Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty

Dr. Dianne Ciro, Assistant Professor
Research Areas: Trauma, Latino mental health, and health disparities

Recent Publications:
Dianne Ciro, Tanya Moreno, Arely Ramos, Jarylin Wilson, Geisel Samayoa, Silvia Barragan, Yolanda Rodriguez, Yolanda Chilapa, Veronica Morales, Esther Pintor, Carmen Robles. *Journal of Community Psychology*. Vol. 49, Iss 6, Pages 1677-1691, Published Aug 2021


Dr. Stacy Dunkerley, Assistant Professor
Research Areas: Child welfare practice and policy, parent engagement, translational research, evidence-based practice

Recent Publications:


Dr. Megan Ebor, Assistant Professor
Research Areas: Health outcomes for older and ethnic minority women and communities of color

Recent Publications:


Dr. David Engstrom, Professor
Research Areas: International Social Work, Cross-border and immigration issues, survivors of torture

Recent Publications:


Grants:
Bank of Bangkok and Thammasat University, Bua Luang Chair ASEAN Professorship, $50,000, December 2019 to December 2022, Principal Investigator

Dr. Mario Garrett, Professor
Research Areas: Aging and the brain, racial/ethnic issues in aging

Recent Publications:


Dr. Loring Jones, Professor Emeritus
Research Areas: Child Welfare, child and family policy, international social work

Recent Publications:

Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty

Dr. Annie Keeney, Assistant Professor

Research Areas: social and political factors that affect child, family, and community health and safety outcomes in rural, high agriculture production areas; program assessment

Recent Publications:


Grants:
2021-2023 Project Title: Fostering Academic Success in Foster Youth. Funding Agency: Child Welfare Services County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency. Total Costs: $33,000. Type: Contract Role: PI

2021-2022 Project Title: High Plains and Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (HICAHS). Planning and Evaluation Core. Center Director: Stephen Reynolds, PhD. Total Costs: $26,155 (subcontract) Role: Evaluator

Dr. Eunjeong Ko, Professor

Research Areas: Aging, racial and ethnic disparities in accessing and utilizing health services

Recent Publications:


Grants:

Co-I (Ko) U54 MD012397-02 Health Link Pilot Project Award, SDSU Center for Transdisciplinary Health Disparities Research (MPI: Ayala/Wells). Pilot project “Developing a measure for individual, intergenerational, and historical community trauma in the East African community.” $50,000 (Pending date). PI: Urada, L.

Dr. Yawen Li, Associate Professor

Research Areas: Aging, health disparity, social environment, health outcome, and health behavior

Recent Publication:


Grants:
Pilot Testing of Diabetes Self-management Program for Chinese Americans through cultural tailoring and technology integration

Acceptability and feasibility of a culturally adapted assessment system with EMA and GPS tracking technology to monitor dynamic patterns and interactions of pro-tobacco marketing and media exposures
Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty

Dr. Jong-Won Min, Director, Professor
Research Areas: Health disparities, social determinants of health, minority aging

Recent Publications:


Grants:
Title IV-E Child Welfare Stipend Program for SDSU BSW and MSW Programs by California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC). PI. (July 1, 2018- June 30, 2020: $2,862,255).


Dr. Frances Nedjat-Haiem, Assistant Professor
Research Areas: Health disparities, palliative/end of life care, immigrant issues and vulnerable populations, Latinos and Veterans, interdisciplinary health/behavioral health care interventions

Recent Publications:
Frances R Nedjat-Haiem, Tamara Cadet, Humberto Parada Jr, Tessa Jones, Elvira E Jimenez, Beti Thompson, Kristen J Wells, Shiraz I Mishra, American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Vol 38, Iss 8, Pages 938-946, 8/2021, SAGE Publications

Grants:


Dr. Eileen Pitpitan, Associate Professor
Research Areas: HIV prevention interventions; alcohol and drug use; health equity; psychological and socio-structural factors underlying health behavior and disease; marginalized and disadvantaged communities; advanced quantitative methods

Recent Publications:


Grants:
Project: SDSU FUERTE: Faculty United towards Excellence in Research and Transformational Engagement U54CA267789, Role: Core Director/CoI, Amount: $15,049,864; Period: 09/21/2021-08/31/2026, Agency: National Cancer Institute (NCI/NIH) U54

Project: Integration of Peer Navigation and mHealth Technology to Improve Viral Suppression among Racial and Ethnic Minority PLWH in Community-Based HIV Care Clinics (R01DA053167), Role: Principal Investigator, Amount: $2,663,384, Period: 09/30/2020-08/31/2024, National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)(Co-Funded) NIH R01
Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty

Dr. Lucinda Rasmussen, Associate Professor
Research Areas: Child sexual abuse, risk assessment, trauma effects on youth

Recent Publications:


Dr. Lianne Urada, Assistant Professor
Research Areas: Human trafficking, homelessness, historical community trauma, substance use, health disparities, women and HIV, community-based intervention research

Recent Publications:


Grants:
$50,000, Principal Investigator, Nemeth Foundation grant on Estimating the nature and extent of human trafficking on college campuses in San Diego-Imperial Counties, 1/1/2022-12/31/2022

$12,000 (pending JIT), Consultant, NIH NIMHD SBIR, Virtual Support System (VSS) mHealth HIV intervention for YBMSM across the Continuum.

Dr. Lauren Willner, Assistant Professor
Research Areas: Social Justice and Human Service Nonprofit Organizations, Community-Based Participatory Research, Institutional Racism and Oppression, Social Justice Pedagogy, Qualitative Research Methods

Recent Publications:


Dr. María Luisa Zúñiga, Professor
Research Areas: Substance use, mental health, HIV and care engagement among Latino and other underserved populations

Recent Publications:


Grants:
National Institutes on Drug Abuse. Urada (PI) 03/01/21 – 02/30/23 Homelessness during COVID-19: Exploring the usability and effects of telehealth interventions on buprenorphine treatment. https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOTDA-20-058.html Explore the impact of telebuprenorphine interventions (defined as non-in-person treatment interactions, such as via videoconferencing and mobile phones) for those experiencing homelessness and SUD, the barriers and facilitators to tele-buprenorphine, and its potential impact beyond COVID-19. Role: Co-I

Bureau of Cannabis Control Amount: $1, 275 Baweja (PI) (submitted Sept 17, 2020) 12/06/20 – 12/05/22 Returning safer drivers to the road: Paving the Way for Objective Equitable Fitness to Drive Assessments in Cannabis Use Disorder. The proposed study will determine both movement quality and cognitive markers of driving ability in those with cannabis user disorders. These quantifiable markers will help develop an objective field-use test; and a substantiated curriculum for use in Driving Under the Influence of Cannabis and treatment programs. Role: Co-Investigator

Study Title: Paving the Way for Objective Equitable Fitness to Drive Assessments in Cannabis Use Disorder. The proposed study will determine both movement quality and cognitive markers of driving ability in those with cannabis user disorders. These quantifiable markers will help develop an objective field-use test; and a substantiated curriculum for use in Driving Under the Influence of Cannabis and treatment programs. Role: Co-Investigator