

## Meeting Report of the USDA Multi-state Project NC1196 November 3-4 2016 in Atlantic Iowa Part 1

Meeting attenders: Gerad Middendorf (Kansas State), Ardy Gillespie (Cornell) , Christine Coker (Mississippi State University), Hee Jong X (University of Maryland ), CY Wang (South Dakota State University), Virginie Zoumenou (University of Maryland Eastern Shore), Joel Cramer (University of Nebraska), D (Purdue University), Alice (Iowa State University), Shannon (Iowa State University), Holly (University of Nebraska), z? (U of Nebraska), and Chery Smith (U of Minnesota).

Guests:

C. Y Wang (AA) begins the meeting with a brief mention of the background our project. States that this is the first year of the new project and applauded the number of new members who are beginning their academic careers. States that a priority for the US is the rise of health costs and the necessity for concentrating on prevention to reduce health care expenditures. This project will address issues around local food systems. Notes that the AR(?) is pleased with our past work. This was followed by quick introductions of the project members. Observes that NIFA funding may increase. The old NOSTALGA group of ag deans and experiment station heads have promulgated a new initiative called Healthy Food, Healthy People. This may lead to funding for this by Congress. He ends by suggesting that our group link with community and regional development efforts.

Next the project members described briefly their work over the past year or so.

Ardy Gillespie indicated that she works with several efforts by voluntary groups in Atlantic Iowa. Name some. She and her husband, Gil, have begun to grow vegetable for a local farmers market. Hee Jong described 4 ongoing projects: 1) School Wellness Pilot Program. Schools are required to do this but do not know how to do so. 2) NIFA Project working with 36 schools providing training for each school for a tech assistant. 5 years. 3) Nutrition grant from the Department of Education for training teachers (?) in nutrition. 4) EFNP Pilot test to determine whether can work with community clinics to provide physical activity screening. Has an interest in doing research on plate waste in restaurants. D.P. from Perdue She is interested in assessing how changes in USDA policies and inflation affect rates of food insecurity; she is also working on improving SNAP assessment tools (questions). Is conducting a project studying perceptions of the environment and how it affects their exercise and food access. Has pilot from 11 states. Finally is involved with preventing/reducing obesity by increasing vegetables and fruit intake. Developed a curriculum; led to an increase in students choices in the cafeteria.

Holly X. Evaluation of healthy eating; conducting interviews. (NAPSACK? Program). Have a project to increase awareness healthy eating. What are the effects of stores on eating habits; vulnerable population of interest.

???? Has 3 grants from USDA. Work to increase better food practices and improve access to food. Small grants to dealing with childhood obesity.

??? Wants to compare rural versus regarding children's feeding practices (parents). Interest in improving feeding styles by coaching and teaching to change the home environment. Has new technology to test new ways of measuring activity.

Joe v. Ways to integrate physical activity with the consumption of beef; does beef intake increase performance. Notes he collects data from children in sports activities; body composition and blood values (esp. iron). He is also a PI on a study of low release carbohydrates. Studying physical activity in rural versus urban areas; interested in school time physical activity versus after school activity. Looking for seed funding.

NC1197 meeting notes for 2016 continued

Chery Smith. She reported on a number of projects including 1) have children take aspects of their food environments, physical activities and eating. Those who spend less time outside their homes because their parents worried about their safety were encouraged to ask their parents to walk with them to church and other places. A second project centered on dancing as a means of getting more exercise. Found interesting cultural differences re who females were comfortable in dancing with. 3) A study of Chinese students' acculturation versus tradition; collected 24-hour dietary data plus body composition (weight). Found that those who acculturated in terms of food tended to have higher body weight. 4) Focus group study of elderly persons issues re food insecurity. 5) A project looking at Native American and Black women to see how their food and food environment affected their body weight. Found that those who perceived they lacked control over their eating tended to be heavier. 6) She studied the effect of cafeterias with usual staff versus those with chefs. Perceptions of the food served differed by site, but not much diff in protein intake or body weight.

Christine Coker She works with schools and communities to create gardens. She does in-service training, Sits on the state food board. Developed a curriculum for those who wish to produce local foods. Has created a program for school children called "Pathways to Occupations." Has people in the occupations she wished to highlight make presentations about their work. She is also doing non local vegetables fare being raised in growing tunnels.

Gerad Middendorf. Indicates that he has continued his work on the food environment and its effect on the poor and minorities. Studying a food desert in Topeka, Kansas. A second project will study the foods found in food stores in small communities. Interested in the distance between households and the stores. Notes the difficulty for these stores to keep vegetables on the shelf because of low demand and spoilage.

Irene Hatsu. Wrapping up her studies of homeless adolescents and their food insecurity, mental health, and obesity. Doing grant writing as well.

McIntosh. The AFRI grant that led to interventions with children in 28 schools around Texas and their parents has finished; three articles have been publish. McIntosh is about to submit two papers on cooking confidence to journals. He will soon be immersed in a study of feedlots and dairy farms to eliminate the use of antibiotics at an earlier time than at present. Have begun to help soil scientists come

up with measures of “externalities” caused by the way farm land is managed. In the process of analyzing data from a study of veterinarian faculty and students re their attitudes about the lack of racial/ethnic diversity in veterinarians faculty and students. Am hoping to take off in the spring of 2018 in order to work on a book before I become too senile.

In the afternoon, several farm visits were made.

Late afternoon featured a panel discussion by local individuals representing various community groups in Atlantic, IA regarding local food and local food issues.

The day ended with a brief discussion of efforts the NC1196 members could do together. One idea was for the group to propose panel discussions at professional meetings such as the Association for the Study of Food and Society, Rural Sociology Society, and Society of Nutrition and Education. These panels would center on topics such as school interventions, with which four members of the group have performed over the past several years. Other possible topics dealt with food insecurity and food environmental issues.

A second topic was the possibility of members whose research performed under the previous USDA regional project could pool their research into a special issue of a journal or a monograph. This will be explored during the next year.

Discussions of RFAs ensued with discussions of who if anyone in the group was interested in collaborating on a proposal.

Food Insecurity proposals are due at USDA at the end of November. Team members Hee, Virginie, Ardy Gillespie, Bhagyashree Katare, Joe and Shannon x indicated an interest in working on a proposal.

Obesity proposals are due in mid-June 2017. Virginie, Hee, Bhagyashree Katare and McIntosh were interested in writing one or more proposals for this deadline.

Working with groups in Atlantic was also a possibility. Ardy, Joe and perhaps others may reach out to interested parties in the community to pursue research possibilities.

Officers will remain the same till next year. Next year’s meeting will be held in Biloxi, Mississippi hosted by Christine Coker.

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