



NORC News July 2024

Announcements

The Colorado NORC's Fall Retreat Planning is underway and is being planned for October 14th in the Krugman Conference Hall. The planning committee this year includes Emily Hill, PhD and Paul Roberson, PhD. More details to come soon.

Upcoming NORC Sponsored Speakers

Current Seminar Series are on summer break and will resume in September.

Click Here to request support from the Colorado NORC for a speaker you'd like to have on campus.

Save the Date!

- NORC Calorimetry Workshop July 15th and 16th
- NORC Fall Retreat October 14th
- NORC CIMER Training August 28th

Cite the Grant

Did you use any of the Colorado NORC resources to support your published research? Please site the NIDDK Grant Number: **DK048520**

Membership

Not yet a member of the Colorado NORC?
Email your CV/BioSketch to:
norc@cuanschutz.edu



From the Director

NORC Competitive Renewal



The Colorado NORC (NIH P30 DK048520) is about to enter its 30th year of funding!! This coming Fall we will be submitting the competitive renewal application to continue this valuable resource for another 5 years. As many of you know, the Colorado NORC has supported our broader research enterprise with a pilot/feasibility program, an enrichment program, and 3 biomedical research cores, bringing over \$6M in federal funding to the University of Colorado over the past 5 years. It is critical that we renew this incredible institutional resource and build upon the momentum we have generated during the last cycle of the award. The success of this center grant is a reflection of the high productivity of our members and affiliates.

As we reach out in the next few months in preparation of this submission, please be responsive to me, Caro Henauw, and Olivia Schmidt, with our requests for your information. I believe our cores, programs, and research base are exceptionally strong, and we are well positioned to submit a strong application for continued support. However, your contributions to advancing the science of nutrition and obesity provide the foundation for our success and continued funding.

Faculty Highlight: Arianne Theiss, PhD



Dr. Arianne Theiss is Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology where her lab investigates the role of intestinal epithelial cell mitochondrial signalling and metabolism in the pathogenesis of inflammatory bowel diseases and colorectal cancer. She is the Chair of the Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology Section of the American Gastroenterological Association, Associate Editor of *Physiological Reports*, and Director of the CU Anschutz campus PreF Development Program, Colorado Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI).

Dr. Theiss is interested in understanding mitochondria as signaling hubs for cell homeostasis in the gastrointestinal tract. This includes alterations by obesity, inflammatory responses, and gut microbiome including pathogenic infection. Dr. Theiss is funded by NIDDK, Crohn's Colitis Foundation, and Veterans Affairs (VA). Her VA Merit grant aims to elucidate the molecular communication between obese adipose tissue and the colon to drive tumorigenesis via altered metabolism.

In her free time, Dr. Theiss enjoys traveling, running, skiing, and cheering on her favorite sports team - UNC Tar Heels basketball!



Colorado NORC's CIMER Training

Through support from a supplement to our NIDDK funded NORC, we are pleased to announce a full-day CIMER Mentor Training Workshop for the Colorado NORC's **faculty members**. The Workshop will provide mentorship education including culturally aware mentoring to faculty, to enhance research mentoring of junior investigators including those from diverse backgrounds. This seeks to build capacity within our NORC and across our institutions for mentorship education. Space is limited, so if you have not already, please use this link to request your spot: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/>.

Wednesday, August 28th 2024

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Anschutz Health Sciences Building
Room 2100



Journal Clubs

Held Monthly from Sept–May
More info on journal clubs [HERE](#).

- **FAT Chat**
4th Thursday at 3pm
Organizer: Andrew Libby
- **BAT Chat**
2nd Monday at 10am
Organizer: Ed Melanson
- **Physical Activity MADness**
3rd Tuesday at 10am
Organizer: Ana Pinto
- **Molecular Metabolism**
4th Thursday at 4pm
Organizers: Amy Keller & Kimberly Bruce
- **Skeletal Muscle Working Group**
Last Tuesday at 11am
Organizer: Andrea Bonetto
- **Bone Think Tank**
2nd Monday at 4pm
Organizers: Christine Swanson & Sarah Wherry
- **SuperMito Group**
4th Tuesday at 10:30am
Organizer: Cecilia Caino

Colorado NORC Partners

Thank you to all of our partners for your collaboration and support.

