Research Education Component

Roger Albin, MD
Department of Neurology, University of Michigan

Peter Lichtenberg, PhD
Institute of Gerontology, Wayne State University

REC Personnel

Roger Albin, MD
Core Leader

Peter Lichtenberg, PhD
Wayne State University
Core Leader

Irving Vega, PhD
Michigan State University
Co-Investigator

Kenneth Langa, MD, PhD
Co-Investigator

Erin Fox, BA
REC Core Coordinator

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REC Aims

Aim 1: Recruit talented junior investigators into interdisciplinary dementia research

Aim 2: Enhance junior investigator research skills

Aim 3: Develop a comprehensive, interdisciplinary curriculum to educate junior investigators about the broad spectrum of dementia research
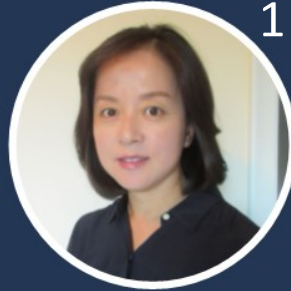
Aim 4: Provide practical training in crucial career skills including manuscript and grant application preparation, oral presentation skills, leadership, and interpersonal skills

Aim 5: Enhance the diversity of investigators working on dementia-related research
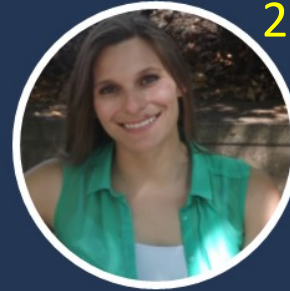
Our REC mentees, first two years

Enhanced Mentoring Plan

Mentoring Committees
- Transdisciplinary, multi-campus meeting every 6 months

Co-Sponsored Research Retreat with Pepper Center

MADRC Annual Research Symposium
- Sheria Robinson-Lane, Lenette Jones, Julia Gerson, DeAnnah Byrd had oral presentations; all mentees presented posters

Mezey Travel Award
- Lenette Jones received

MADRC Pilot Project Program
- Sheria Robinson-Lane received

Weblink: alzheimers.med.umich.edu/curriculum/

New Additions to the Mentoring Program

MICHR Mentoring Resources

MADRC Journal Club
- All mentees had the opportunity to present orally

Junior Investigators session at Fall ADC meeting
- HwaJung Choi to attend (1st mentee class)

NIA Mock Study Section
- Julia Gerson attended in March 2019

Washington U. workshop: *African American participation in AD Research: Effective Strategies*
- DeAnnah Byrd, Sheria Robinson-Lane attended

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Highlights from 1ˢᵗ Class

- HwaJung Choi, PhD (U-M): K01 award on care utilization among family caregivers; R21 award

- Jiayu Zhou, PhD (MSU): Multiple NSF awards, including early career development award
  - Machine learning applied to Big Data

- Jeske Damoiseaux, PhD (WSU): MADRC pilot award, 2 R01 applications
  - fMRI studies of age-related cognitive decline

Highlights from 2nd Class

- Lenette Jones, PhD (U-M): K01 award on cognition, hypertension management in African Americans

- DeAnnah Byrd, PhD (WSU): K01 application on racial disparities in cognitive health outcomes

- Sheria Robinson-Lane, PhD (U-M): K01 application on African American family caregivers, PWD

- Julia Gerson, PhD (U-M): F32 award on role of UBQLN2 in tauopathies, synucleinopathies

Welcome to our newest class!
2019 – 2021 Junior Investigators

Amara Ezeamama (Epidemiology)
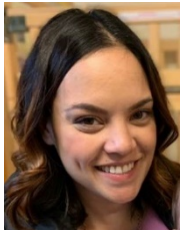Assistant Professor, Michigan State University

Courtney Polenick (Human Development & Family Studies)
Assistant Professor, University of Michigan

Ana Daugherty (Psychology)
Assistant Professor, Wayne State University

Ilce Medina Meza (Food Science)
Assistant Professor, Michigan State University

Annalise Rahman-Filipiak (Clinical Psychology)
Clinical Lecturer, University of Michigan

Omar Ahmed (Neuroscience)
Assistant Professor, University of Michigan

Charlie Fehl (Medicinal Chemistry)
Assistant Professor, Wayne State University

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REC Future Directions

- Revise Dementia Curriculum
    - Update Existing Talks
    - Add Additional Talks – UCI Collaboration +
    - Develop Certificate Granting Course
- Focus on Assisting Mentees with Grant Apps
- Financial Support for Mentees
    - Pepper Center Model – Salary Support with Matches from Dept. and Dean's Office
    - Joint Program with Pepper Center?
    - Tiered Model
        - Pilot Support for Those with Ks
        - Salary Support for Those Working Towards Ks
    - Will depend on budget!

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