

FCS News: Research and Scholarship

Family and Consumer Sciences, The University of Mississippi

At a Glance:

- FCS faculty are awarded eight new research grants
- A faculty member earns tenure and promotion
- Faculty members are honored for their excellence in education and research
- An FCS senior is named a Taylor medalist
- Faculty completed five national and international presentations and three new journal articles

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FCS Launches Eight New Funded Research Projects in Spring 2008, Totaling Over \$400,000

The faculty of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences were awarded eight new research grants this spring alone. This, combined with existing research grants, makes FCS the only department in the School of Applied Sciences in which all faculty members are involved in one or more funded research projects.

Charlotte Oakley (principal investigator; executive director of NFSMI, adjunct associate professor of FCS) and **Kathy Knight** (co-investigator) received notification that the Delta Health Alliance will fund their research.

Melinda Valliant (co-investigator) receives research funds from the Mississippi Department of Transportation to assess and develop a *Safe Routes to Schools* program in Oxford, Mississippi (with Jeff Hallam, principal investigator, associate professor of HESRM).

Kathy Knight (principal investigator) has received a grant from the National Food Service Management Institute to analyze child care menus using the USDA Nutrient Analysis Protocols.

Yunhee Chang (principal investigator) receives the 2008 *Research Grant Using 2004 SIPP Panel* sponsored by the U.S. Bureau of Census and the National Poverty Center at the University of Michigan, for her research "Did UIFSA Close the 'Black Hole'

of Interstate Enforcement? Evidence from the Survey of Income and Program Participation," with Elizabeth T. Powers (co-PI, University of Illinois).

Yunhee Chang (principal investigator) is a recipient of the 2008 Faculty Research Grant from the University of Mississippi for her research "Child Support Policies and Gender Disparity in Retirement Wealth."

Young Hoon Kim (principal investigator) receives School of Applied Sciences Summer Research Grant to conduct his research "An Investigation of Food Tourism: Web-Marketing in Mississippi."

Young Hoon Kim (principal investigator), **Jim Taylor**, and **Tanya Ruetzler** (co-investigators) received a grant from the Oxford Convention and Visitors Bureau for the project, "The Economic Impact of Local and Regional Festivals." This project will assess the economic impact of the *Oxford Double Decker Festival* in April 2008 and the *BBQ Festival* in October 2008.

Melinda Valliant (principal investigator) received a research grant from the School of Applied Sciences for her project "Development and Administration of a Survey to Evaluate Disordered Eating Patterns in Undergraduate UM Students."

Faculty Publications, December 2007-April 2008

Jim Taylor's research paper, "Menu Analysis: A Review of Techniques and Approaches" (with D. M. Brown, co-author) appears in *Florida International University Hospitality and Tourism Review*, Volume 25 Issue 2.

Yunhee Chang's research paper "Are Financial Education Programs Meeting the Needs of Financially Disadvantaged Consumers?" (with A.C. Lyons, co-

author) will appear in the *Journal of Personal Finance*, volume 7 Issue 2.

Jim Taylor's research paper, "Multi-factor Menu Analysis Using Data Envelopment Analysis" (with D. Reynolds and D. M. Brown, co-authors) has been accepted for publication in the forthcoming issue of the *International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management*.



CONGRATULATIONS...!! AWARDS AND HONORS

Laurel Lambert earns tenure at the University of Mississippi and is being promoted to associate professor.

Melinda Valliant received the 2008 *Outstanding Dietetics Educator Award* at the Mississippi Dietetics Association meeting.

Melinda Valliant received the *Thomas A. Crowe Award* for the outstanding faculty in the School of Applied Sciences.

Young Hoon Kim won the *Best Paper Award* for his current research, "An investigation of factors influencing on the frequency of visit by domestic tourists at Jeju region: using ordinal regressions" (M. Kim, C. Boo, and S. Moon, co-investigators), presented at the 63th Tourism Sciences Conference, Jeju-do, South Korea. The research appears in the proceeding of the conference.

Charlotte Oakley has been elected *Professional Issues Delegate for Food and Nutrition Management* for the House of Delegates of the American Dietetic Association.

Margaret Williamson, a senior student of FCS and Magna Cum Laude graduate of the class of 2008, is named the *2008 Taylor Medalist*.

Faculty Conference Presentations

In Spring 2008, several faculty presented research papers at national and international conferences.

Laurel Lambert presented her current research "Using the internet to provide interactive physical activity and nutrition education to fourth-grade students" at the 2008 *Hawaii International Conference on Education* in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Yunhee Chang presented her research in progress, "Child Support Policies and Gender Disparity in Retirement Wealth" at the 2008 *Biannual Conference of the Eastern Family Economics and Resource Management Association* in Savannah, Georgia.

Tanya Ruetzler presented her current research "The economic impact of the Southern Foodways Alliance annual symposium" (with **J. Taylor** and **Y. H. Kim**, co-investigators) at the *Southeast Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education* Spring, 2008 conference in Atlanta, Georgia. The research appears in the 12th volume of the *Research Proceedings Southeast Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education*, pp. 42-46.

Young Hoon Kim had a paper that he co-authored with M.-S. Jeon and B. K. Goh presented at

the *Thirteenth Annual Graduate Conference in Hospitality and Tourism*. The title of the paper is "An evaluation of the nutritional quality of lunch meals served by elementary schools in United States and Republic of Korea." The research appears in the conference proceeding.

Yunhee Chang presented her current research "Do State Child Support Enforcement Programs Reduce Gender Disparity in Retirement Wealth?" at the *Population Association of America 2008 Annual Meetings* in New Orleans, Louisiana. The abstract of the research appears in the conference proceeding.

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Notes

Candis Varnell and eleven FCS students (Amy Bardwell, Anna Coleman, Josh Crump, Elizabeth Duffy, Drue Fritschle, Christin Hagan, Kimberly Hannan, Jakob Klaeson, Lacey Livingston, Michael Manning, Savannah Ramsey, and Kayla Vescovo) passed the CITI training and are now qualified to participate in faculty research projects.

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About the Newsletter

FCS News: Research and Scholarship is a semi-annual newsletter of the department of the Family and Consumer Sciences. Free distribution to faculty, staff, students and UM community. Questions or suggestions about the newsletter can be directed to chang@olemiss.edu.