



# Nutrition Matters at TEXAS TECH

The newsletter of the TTU Nutritional Sciences Department

Volume 1, Issue 1

## *Welcome from the Department Chair*

It is a great pleasure to see this first newsletter of our newly formed department of Nutritional Sciences (NS). Many aspects of this newsletter deserve a special mention. Ms. Shao Hua Chin ([shao-hua.chin@ttu.edu](mailto:shao-hua.chin@ttu.edu)), a bright graduate student from NS has agreed to lead this effort as the editor. Her service to NS is truly appreciated.

A key purpose of the newsletter is to share many professional accolades and achievements that our faculty, postdoctoral fellows and students and staff receive so often. News about new funding, awards, scholarships, scientific presentations and publications, and just about any significant professional achievement is welcome and worth sharing. While the editor will seek such news from you for future issues of the newsletter, please do feel free to proactively volunteer such information to her. Please do not consider this as self-promotion. In our department with such diverse professional background, interest and focus, it is important to remain informed about the achievements, publications, and emerging and diverging research interests of our colleagues. Departmental newsletter is an effective means to achieve this. Importantly, please note that your achievements can be inspiring to many others, in addition to possibly starting new collaborations, dialogues or interactions.

I trust that you will find this new activity of value for yourself and for the department and that you will help in achieving the intended goal of the newsletter. I am positive that our editor will appreciate your constructive comments and suggestions about any aspect of the newsletter that would better serve the needs of Nutritional Sciences.

Best wishes

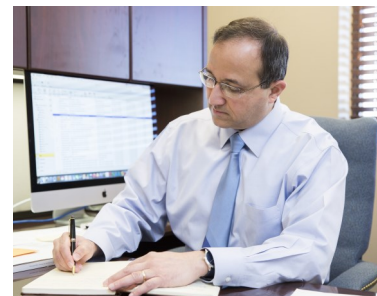
Nik Dhurandhar

Chair, Department of Nutritional Sciences

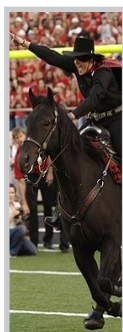
**EDITORS NOTE:** This is our first newsletter and it dates back to November 2014 (and the arrival of our new Chairman). As such please excuse the length – our students and faculty have been VERY busy. Future editions will be published more frequently and will be briefer. Look for Issue 2 in early June!

Sincerely,

Shao-Hua Chin



## *In This Issue*



### **Departmental Announcements**

This month learn more about our undergraduate dietetics and graduate dietetic internship programs; congratulate faculty members receiving promotion and tenure; meet new faculty members in our department; find out who defended their theses and dissertations. [READ MORE.](#)

### **Student Achievements**

Be impressed with the many accomplishments of our TTU NS students. [READ MORE.](#)

### **Faculty Awards**

Our faculty members received prestigious awards from TTU and international scientific organizations. [READ MORE.](#)

### **Funding**

Learn more about funded projects in the department. See what your colleagues have achieved. [READ MORE.](#)



### **Patents and Publications**

Our students and faculty members obtained patents, gave countless presentations and have been very busy publishing. [READ MORE.](#)

### **In the Media**

Our students and faculty members appeared in TTU, local and national media including Texas Tech Today, FOX34 News and CNN. An impressive amount of high quality exposure for TTU. [READ MORE.](#)

### **GNO Events**

See what your Graduate student organization has been up to! Learn more about what's coming up and get involved now. [READ MORE.](#)

### **Other Announcements and Notices**

See more upcoming events, information about Obesity Research Cluster (ORC), US. Foods Seminar and Graduate Center Satellite Services for Graduate Students. [READ MORE.](#)



# Department Announcements



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
Nutritional Sciences™

- [Undergraduate Program](#) • [Graduate Dietetic Internship Program](#)
- [EndNote X7](#) • [Promotion and Tenure](#) • [New Faculty and Staff Members](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) with the University of Peradeniya](#)
- [Master's Theses and Doctoral Dissertations](#) • [Representatives at EB2015](#)
- [2015 Graduate Research Poster Competition](#)

