



MOUNTAIN WEST CTR-IN

ANNUAL MEETING

**Advancing Clinical & Translational Research:
Eliminating Health Disparities**



THE WESTIN LAS VEGAS HOTEL & SPA

January 30-31, 2024 | Las Vegas, NV

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January 30-31, 2024
MW CTR-IN
ANNUAL MEETING



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WELCOME MESSAGE

January 30-31, 2024
MW CTR-IN
ANNUAL MEETING



I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of the participants, particularly our Mountain West research leadership, staff, investigators, collaborators, and colleagues to the 2024 Mountain West Clinical & Translational Research Infrastructure Network Program's Annual Meeting, hosted by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas – School of Public Health at the Westin Las Vegas Hotel & Spa.

The theme of our Annual Meeting this year is *Advancing Clinical & Translational Research: Eliminating Health Disparities*. We hope that the discussions and connections that we have at this year's meeting will support and continue our unified pursuit of reducing and eliminating health disparities in our diverse communities, as we continue to further foster and enhance the clinical & translational research infrastructure in the Mountain West Region.

We are honored to have such an exceptional lineup of diverse speakers and pilot grantees, who have joined us to share their presentations on clinical & translational research being conducted at our partner universities.

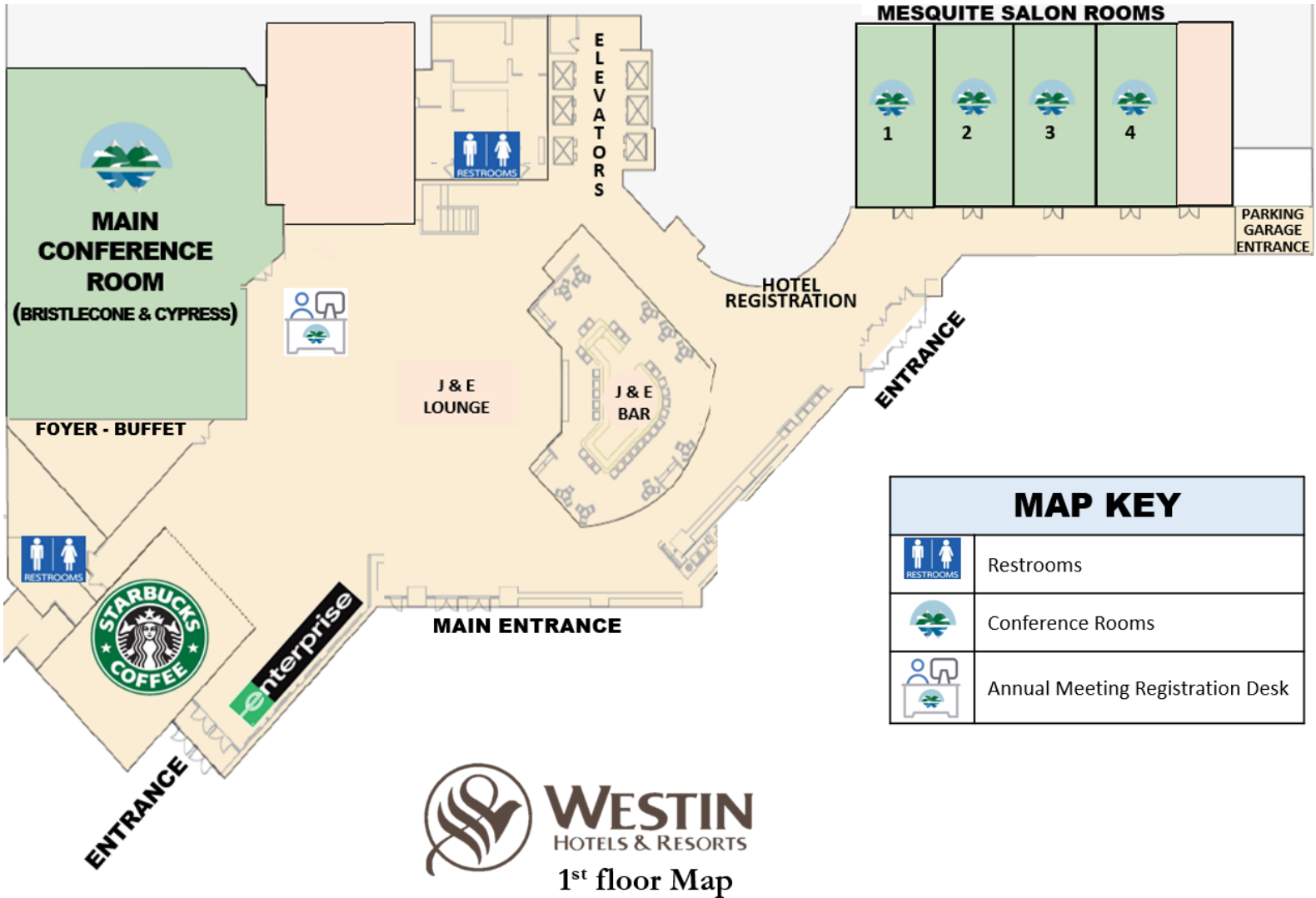
We hope that you enjoy your experience as you further develop collaborations to continue your research to improve the health of our communities.

