

IFH INSIGHTS

Quarterly News from Rutgers Institute for
Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research

OCTOBER
-
DECEMBER
2023



New Endowed Professorship Honors IFH Founding Member

Margaret Marsh, a University Professor of History at Rutgers and an IFH core faculty member, and Howard Gillette, a professor emeritus of history at Rutgers-Camden, are making a \$500,000 gift to establish the Gerald Grob Endowed Legacy Professorship.

Grob, the Henry E. Sigerist Emeritus Professor of the History of Medicine and a founding member of the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research, was “widely acknowledged as the twentieth century’s most eminent and productive historian of mental illness and the treatment of the mentally ill in the United States,” Marsh says.

Marsh and her husband, Howard Gillette, are giving \$500,000 to endow the new professorship in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences-Camden with a dual appointment at the Institute for Health. Faculty in the role can be from the fields of history or sociology of medicine/health, health psychology, health policy, or a similar field.

“Dr. Grob, as a founding member, and Dr. Marsh, as a longtime core faculty member, have contributed greatly to the work of the Institute for Health,” says Tobias Gerhard, director of IFH. “We are thrilled that this professorship will carry their legacy of health research, teaching, and mentoring far into the future.”

Excerpt from Rutgers Foundation. [Read more here.](#)

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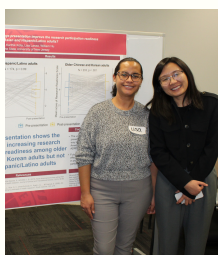
NEWS

RCASIA Hosts Retreat

The new Resource Center for for Alzheimer's and Dementia Research in Asian and Pacific Americans (RCASIA), led by IFH's William Hu and NYU's Bei Wu, hosted a two day retreat at the Rutgers Inn and Conference Center.

The retreat featured two keynote addresses by Li-San Wang of the Penn Neurodegeneration Genomics Center and Daphne Kwok of AARP. Speakers and panels discussed bioethics, informed consent, community engagement, and data analysis. The event also hosted pilot scholars who showcased posters highlighting their research focused on the center's mission.

RCASIA is the first NIH-funded center focused on Alzheimer's and dementia research in New Jersey and the first NIA Resource Center for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR) focused on Alzheimer's and dementia in Asian and Pacific Americans.



Holiday Note from IFH Director

This holiday season, I want to extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. May this festive season bring you joy, peace, and moments of reflection. As we look forward to the promise of a new year, let us carry the spirit of collaboration and innovation into the future.

Thank you once again for your dedication to the research mission of Rutgers and the Institute for Health. I am grateful for the opportunity to work alongside a remarkable group of individuals.

Wishing you and your loved ones a healthy and joyful holiday.

Warm regards,

Tobias Gerhard, Director, Rutgers Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research

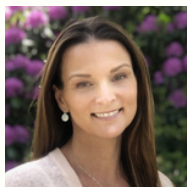
Ahmed Lab Hosts Workshop

Zeeshan Ahmed's lab, supported by research assistants Habiba Abdelhalim and William DeGroat, hosted a workshop for undergraduate students to introduce them to *IntelliGenes*, a novel machine learning pipeline for biomarker discovery and predictive analysis using multi-genomic profiles.

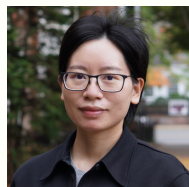
The Rutgers students, all from interdisciplinary backgrounds, were guided on how to download, configure, and customize *IntelliGenes* for personalized artificial intelligence/machine learning analysis.



NEW FACES



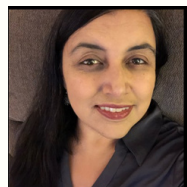
Tara Friebe-Klingner
Assistant Research
Professor, RGHI



Yun (Karen) Cai
Research Coordinator,
RARC



Emma Jane Curran
Postdoctoral Associate,
CPLB



Aparna Kalbag
Research Scientist,
CAHPE



Michelle Migut
Nurse Study Manager,
NJHealth Study



Kira Sheldon
Research Assistant,
CHA

NEW GRANTS



Michal Schnaider Beeri (RARC)

Cognitive and brain imaging correlates of apathy-
components in asymptomatic middle aged
individuals at high ADRD- risk

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging/NIH

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy for cognition in diabetic elderly at high
dementia risk