## Nutritional Sciences Undergraduate Program

The Nutritional Sciences and Dietetics Program received official notification in January 2015 that the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) granted full accreditation to the Dietetics program for **seven years**. It is the longest period of time that a program can be granted accreditation. One of the significant factors reviewed in the accreditation process is performance of TTU students on the Registration Exam for Dietitians. The undergraduate program tracks their graduates who were accepted into a dietetic internship to analyze the passing rate of the Registration Exam for Dietitians. Although the graduates performed their internship in 33 different programs in 17 different states, it still was a good indicator that the undergraduate curriculum and faculty in Texas Tech University were strong.

According to Lydia Kloiber M.S., R.D., L.D., the director of Didactic Program in Dietetics, the consistency of program scores and steady improvement over 5-year averages is exciting, especially since the program continues to grow. Learn more about [Didactic Program in Dietetics](#) (DPD).

- Registration Exam Results from Undergraduate Program (pass rate goal 80 %):

Time Period	#Taking Exam First Time	Students Passing the CDR Exam		Pass Rate Percentages	
		#Passing First Try	#Passing within One Year of First Try	First-Time Pass Rate	One-Year Pass Rate
2014	25	22	24	88 %	96 %
Current 5 Year 2010- 2014	121	105	113	<b>87 %</b>	<b>93 %</b>

## Summer Study Abroad in Barcelona

Allison Childress M.S., R.D., L.D., has collaborated with an ESS faculty to offer NS 2330 Nutrition for Health, Fitness and Sport and ESS 3305 Exercise Physiology in Barcelona called '[Sports and Nutrition in Spain](#)' during the Summer 2 session. Students will experience one of the world's largest outdoor markets, cooking classes and tours of state of the art fitness training and sports competition facilities. This is an excellent, first of a kind opportunity for our NS majors and minors to study exercise and nutrition abroad.

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## Changes to the Nutrition Health & Wellness Degree Plan



Started in 2011, with current enrollment of over 150 students, major changes have been made to the program for Fall 2015! The new degree plan now has several guided electives and more writing and counseling/coaching courses. Together these improve students' ability to tailor their experience to a wider range of career paths. We have also expanded our collaborative efforts that now include:

- Human Development and Family Studies
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Community, Family, and Addiction Services
- Hospitality and Retail Management
- English
- Exercise Sports Science & Health
- Business Marketing
- College of Media & Communications

## Nutritional Sciences Graduate Dietetic Internship Program

In January 2015, the Nutritional Sciences Dietetic Internship received official notification that the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) granted full accreditation to the Dietetics program for seven years.

The dietetic internship class of 2014-15 began their supervised practice rotations in January 2015. There are now a total of 18 interns with 10 interns in Lubbock, 4 in Amarillo and now 4 in Midland/Odessa. Learn more about [TTU Dietetic Internship](#) (DI).

- Registration Exam Results form Graduate Dietetic Internship Program (pass rate goal 80 %):

Time Period	#Taking Exam First Time	Students Passing the CDR Exam		Pass Rate Percentages	
		#Passing First Try	#Passing within One Year of First Try	First-Time Pass Rate	One-Year Pass Rate
2014	16	15	2	94 %	100 %
Current 5 Year 2010- 2014	69	63	3	91 %	94 %



Current and former TTU students attended 2015 TAND FNCE (Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Food and Nutrition Conference & Expo) in Houston. <http://goo.gl/zyqQQ7>



The results of the Registration Exam for Dietitians continue to be strong!

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## EndNote X7



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The desktop version (EndNote X7) of the Endnote reference manager software has advanced features (not available on web version). EndNote X7 now is available in the Nutritional Sciences Department on the computer

located in 402E. You can also set up an EndNote Web account to access your references everywhere. Click here for more information about [creating EndNote Web account](#), [setting up EndNote Web account](#), [EndNote X7 guidebook](#) and [getting start videos](#). If you need help with this program, please contact your personal librarian [Cynthia Henry](#) or [Thomson Reuters Product Support Analyst](#).