Thank you and welcome again.

Francisco S. Sy, MD, DrPH
Principal Investigator
Mountain West CTR-IN Program
Professor & Chair
Department of Environmental & Occupational Health
School of Public Health
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

VENUE MAP

January 30-31, 2024
MW CTR-IN
ANNUAL MEETING



LOCATION DETAILS

THE WESTIN LAS VEGAS HOTEL & SPA
 160 E. Flamingo Rd.,
 Las Vegas, NV 89109
 (702) 836-5900

GETTING AROUND

QUESTIONS?
 Please contact the Mountain West CTR-IN Program Administrative Office at
CTR-IN@UNLV.edu

2024 ANNUAL MEETING WEBPAGE

For more information, please scan the QR code above

PRE-MEETING ACTIVITIES

Monday, January 29, 2024

January 30-31, 2024
MW CTR-IN
ANNUAL MEETING

8:00 am – 4:00 pm
MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

Grant Writing Workshop

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
MESQUITE ROOMS
1 & 2

External Advisory Committee (EAC) Meeting*

5:15 pm – 6:15 pm
MESQUITE ROOMS
1 & 2

Executive Committee (EC) Meeting*

6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
MESQUITE ROOMS
1 & 2

Dinner for EAC & EC Members

DAY ONE - AGENDA

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

January 30-31, 2024
MW CTR-IN
ANNUAL MEETING

7:00 am – 8:00 am **Breakfast - FOYER-BUFFET** - *Buffet Available*

OPENING SESSION
MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

Moderator:

Francisco S. Sy, MD, DrPH

Principal Investigator, MW CTR-IN

Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

School of Public Health

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

8:00 am – 8:10 am

Welcome Remarks

Keith E. Whitfield, PhD

President

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

8:10 am – 8:15 am

Opening Remarks

David Hatchett, PhD

Interim Vice President for Research

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

PLENARY SESSION 1
MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

Moderator:

Chad L. Cross, PhD, MFT, PStat(R)

Associate Professor-in-Residence, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

School of Public Health

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

8:15 am – 8:45 am

Clinical and Translational Research in IDeA States: Recent Accomplishments and New Opportunities

Michele McGuirl, PhD

Acting Director, Division of Research Capacity Building

National Institute of General Medical Sciences

National Institutes of Health

8:45 am – 9:15 am

Mountain West Clinical & Translational Research Network: Program Overview, Accomplishments and Future Plans

Francisco S. Sy, MD, DrPH

Principal Investigator, MW CTR-IN

Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health

School of Public Health

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

9:15 am – 9:45 am

NIMHD Programs and Funding Opportunities in Health Disparities Research

Rina Das, PhD

Director, Division of Integrative Biological & Behavioral Sciences

National Institute on Minority Health & Health Disparities

National Institutes of Health

9:45 am – 10:00 am

Break - FOYER-BUFFET - *Snacks & Refreshments Available*

PLENARY SESSION 2
MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

Moderator:
Francisco S. Sy, MD, DrPH
Principal Investigator, MW CTR-IN
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health
School of Public Health
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Keynote Address
Lawrence A. Tabak, DDS, PhD
Principal Deputy Director
National Institutes of Health

