

# TORC Digest



**November 2014**

## Notes from the Interim Director

Search for permanent TORC Director & full Professor of Health and Human Performance. Please click [here](#) for more information or contact Dr. Dan O'Connor at [dpoconno@central.uh.edu](mailto:dpoconno@central.uh.edu), 713-743-2377.

## Headline Science & News

### ***TORC Faculty Dr. Hernandez is mentioned in UH News for Domestic Violence Awareness Month***

In the UH News article "UH Experts Available to Discuss Issues Related to Domestic Violence Awareness Month" Dr. Hernandez was mentioned for her research on poverty and how women who experience physical, mental, or sexual abuse are more likely to have food insecurities and depression. To Find out more, please click [here](#).

### ***TORC Faculty Dr. Lu is mentioned in UH News for Breast Cancer Awareness Month***

Dr. Qian Lu was mentioned in the UH News article "UH Experts Available to Discuss Topics Related to Breast Cancer Awareness Month" for her research on breast cancer with Asian-Americans, health disparities and culture, and ethnic and gender differences in pain management. To learn more, please click [here](#).

### ***Dr. Tracey Ledoux will begin a new project in Fall 2015***

Dr. Tracey Ledoux is starting a new project Fall 2015 that will study food addiction, diet, and obesity among non-drug users, former drug users, and non-drug users. To learn more, click [here](#).

### ***TORC Faculty and students attend Undergraduate Research Day***

TORC Interns and HHP students presented their research works at the Undergraduate Research Day. To read their research

topics visit click [here](#)

### ***TORC Faculty and students attend HHP Research Symposium***

TORC Faculty and grad students Stephanie Silveria, Nate Parker, and Allen Hallett presented their research work at the Health and Human Performance Research Symposium. Dr. Hernandez's student and Dr. Lowder's students also presented their posters at the HHP Research Symposium on October 21-22. to learn more click [here](#).

## **Recent Publications**

*Financial Impact of Third-Party Reimbursement Due to Change in the Definition of ICD-9 Arthroscopy Codes 29880, 29881, and 29877*

Dr. Mitzi Laughlin and colleagues published "Financial Impact of Third-Party Reimbursement Due to Change in the Definition of ICD-9 Arthroscopy Codes 29880, 29881, and 29877" in the Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery. Results showed physician reimbursement rates for arthroscopy decreased by over 35% from 2011 to 2012.

*Resistance exercise training-induced in circulating inflammatory CD14+CD16+ monocyte percentage without weight loss in older adults*

Dr. Melissa Markofski published "Resistance exercise training-induced in circulating inflammatory CD14+CD16+ monocyte percentage without weight loss in older adults" in European Journal of Applied Physiology. The purpose of the study was to examine whether resistance training would decrease inflammatory monocyte percentage and improve biomarkers associated with disease risk, independent of weight loss.

*Workers' compensation claims and outcomes after reverse shoulder arthroplasty" in Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery*

Dr. Mitzi Laughlin and colleagues published "Workers' compensation claims and outcomes after reverse shoulder arthroplasty" in Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery. They evaluated the outcomes after reverse shoulder arthroplasty in workers with compensation claim and those without workers' compensation claim.

## **Opportunities**

### ***TORC helping to develop a weight management program for women with disabilities***

TORC executive committee member Dr. Tracey Ledoux and TORC faculty Dr. Margaret Nosek from Baylor College of Medicine's Center for Research on Women with Disabilities are developing **a weight management program for women with mobility impairments** that will be conducted in the virtual world of Second Life. Eligible women will participate in a 16-session weekly weight loss group online in Second Life. Those who complete the study will be offered a small payment for their participation. Recruitment is starting now! To find out more about the **GoWoman Weight Loss Research Study**, contact Stephanie Silveira at [slsilvei@Central.UH.edu](mailto:slsilvei@Central.UH.edu) or 713-734-9310 and please click [here](#).

### ***TORC Faculty Dr. Tracy Ledoux seeking parents with toddlers for a healthy eating habit study***

**Little Foodies** is a feasibility study for a parent focused approach to developing healthy eating behaviors among toddlers. This parent focused group consists of 6 weekly 90 minute classes at UH covering topics such as dealing with picky eating, managing table manner issues, and coping with food refusal. Those who complete the study will be offered a small payment for their participation. For more information, contact Tracey Ledoux, PhD, RD at [TALedoux@uh.edu](mailto:TALedoux@uh.edu) or (713) 743-1870 and

please click [here](#).

***Seeking diabetic and non-diabetic study participants for a project on cognitive-motor function and diabetes***

Faculty member Dr. Stacey Gorniak is seeking adults between the ages of 30 and 90 to participate in a study on the effects of diabetes on cognitive and motor functions. She is looking for participants that either have (1) a current diagnosis of Type II Diabetes or (2) no health history of diabetes or related complications. Both groups (diabetic and non-diabetic) are needed to complete the study. Participants will receive a \$60 gift card to Walmart for completing the study. For more information, please contact Dr. Gorniak ([sgorniak@uh.edu](mailto:sgorniak@uh.edu)) via email or by phone at 713-743-4802.

***Seeking diabetic and non-diabetic study participants for a project on sensori-motor function and diabetes***

Faculty member Dr. Stacey Gorniak is seeking adults between the ages of 21 and 90 to participate in a study on the effects of diabetes on sensory and motor functions. She is looking for participants that either have (1) a current diagnosis of Type II Diabetes or (2) no health history of diabetes or related complications. Both groups (diabetic and non-diabetic) are needed to complete the study. This study will test hand function during different tests during conditions of daily life and after administration of a local anesthetic. Participants will receive a \$60 gift card to Walmart for completing the study. For more information, please contact Dr. Gorniak ([sgorniak@uh.edu](mailto:sgorniak@uh.edu)) via email or by phone at 713-743-4802