## Promotion and Tenure

### Dr. Wilna Oldewage-Theron

Received tenure and became a new professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences, College of Human Sciences. <http://goo.gl/g3Nbw8>

### Dr. Jamie Cooper

Received promotion and tenure, from assistant professor to associate professor, Department of Nutritional Sciences College of Human Sciences. <http://goo.gl/iy4PIF>

## New Faculty and Staff Members

### Dr. Latha Ramalingham

Research Assistant Professor in Dr. Moustaid-Moussa's Laboratory. She brings expertise in diabetes research to further the research program in the NS department and the Obesity Research Cluster. She received her Ph.D. from Indiana University School of medicine and completed two short postdocs at IU and at TTU (with Dr. Moustaid-Moussa) prior to taking her current position.

### Shane Scoggin

Research Laboratory Safety Officer. He received his Cell and Molecular Biology degree from Texas Tech University and he has over 10 years lab experience. His previous work includes 5 years working in the Simmons Cancer Center at UT Southwestern running a microarray core facility; 1 year working at the biotech company Tannox before returning to UT Southwestern to work in a Molecular Biology lab studying stem cells in Drosophila.

# Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Peradeniya



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The MOU that will form the basis for expanding collaborations between the two institutions was signed between Texas Tech University and the University of

Peradeniya in November 2014. This MOU was developed by Dr. Moustaid-Moussa and Dr. Nishan Kaluapahana, Professor at Peradeniya and deputy director of the Center for International Exchange at Peradeniya. Dr. Kalypahana was a visiting Associate Professor at TTU in the Dept. of NS Fall 2014.

## Master's Theses and Doctoral Dissertations

### Priyanka Bapat

- Degree: Ph.D.
- Defense Date: November 10, 2014
- Dissertation Title: Cytotoxic Effects of Selenium Conjugated Trastuzumab on HER2+ Breast Cancer Cell Lines
- Dissertation Committee: Dr. Julian E. Spallholz (Committee Chair), Dr. Mallory Boylan, Dr. Barbara Pence, Dr. Leslie Thompson and Dr. Chad Paton.

### Kelli Kaufman

- Degree: M.S.
- Defense Date: March 24, 2015
- Thesis Title: A Cross Sectional Descriptive Study with Further Analysis of Body Mass Index, Psychosocial Correlates and Pain as Predictors of Activities of Daily Living in African American Adult Sickle Cell Disease Clinic Patients
- Dissertation Committee: Dr. Martin Binks (Committee Chair), Dr. Michael San Francisco, Dr. Mary Murimi and Dr. Christopher L. Edwards (Duke University)

### Tiffany McAllister

- Degree: Ph.D.
- Defense Date: March 25, 2015
- Dissertation Title: Perceptions of Promoting Physical Health by Selected Christian Leaders: A Multi-Denominational Study
- Dissertation Committee: Dr. Mary Murimi (Committee Chair), Dr. Jessica Alquist, Dr. Martin Binks, Dr. Elizabeth Trejos-Castillo and Dr. Debra Reed.

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## Representatives at EB2015

Faculty and graduate students were well-represented at the Experimental Biology 2015 meeting through posters, oral presentations, awards and session attendance. Our department had a strong presence at the university mixer designed to provide a visibility, networking and recruiting for Nutritional Sciences Department.