11:00 am – 11:30 am

NIDA Programs and Funding Opportunities Addressing Health Disparities
Richard Jenkins, PhD
Health Scientist Administrator, Prevention Research Branch
Division of Epidemiology, Services & Prevention Research
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institutes of Health

11:30 am – 12:00 pm

Advancing Translational and Clinical Tools for Improved Risk Assessments and Precision Medicine
Danilo A. Tagle, PhD, MS
Director, Office of Special Initiatives
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences
National Institutes of Health

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Lunch - FOYER-BUFFET - Buffet Available
Steering Committee Lunch Meeting* - MESQUITE ROOM #1

PILOT GRANTEES'
ORAL
PRESENTATIONS
GROUP 1
MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Moderator:
Rebecca Palacios, PhD
Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences
New Mexico State University

Sustainability of Báa nnilah: A chronic illness self-management program with the Apsáalooke Nation
Suzanne Held, PhD
Professor, Department of Human
Development & Community Health
Montana State University

Alma Knows His Gun McCormick
Executive Director, Messengers for Health
Crow Agency, Montana

Pacific Innovations, Knowledge, and Opportunities (PIKO) Logic Model and Theory of Change for Participatory Program Evaluation
Angela Sy, DrPH
Associate Professor, Department of Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology & Pharmacology
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawaii at Manoa

Interdisciplinary referral approaches to evidence-based diabetes services throughout rural Idaho
Elaine Nguyen, PharmD
Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice
Idaho State University

Effects of race and exercise on fall incidence in community-dwelling older adults with Parkinson's disease
Evan V. Papa, PT, DPT, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Rehabilitation Science
Tufts University School of Medicine
(formerly affiliated with Idaho State University)

PILOT GRANTEES' ORAL PRESENTATIONS GROUP 2

MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM

2:15 pm – 3:15 pm

Moderator:

Charlotte C. Gard, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Applied Statistics, & International Business College of Business
New Mexico State University

High Times: The Effect of Cannabinoids on Uterine Contraction

Craig Ulrich, PhD

Research Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacology, School of Medicine
University of Nevada, Reno

Feasibility of Egg-Based Dietary Interventions and Assessing Perinatal Mental Health: Lessons Learned and Future Directions

Annie J. Roe, PhD, RDN

Assistant Professor, Margaret Ritchie School of Family and Consumer Sciences
University of Idaho

Perinatal Mood, Anxiety, and Substance Use Disorders

Kristin Van De Griend, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor, Department of Community and Public Health, College of Health
Idaho State University

Feasibility and Acceptability of a Mindfulness App to Decrease Depression and Improve Family Functioning in Parents of a Child with Medical Complexity

Cara Gallegos, PhD, RN

Associate Professor, School of Nursing
Boise State University

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

Break - FOYER-BUFFET - Snacks & Refreshments Available

PILOT GRANTEES' POSTER PRESENTATIONS GROUP 1

MESQUITE ROOM

#2

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Community Engagement in Research: Review of Quantitative Engagement Measurement Scales

Mary A. Nies, PhD, RN, FAAN, FAAHB

Professor, College of Health
Idaho State University

Exploring whole grains in people with chronic kidney disease

David E. St-Jules, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Nutrition
College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources, University of Nevada, Reno

Building on community strengths for the promotion of healthy relationships among Indigenous youth

Vanessa Simonds, ScD, ScM

Associate Professor, Community Health & Human Development
Center for American Indian & Rural Health Equity
Montana State University

The role of GABA-mediated inhibition in multisensory temporal processing & postural control in older adults

Fang Jiang, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, College of Science
University of Nevada, Reno

Clinically interpretable deep learning for opioid overdose risk prediction using electronic health record data