Subaward from: Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Prime Originating Sponsor: NIH

Peripheral and brain levels of advanced glycation end products (AGEs)
and incident Alzheimers disease and neuropathology

Subaward from: Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Prime Originating Sponsor: NIH



Ethan Halm

Building partnerships between New Brunswick
community-based organizations and the Rutgers
Health Service Corps to improve population health

Sponsor: Rutgers University (REACH)

Actionable Categories of Avoidable Hospital Care Among Adults with
Cancer

Subaward from: The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Prime Originating Sponsor: NIH



Ubydul Haque (RGHI)

Addressing Vaccine Hesitancy through Social-
Media Data Collection, Machine Learning
Algorithm Development, and Targeted Use

Sponsor: Merck & Co., Inc.



Michelle Chen (CHA)

Digital biomarkers for lifestyle behaviors in MS

**Sponsor: Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis
Centers**



Olga Jarrín Montaner

Development and testing of health equity
measures in home health care for Medicare
beneficiaries?

Subaward from: University of Minnesota
Prime Originating Sponsor: NIH



Tobias Gerhard (PETS)

Examining Intensive Outpatient Programs as a
Potential Mechanism to Reduce Suicide Risk
During the Post-Hospitalization Period Among
Medicaid Recipients

Subaward from: Yale University
Prime Originating Sponsor: NIH

Novel and Rigorous Statistical Learning and Inference for Comparative
Effectiveness Research with Complex Data

Sponsor: Rutgers University (Statistics)
Prime Originating Sponsor: National Library of Medicine



Jennifer Miles (CHSR)

Scaling-up Medication for Opioid Use Disorder in
Residential Treatment Settings

**Sponsor: Robert E. Leet and Clara Guthrie
Patterson Trust**

Jennifer was also selected for possible funding by the National Institute
on Drug Abuse for her K-99/R-00 award for her research on
medication for opioid use disorder in residential treatment settings.

Congratulations to Dr. Miles for
officially joining IFH as a core
faculty member with the Center
for Health Services Research!

IFH Hosts Holiday Gathering

In December, IFH hosted faculty and staff for a town hall meeting and holiday gathering to celebrate the holiday season and a successful 2023.



Upcoming Events

- Monday, January 22 (time TBD) - **Faculty Job Talk with Amanda Kreider** of University of Pennsylvania
- Thursday, January 25 12pm - **Brown Bag Seminar with Melissa Garrido** of Boston University
- Wednesday, January 31 (1pm) - **Faculty Job Talk with Laura Attanasio** of University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Monday, February 5 (time TBD) - **Faculty Job Talk with Erica Eliason** of Brown University

Resource Corner

Looking to reserve an office for the day at IFH? We now have the opportunity to offer **hoteling space** for faculty or staff who may want to come to the office intermittently. These rooms have hardwired internet access and external monitors set up for use.

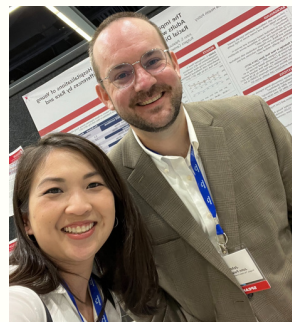
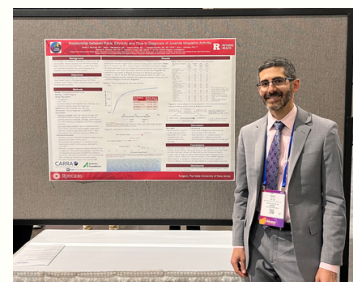
Please reach out to Aileen Carroll
aileen.carroll@ifh.rutgers.edu for more information.

NEWS Ctd.

Conference Recap

Throughout 2023, IFH faculty and research staff attended research conferences around the world to take part in poster presentations, speaking opportunities and panel discussions. Check out a few photos below.

Dan Horton (PETS) at the American College of Rheumatology's annual convergence in California.



Ann Nguyen and John Palatucci (CSHP) at AcademyHealth's Annual Research Meeting in Washington.

Tammy Chung (CPBH) and Michelle Chen (CHA) at the International Neuropsychological Society meeting in Taiwan.



Marie Sizemore (CPBH) at the International Association of Yoga Therapists' Symposium on Yoga Research in Massachusetts.

Chintan Dave (PETS) at the International Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology in Canada.