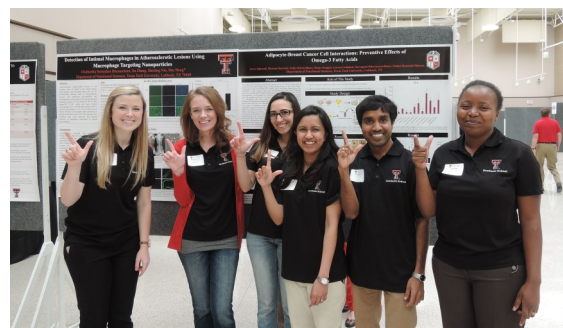


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## 2015 Graduate Research Poster Competition

Graduate students in our department, Kembra Albracht-Schulte, Arwa Aljawadi, Chathurika Samudani Dhanasekara, Chanaka Kahathuduwa, Kelli Kaufman, Teresia Mbogori, Mandana Pahlavani, Michael Rogowski and Jada Stevenson, participated in the poster competition on Friday, April 10th at the Helen DeVitt Jones Sculpture Court at the Museum of Texas Tech University. Their posters were evaluated by 3 judges from different departments. The result of the poster competition will be announced at Graduate Students Awards Ceremony at 2 pm on April 16, 2015 at International Culture Center.



14th Annual Graduate Student Research  
Poster Competition

# Students Achievements



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
Nutritional Sciences

## **Michael Rogowski, Ph.D. student**

Selected as an ARCS Scholar for the 2014-2015 year and honored at a banquet in Fall 2014.

## **Kelli Kaufman, M.S. student**

Accepted into the highly ranked Physician Assistant Program at the Baylor College of Medicine. She was chosen as one of 40 students out of over 1200 applicants and will start June, 2015.

## **Richard Garrison, Ph.D. student**

Received an award for his oral abstract submitted and presented to the Southeast Sun Grant Conference. Title: 'Anti-Inflammatory Effects of Extracts from a Bioenergy Crop, Switchgrass, in Adipocytes' in Auburn, AL. February 4, 2015.

## **Monique Lemieux, Tiffany Mcallister and Jada Stevenson, Ph.D. students**

Selected to participate in the prestigious [TTU TEACH \(Teaching Effectiveness And Career Enhancement\) program](#) for 2015. This program assists Ph.D. students to develop teaching skills and to explore faculty roles.



2014-2015 TEACH Program Cohort

## **Nadeeja Wijayatunga and Richard Garrison, Ph.D. students**

Awarded each an ASBMB (American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) 2015 Graduate/Postdoctoral Travel Award for their abstracts submitted to the Experimental Biology (EB) 2015. Nadeeja's title was 'Inflammatory and Metabolic Changes following Bariatric Surgery' and Richard's title was 'Anti-Inflammatory Effects of Extracts from a Bioenergy Crop, Switchgrass, in Cultured Adipocytes'.



Richard Garrison Presented his poster in EB2015

## **Richard Garrison, Ph.D. student**

Received CDR Diversity Scholarship from the national Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation for 2014-15.

## **Ashlee Taylor, Ph.D. student**

Received the Lois M. Jackson Scholarship from the national Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation for 2014-15.

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## **Monique Lemieux**, Ph.D. student

Awarded a FASEB MARC travel award to present her research at Experimental Biology 2015. Title: 'Inactivation of Adipose Angiotensinogen Reduces Inflammatory Adipokines and Adipose Tissue Macrophages'.

## **Lori Boyd**, M.S. student

Received the Helen C. Brittin Endowed Scholarship for through the Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (TAND). She attended a recognition dinner at the TAND Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo (FNCE) in Houston on April 9, 2015.

## **Chanaka Kahathuduwa**, Ph.D. student

Received Helen DeVitt Jones Graduate Fellowship which provides funding for 3 years.

## **Lori Boyd**, M.S. student

Received Dr. William J. Carter Scholarship Endowment. This scholarship is awarded to COHS undergraduate or graduate students who demonstrate excellence in academic performance and leadership skills in nutritional sciences.

## **Jia Zhang**, Ph.D. student

Received Phenolic Student Research Award for her abstract submitted to the Experimental Biology (EB) 2015. Title: 'The Effects of EGCG and EGCG Nanoparticles on Body Weight and Body Composition in LDL Receptor Null Mice'.