Mingon Kang, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Understanding Arsenic and Zinc Levels in Well Water: Implications for Health in Southern New Mexico

Humairat Rahman, MD, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences, College of Health and Social Services
New Mexico State University

A Systems-level Approach for Predicting Patient Survival using Multi-omics Data

Quang Huy Nguyen

Graduate Student
University of Nevada, Reno

Tin Nguyen, PhD

Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Computer Science & Software Engineering, Samuel Ginn College of Engineering
Auburn University (formerly University of Nevada, Reno)

Healthy Kids+

Dejan Magoc, PhD

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Public Health Sciences College of Health
New Mexico State University

Meg Long

Graduate Student
New Mexico State University

Rebecca Blay, MPH

Graduate Student
New Mexico State University

CONCURRENT MEETINGS & NETWORKING SESSIONS

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

MESQUITE ROOM
#3

Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Research, & Design (BERD) Core Meeting*

Moderators:

Chad Cross, PhD, MFT, PSTAT (R)

BERD Core Co-Director, MW CTR-IN

BERD Core Faculty - Biostatistician, MW CTR-IN

Associate Professor-in-Residence, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
School of Public Health

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Juli Petereit, PhD, MS

BERD Core Co-Director, MW CTR-IN

BERD Core Faculty - Bioinformatician, MW CTR-IN

Director, Nevada Bioinformatics Center

University of Nevada, Reno

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

MESQUITE ROOM
#4

Professional Development (PD) Core Meeting*

Moderators:

Larissa Myaskovsky, PhD, FAST

PD Core Director, MW CTR-IN

Ambassador Translational Research In Progress (ATRIP) Program Co-Director, MW CTR-IN

Director, Center of Healthcare Equity in Kidney Disease,

Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, School of Medicine

University of New Mexico - Health Sciences Center

Ruben Dagda, PhD

PD Core Associate Director, MW CTR-IN

Grant Writing Workshop (GWW) Program Chair, MW CTR-IN

Advance To Funding (ATF) Program Director, MW CTR-IN

Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology

University of Nevada, Reno

Weiyu Mao, PhD, MSW, MPhil

PD Core Associate Director – Education Unit, MW CTR-IN

Associate Professor, School of Social Work

University of Nevada, Reno

Brach Poston, PhD

PD Core Associate Director – Education Unit, MW CTR-IN

ATRIP Program Co-Director, MW CTR-IN

Associate Professor, Department of Kinesiology & Nutrition Sciences

School of Integrated Health Sciences

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Charlotte C. Gard, PhD

PD Core Associate Director – Mentoring Unit, MW CTR-IN

BERD Core Faculty – Biostatistician, MW CTR-IN

Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Applied Statistics, and International Business

College of Business

New Mexico State University

Jack Chen, PhD, MB (ASCP), HCLD(ABB)

PD Core Associate Director – Mentoring Unit, MW CTR-IN

Professor of Biology & Wildlife

Institute of Arctic Biology

University of Alaska Fairbanks

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

MESQUITE ROOM
#1

Concierges' Network Meeting

Moderator:

Amy Gros-Louis, MBA, CRA

Senior Research Administrator, Grants and Contracts, Office of Sponsored Programs

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
MESQUITEROOM
#3

Community Engagement & Outreach (CEO) Core and Practice-Based Research Network (PBRN) Meeting

Moderators:

Lorraine S. Evangelista, PhD, RN, CNS, FAHA, FAAN
Research Director & CEO Core Co-Director, MW CTR-IN
School of Public Health
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Reimund Serafica, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC, CNE
CEO Core Co-Director & CEO Core Site Director, MW CTR-IN
Associate Professor, School of Nursing
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
MESQUITEROOM
#4

Clinical Pilots Projects Program (CP3) Core Meeting

Moderators:

Jeffrey L. Ebersole, PhD
CP3 Core Co-Director, MW CTR-IN
Professor and Associate Dean for Research
School of Dental Medicine
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Jay Shen, PhD
CP3 Core Co-Director, MW CTR-IN
Professor and Associate Dean
Interim Director, Center for Health Disparities Research
School of Public Health
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