- [Anschutz Health & Wellness Center \(AHWC\)](#)
- [Anschutz Medical Campus](#)
 - [Dept of Orthopedics](#)
 - [Division of Endocrinology](#)
 - [Dept of Pediatrics, Section of Nutrition](#)
- [Barbara Davis Center \(BDC\)](#)
- [Centers on Aging \(CoA\)](#)
- [Centers for American Indian & Alaska Native Health \(CAIANH\)](#)
- [Colorado Clinical Translation Science Institute \(CCTSI\)](#)
- [LEAD Center](#)
- [Ludeman Center for Women's Health Research](#)
- [Office of Laboratory Animal Research \(OLAR\)](#)
- [Perinatal Research Center](#)
- [UC Cancer Center \(UCCC\)](#)

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CAIANDTR

Pilot Funding Opportunity

Centers for American Indian & Alaska Native Health

colorado school of public health

The Center for American Indian and Alaska Native Diabetes Translation Research (CAIANDTR) provides funding to support pilot and feasibility projects related to diabetes in Native populations. The CAIANDTR Pilot and Feasibility Program provides funding for new investigators or established investigators new to the field of diabetes translation research to conduct research addressing diabetes or related conditions in American Indian, Alaska Native, and/or Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander populations. Investigators may be affiliated with any institution that is eligible to receive NIH funds. During this 18-month research and training program, funded investigators will complete and publish a secondary analysis project (Months 1-12) and develop a grant application seeking larger-scale funding for their research efforts (Months 13-18). More information can be found on the [CAIANDTR website](#)

Important Dates:

8/8 - Interest Form Due | 8/22 - Application Due | 11/1 - Award Notification

INSPIRE (Inter-NORC SPeaking ScholaR InitiativeE) Program: Colorado's Scholars

Centrally led by the Harvard NORC, INSPIRE is a unique opportunity that provides a supportive infrastructure for NORC early career scientists to disseminate their scientific findings/research to others engaged in obesity and nutrition research across NORCs at other institutions. Dr. Daniel Bessesen and Dr. Paul MacLean are participating as mentors from the Colorado NORC for this program. Dr. Bessesen has been paired with Dr. Mary Latimer from the University at Alabama Birmingham, who's research is focused on examining the role of the circadian clock in the kidney during shift work. Dr. MacLean has been paired with Dr. Nadejda Bozadjieva Kramer from the University of Michigan who's area of research is the metabolic regulation of enterohepatic circulation: from obesity to weight loss. Additionally, two INSPIRE Scholars have been selected from Colorado.



Dr. Emily Hill has been paired with Dr. Peter Katzmarzyk from Pennington Biomedical NORC. Dr. Hill's research interest centers on the need to more precisely define the relationship between dietary intakes and cardiometabolic health within the context of obesity and cancer.



Dr. Maggie Stanislowski has been paired with Dr. Jose Fernandez from the University of Alabama NORC. Dr. Stanislowski's work aims to understand the role of the gut microbiome and related molecular profiles in health and disease, specifically obesity, cardiometabolic disease and inflammatory conditions.

Publication Highlight:

Andrew Libby, PhD



The 2010s brought controversy to the field of women's health when researchers showed that follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) might mediate weight gain after loss of ovarian function—a role that was previously attributed solely to the decline of estrogen. In their newly published study, "Effects of follicle-stimulating hormone on energy balance and tissue metabolic health after loss of ovarian function", Dr. Andrew Libby and colleagues used an alternate approach to determine the effects of FSH on energy balance and organ-specific metabolic health. They find that FSH does not modulate body weight in their model, but the hormone does exert effects in the liver and adipose tissue by lowering hepatic triglycerides and reducing adipose tissue lipogenesis. Although not appearing to modulate energy balance, FSH may still impart tissue-specific effects that influence overall metabolic health.

Full publication here: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38536037/>



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Have questions or an idea for the next NORC News?

Email our Program Administrator:

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