### **Upcoming University Dates**

- April 2 - 21  
Advance registration for next term
- April 6  
Easter weekend
- May 15 - 16  
Commencement

### **Graduate Center Supports**

- Writing Center  
Mon 9am to 5pm  
Wed 9am to 5pm  
Fri 9am to 5pm  
[Sign up for tutoring](#)
- Office of International Affairs  
Fri 8am to 5pm
- Red2Black  
Mon 10am to 12pm  
Thu 2pm to 5pm
- University Career Center  
Wed 9:30am to 2:30pm
- Student Resolution Center  
Tue 11am to 1:30pm  
Thu 11am to 1:30pm



# Faculty Awards



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## Dr. Martin Binks

Received The Obesity Society's Atkinson-Stern Award for Distinguished Public Service. The Award recognizes an individual or organization whose work has significantly improved the lives of those affected by obesity, whether through research, public policy, patient care, or other means. He received the award and presented the award lecture 'Silos are for Corn: A Call to Action' at ObesityWeek2014 in Boston MA November 2014.



Dr. Binks presented the award lecture 'Silos are for Corn: A Call to Action'.

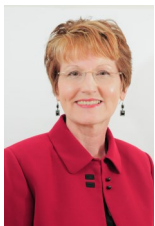
## Dr. Shu Wang

Received 2014 [Chancellor's Council Distinguished Research Award](#). The Chancellor's Council recognizes and selects top research faculty at TTU, TTU-Health Sciences Center, Angelo State, and TTU-Health Sciences Center-El Paso. Only 8 faculty members at TTU are selected as Chancellor's Council Award recipients every year.



Dr. Shu Wang attended Chancellor's Council Award Ceremony on February 11, 2015.

## Dr. Debra Reed



Selected as an [Integrated Scholar](#) for 2014-15. Office of the Provost defines integrated scholars as those 'who are not only outstanding in teaching, research and service, but they are also able to generate synergy among the three functions'. Only 11 faculty members were selected from the nominations received by deans, department chairs and colleagues.

## Allison Childress, M.S., R.D., L.D.



Received the 2015 [Professing Excellence Award](#). The award gives TTU students the opportunity to nominate outstanding faculty members who go above and beyond, both inside and outside the classroom, to impact their students' learning and academic success.

## Dr. Debra Reed

Received the President's Excellence in Teaching Award for 2015. This award represents faculty members' excellence in teaching and it will be presented at the Faculty Honors Convocation on April 28, 2015.

## Dr. Naima Moustaid-Moussa

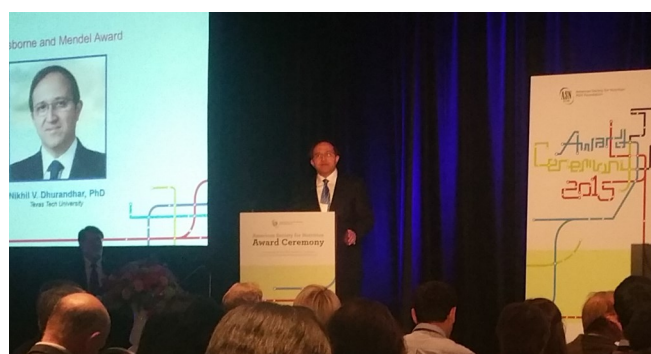
Chosen as the recipient of the 2015 Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Nutritional Sciences Award. This award was given for recent investigative contributions of contemporary significance to the understanding of human nutrition. Dr. Moustaid-Moussa attended ASN Awards Ceremony on March 29, 2015 at Experimental Biology 2015.



Dr. Naima Moustaid-Moussa received the 2015 Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Nutritional Sciences Award.

## Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar

Received the 2015 Osborne and Mendel Award. This award is given for outstanding recent basic research accomplishments in nutrition. Dr. Dhurandhar attended ASN Awards Ceremony on March 29, 2015 at Experimental Biology 2015.



Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar received the 2015 Osborne and Mendel Award.