6:45 pm
MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

Group Photo

7:00 pm – 9:30 pm
MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

Welcome Reception & Dinner

2024 Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award
2024 Outstanding Community Partner Award
2024 Outstanding Service Award

Musical Entertainment: DJ Danny Mac

DAY TWO - AGENDA

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

January 30-31, 2024
MW CTR-IN
ANNUAL MEETING

7:00 am – 8:00 am **Breakfast - FOYER-BUFFET** - *Buffet Available*

PLENARY SESSION 3
MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

Moderator:

Francisco S. Sy, MD, DrPH
Principal Investigator, MW CTR-IN
Professor and Chair, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health
School of Public Health
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Underrepresented Status of Mountain West CTR-IN Investigators

Beth Tigges, PhD, RN, PPCNP-BC, FAAN
Professor and Regents' Professor
College of Nursing
University of New Mexico - Health Sciences Center

8:30 am – 9:00 am

Enhancing Diverse Perspectives in Clinical and Translational Research

Nancy Pandhi MD, MPH, PhD
Professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine
Director, Clinical and Translational Science Center
University of New Mexico - Health Sciences Center

9:00 am – 9:30 am

Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Research

Della White, PhD
Clinical Research Strategy Coordinator
Office of the Director, NIGMS
National Institutes of Health

9:30 am – 10:00 am

History and Overview of Health and Healthcare Equity Research

Larissa Myaskovsky, PhD, FAST
Professor, Department of Internal Medicine
Director, Center Healthcare Equity in Kidney Disease
School of Medicine
University of New Mexico - Health Sciences Center

10:00 am – 10:15 am

Break - FOYER-BUFFET - *Snacks & Refreshments Available*

PLENARY SESSION 4
MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

Moderator:

Jeffrey L. Ebersole, PhD
Professor and Associate Dean for Research, School of Dental Medicine
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

10:15 am – 10:45 am

Building Interdisciplinary Teams for Precision Medicine and Health Disparities Research

William K. Scott, PhD
Professor of Human Genetics, Neurology and Public Health Sciences
Co-Director, UM Brain Endowment Bank
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

10:45 am – 11:15 am

Promoting Effective Training and Mentoring in Clinical and Translational Research

Akshay Sood, MD, MPH
Distinguished Professor and Regents' Professor
Assistant Dean, Mentoring and Faculty Retention, School of Medicine
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center

11:15 am – 11:45 am

People First: The First Jacques Philip Memorial Lecture

Cathy Brooks, MS
Associate Professor, Department of Alaska Native Studies & Rural Development
College of Rural and Community Development
University of Alaska Fairbanks

11:45 am – 12:15 pm

Equity-Focused Clinical and Translational Research to Achieve Health Equity

Keawe'aimoku Kaholokula, PhD
Professor and Chair, Department of Native Hawaiian Health
Principal Investigator, Center for Pacific Innovations, Knowledge, and Opportunities (PIKO)
John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii at Manoa

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

Lunch -FOYER-BUFFET - Buffet Available

**PILOT GRANTEES'
POSTER
PRESENTATIONS
GROUP 2**

**MESQUITE ROOM
#2**

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

Characterizing protein biomarkers of post Infection irritable bowel syndrome

Joshua Gam, MS, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, & Environmental Health
University of Nevada, Reno

Thriving in the American rural-frontier after COVID-19: how resource availability, isolation, and social capital shape health outcomes of older adult Wyoming residents living in diverse rurality

Jennifer Tabler, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology
University of Wyoming

Early life exposure to flame retardants and kidney function in adolescence

Ann Vuong, DrPH, MPH

Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Examining the underlying mechanisms of race-based trauma—is it a form of PTSD?

