment of the psychosocial predictors and outcomes of chronic disease and pain in patients from diverse racial and ethnic populations.

Art Bochner, Ph.D., narratives and ethnography with emphases on feminism and elderly women

Carolyn Ellis, Ph.D. Autoethnographic approaches to doing research narrative writing, and issues of illness and loss

Sara Green, Ph.D., Complexities of women caring for those with disabilities over the life span and the disability experience in the 21st century

Karen Perrin, Ph.D., health communication that empowers women, especially low-literacy and low-income populations

Cheryl Rodriguez, Ph.D., Low-Income Women and Housing; Women's Community Activism; Critical Analysis of Sex Education Strategies; and Black Women's Studies

Sandra L. Reynolds, Ph.D., Guardianship, advance directives, obesity and trends in health, disability, and biological risk factors, and active life expectancy with attention to gender, race, class and sexual identity.

Maya Trotz, Ph.D., Environmental impact of mining in Caribbean and South America, particularly, how women are affected and how women in NGOs are responding to citizen's concerns; Service focuses on HIV/AIDS Awareness in the diaspora called phiva.net; plans include empowering women and developing female Caribbean produces and musicians through and environmentally sustainable recording studio

Naomi Yavneh, Ph.D., Breast feeding, Medicine and the Arts