## Dr. Naima Moustaid-Moussa

Elected Fellow of the American Heart Association (FAHA) conferred by the Council on Lifestyle and Cardio-metabolic Health. Dr. Moustaid-Moussa was honored at the Annual Dinner held during the EPI/Lifestyle conference in San Francisco on March 5, 2015.



## Online M.S. Program

Funding Source: Texas Tech University

Amount: \$20,000

Recipient: **Shelley Fillipp**

Purpose of Funding: Developing a new online Master's degree in Nutrition and Dietetics and including five new 'practice-focused' graduate courses.

## Online Class Development

Funding Source: Texas Tech University

Amount: \$15,000

Recipient: **Lydia Kloiber**

Purpose of Funding: Developing three online classes  
- Texas Tech University Worldwide eLearning as part of a full online Nutritional Sciences minor.

Significant Contributor: **Allison Childress**

## Title: Biomarkers of Insulin Resistance, Fatty Liver and Obesity in Southeast Asian Population.

Funding Source: University of Peradeniya (\$2,000) and TTU's Office of International Affairs & the OVPR (\$2000)

Amount: \$4,000

Principal Investigators: **Naima Moustaid-Moussa** and Nishan Kalupahana

Co-Investigators: **Latha Ramalingam, Debra Reed, Vijay Hegde** and Leslie Shen

## Title: Does Higher Protein Quality Breakfast Reduce Energy Intake when Following a Weight Loss Diet Plan?

Funding Source: Egg Nutrition Center

Amount: \$67,195

Principal Investigators: **Nikhil Dhurandhar**

Co-Investigators: **Jamie Cooper, John Dawson, Allison Childress**

## Title: Empowering Women by Improving Health Literacy Level, Food Insecurity, and Reducing Maternal and Child Malnutrition Among Low Income Rural Populations Through Nutrition Education.

Funding Source: TTU's Office of International Affairs & the OVPR

Amount: \$2,000

Principal Investigators: **Mary Murimi**

## Title: Effects of Bioactive Compounds (Tocotrienols and Geranylgeraniol) on Type 2 Diabetic Rats.

Funding Source: American River Nutrition

Total Amount: \$99,830

TTU Portion: \$38,000

Funding Period: 2/1/2015-7/31/2016

Principal Investigators: Leslie Shen, **Naima Moustaid-Moussa**, Eunhee Chung

Co-Investigators: J. Dufour, G. Brackee



**Title: Establishing C Elegans as a Model for Nutritional Studies: Mechanisms by which Omega 3 Fatty Acids Reduces Obesity-Associated Inflammation.**

Funding Source: USDA ANIFA AFRO

Amount: \$100,000

Principal Investigators: **Naima Moustaid-Moussa**

Co-Investigators: **Shu Wang**, Siva Vanapalli, Jerzy Blawdziewicz

**Title: Anti-Obesity Effects of Adipose-Targeting Resveratrol Nanocarriers.**

Funding Source: NIH

Amount: \$395,239

Funding Period: 04/01/2015 – 03/31/2018

Principal Investigators: **Shu Wang**

Co-Investigators: Guigen Li, Yehia Mechref, Ling Zhao

Consult: Gordon Brackee

**Title: Preventing Obesity in Military Families with Preschool Children (Operation Jump2Health).**

Funding Source: Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Program

Amount: \$3,500

Principal Investigators: Autumn Shafer

Co-Investigators: Jason Van Allen, **Debra Reed**, Julie Chang, Barry McCool, Susan Mengel

**Title: Unrestricted Educational Grant- Fund for Excellence.**

Funding Source: The Coca Cola Company

Amount: \$5,000

Recipient: **Martin Binks**

**Title: Long Term Effects of Early Exposure to Olanzapine on Weight, Metabolism and Behavior and Nutritional Interventions to Prevent these Effects.**