Lorraine Benuto, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Psychology
University of Nevada, Reno

Addressing Racism and Mental Health through University and Community Education and Training

Gabriel Garcia, PhD

Professor, Division of Population Health Sciences
University of Alaska, Anchorage

Eric J. David, PhD

Professor, Department of Psychology
University of Alaska, Anchorage

Why does interpersonal harm amplify symptoms of PTSD? An experiment testing a mechanism

Cynthia Lancaster, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, College of Science
University of Nevada, Reno

Differences in college students' objective and self-reported food, beverage, and living expenses by food security status

Irene Van Woerden, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Community and Public Health, College of Health
Idaho State University

DNA methylation-based markers for Lyme disease diagnostics

Monika Gujia-Nuss, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources
University of Nevada, Reno

Dual-Task Effects on Ankle Joint Co-Activation Index during walking among concussed Adolescents at Return to Activity

Shuqi Zhang, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Kinesiology
Boise State University

**PILOT GRANTEES'
ORAL
PRESENTATIONS
GROUP 3**

MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

1:15 pm – 2:30 pm

Moderator:

Ann Bertagnolli, PhD

Program Coordinator, Montana IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE)
Montana State University

Building Healthy Outcomes Using a Supportive Environment (H.O.U.S.E.) for SGM in Southern Nevada

Jennifer Pharr, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health
School of Public Health
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Residential wood burning deteriorates lung psychometric measurements in a Mountain West multi-site panel study

Shuguang Leng, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor, Division of Epidemiology, Biostatistics & Preventive Medicine
School of Medicine
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center

A Pilot Study of a Loving-Kindness Meditation among Older Adults

Nirmala Lekhak, PhD, RN

Assistant Professor, School of Nursing
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

The Relationship between Self-expansion and Physical Activity in Rural Adults in Idaho, USA and Bern, Switzerland

Xiaomeng (Mona) Xu, PhD

Professor, Department of Psychology
Idaho State University

**PILOT GRANTEES'
ORAL
PRESENTATIONS
GROUP 4**

MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm

Moderator:

Andrea Bersamin, PhD

Professor of Nutrition, Department of Biology and Wildlife
Center for Alaska Native Health Research
University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Identification of an Unknown Infection Using PATHseq Technology

Jack Chen, PhD, MB(ASCP), HCLD(ABB)

Professor, Department of Biology and Wildlife
Institute of Arctic Biology
University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Tech-Informed Neuromuscular Training (TNT) Corrects Muscular Underloading Patterns During Squat Exercise after ACL Reconstruction

Ryan Mizner, PhD, MPT

Professor, School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science
University of Montana

Concordance between urine toxicology results and self-reported fentanyl use among people who use methamphetamine

Mia R. Kirk, MPH, Graduate Student

Karla D. Wagner, PhD

Professor, School of Public Health
University of Nevada, Reno

Sex differences in the association of parental phthalates exposure with birth outcomes in newborns

Yoon Hee Cho, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sciences
College of Health
University of Montana

**PILOT GRANTEES'
ORAL
PRESENTATIONS
GROUP 5**

MAIN CONFERENCE
ROOM

3:45 pm – 5:00 pm

Moderator:

Lauren Lessard, PhD

Assistant Professor of Health Sciences
Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies Research
University of Alaska, Anchorage

Opioid prescribing trajectories among Medicaid patients with long-term opioid use

Sarah Friedman, PhD, MSPH

Associate Professor, School of Public Health
University of Nevada, Reno

New Hearing Conservation Indication of An FDA-Approved Medication

Danny “Dong” Xu, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Idaho State University

Dietary and vitamin D status with periodontitis and diabetes

Arpita Basu, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition Sciences
School of Integrated Health Sciences
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Comparison of Pressure Failures of Two Colorectal Anastomosis Stapling Techniques

Youssef Fahmy

Graduate Student, Department of Mechanical Engineering
Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Mohamed B. Trabia, PhD

Professor and Associate Dean for Research, Department of Mechanical Engineering
Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

5:00 pm

Meeting Wrap-up & Adjourn

NOTE: Those with asterisk signs* *indicate closed sessions*

Acknowledgement & Disclaimer

The Mountain West Clinical & Translational Research Infrastructure Network (CTR-IN) project is supported by an award from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health under grant number U54GM104944. The views expressed by the speakers at this meeting do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the institutions with which the speakers are affiliated.