Funding Source: Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Program

Amount: \$7,500

Principal Investigators: Paul Soto

Co-Investigators: Kitty Harris, **Naima Moustaid-Moussa**

**Title: Browning White Adipose Tissue Using Resveratrol Nanoparticles Carried by Hydrogel Templates.**

Funding Source: Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Program

Amount: \$7,000

Principal Investigators: **Shu Wang**

Co-Investigators: Zhaoyang Fan, **Naima Moustaid-Moussa**

**Title: Development of a Microfluidic and Other Culture Systems to Study Adipocytes / Their Exosomes Interactions with Breast Cancer Cells.**

Funding Source: Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) Program

Amount: \$7,000

Principal Investigators: **Naima Moustaid-Moussa**

Co-Investigators: **Shu Wang**, Fazle Hussain, **Latha Ramalingam**, Zeina Khan, Preethi Gunaratne, Surangani Dharmawardhane

# Patents and Publications



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
Nutritional Sciences

- [Patents Obtained](#) • [Students' Oral Paper Presentations](#)
- [Professors' Oral Paper Presentations](#) • [Students' Posters](#)
- [Professors' Posters](#) • [Journal Articles and Books](#)
- [Most requested JNB articles in 2014](#) • [Invited Lectures by Students](#)
- [Invited Lectures by Professors](#) • [Miscellaneous Board and Other Appointments](#)

## Patents Obtained

### Nikhil Dhurandhar

New Zealand. # 606236

Title: Adenovirus Ad36 E4orf1 protein for prevention and treatment of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease.

## Students' Oral Paper Presentations

- **LeMieux M**, Kalupahana NS, **Scoggin S**, **Moustaid-Moussa N**. Eicosapentaenoic acid induces adipocyte hypotrophy and reduces adipocyte inflammation in an adiposity-independent manner. Proceedings of the 32th Ann. Scientific Meeting of The Obesity Society; 2014 Nov; Boston, MA.
- **Albracht-Schulte KD**, **Ramalingam L**, Kalupahana NS, **Brocard C**, **Moustaid-Moussa N**. Eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) supplementation regulates hepatic lipid metabolism and inflammation in diet Induced obese mice. Annual Scientific Meeting of Experimental Biology; 2015 Mar; Boston, MA.
- **Zu Y**, **Zhang J**, Nie S, **Wang S**. The effects of EGCG and EGCG nanoparticles on body weight and body composition in LDL receptor null mice. Annual Scientific Meeting of Experimental Biology; 2015 Mar; Boston, MA.

## Professors' Oral Paper Presentations

- **Oldewage-Theron WH**, Egal AA, Moroka T. Nutrition knowledge and dietary intake of adolescents in Cofimvaba, Eastern Cape, South Africa. Action for Family and Consumer Wellbeing; 2015 Mar; Msida, Malta.
- Egal AA, **Oldewage-Theron WH**, Moroka T. Socio-economic determinants of nutrition knowledge, health and consumption choices of adolescents in Cofimvaba, Eastern Cape. Action for Family and Consumer Wellbeing; 2015 Mar; Msida, Malta.



# Students' Posters



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- **Boyd L, Kaufman K**, Wood M, Barker C, Reif R, Whitfield KE, Edwards CL, **Binks M**. BMI and pain predict activities of daily living (ADLs) in an obese Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) clinic population. Proceedings of the 32th Ann. Scientific Meeting of The Obesity Society; 2014 Nov; Boston, MA.
- **Kaufman K, Boyd L**, Wood M, Barker C, Reif R, Edwards CL, **Binks M**. Obesity prevalence and psychosocial variables in a sickle cell disease (SCD) clinic sample. Proceedings of the 32th Ann. Scientific Meeting of The Obesity Society; 2014 Nov; Boston, MA.
- **LeMieux M**, Polizzi C, Mynatt R, Kalupahana NS, Quignard-Boulange A, **Moustaid-Moussa N**. Inactivation of adipose angiotensinogen alters metabolic and inflammatory phenotypes in diet-induced obese mice. 2nd ICAN Conference on Diabetes, Obesity & Heart Diseases; 2014 Dec; Paris, France.
- **Kahathuduwa C**, Weerasinghe B, Amarakoon T, Dassanayake T. Synergistic effect of theanine and caffeine on visual reaction time, evoked potentials and cognitive event-related potentials. Annual Scientific Meeting of American Clinical Neurophysiology Society (ACNS); 2015 Feb; Houston, TX.
- **Aljawadi A**, Ouertani M, **Siriwardhana N, Scoggin S**, Gollahon L, Dharmawardhane S, **Moustaid-Moussa N**. Adipocyte-breast cancer cell interactions: preventive effects of omega-3 fatty acids. Annual Scientific Meeting of Experimental Biology; 2015 Mar; Boston, MA.
- **Cao J, Zhang J, Li C, Wang S**. Effects of epigallocatechin gallate nanocarriers on liver cholesterol content in LDL receptor null mice. Annual Scientific Meeting of Experimental Biology; 2015 Mar; Boston, MA.
- **Dhanasekara CS, Zhang J**, Nie S, **Wang S**. Detection of intimal macrophages in atherosclerotic lesions using macrophage targeting nano-particles. Annual Scientific Meeting of Experimental Biology; 2015 Mar; Boston, MA.
- **Li C, Zhang J**, Nie S, **Cao J, Wang S**. Comparing effects of native and nanoencapsulated epigallocatechin gallate on liver fat content in LDL receptor null mice. Annual Scientific Meeting of Experimental Biology; 2015 Mar; Boston, MA.
- **Pahlavani M, Razafimanjato F**, Kalupahana NS, **Scoggin S, Ramanlingam L, Moustaid-Moussa N**. Eicosapentaenoic acid increase brown adipose tissue thermogenic markers in high fat fed mice. Annual Scientific Meeting of Experimental Biology; 2015 Mar; Boston, MA.
- **Shastri A, Boylan M, Spallholz JE**. Generation of superoxide and toxicity of amino alcohols to K562 and HepG2 cancer cells. Annual Scientific Meeting of Experimental Biology; 2015 Mar; Boston, MA.
- **Alhaj S, Aljawadi A, Ramalingam L, Moustaid-Moussa N**. Obesity-breast cancer interaction: effects of adipocytes on breast cancer cells. 2015 TTU Undergraduate Research Conference; 2015 Apr; Lubbock, TX.
- **Razafimanjato F, Pahlavani M**, Kalupahana NS, **Scoggin S, Ramanlingam L, Moustaid-Moussa N**. Effect of omega-3 fatty acids, eicosapentaenoic acid, on brown adipose tissue as a novel target for obesity and metabolic disorders. 2015 TTU Undergraduate Research Conference; 2015 Apr; Lubbock, TX.

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## Professors' Posters

- **Ramalingam L, LeMieux M, Scoggin S, Adrovet Z, Kalupahana N, Moustaid-Moussa N.** Adipose angiotensinogen overexpression promotes adipose associated inflammation and endoplasmic reticulum stress. Annual Scientific Meeting of Experimental Biology; 2015 Mar; Boston, MA.



## Journal Articles and Books

- **Dhurandhar NV**, Schoeller D, Brown AW, Heymsfield SB, Thomas D, Sørensen TI, Speakman JR, Jeanson M, Allison DB, the Energy Balance Measurement Working Group-**Binks M**. Energy balance measurement: when something is not better than nothing. Int J Obes (Lond). 2014 Nov 13. <http://goo.gl/Rit6eB>
- Na HN, Dubuisson O, **Hegde V**, Nam JH, **Dhurandhar NV**. Human adenovirus Ad36 and its E4orf1 gene enhance cellular glucose uptake even in the presence of inflammatory cytokines. Biochimie. 2014 Nov 15. pii: S0300-9084(14)00334-4. <http://goo.gl/xgkL4d>
- Brown AW, Hall KD, Thomas D, **Dhurandhar NV**, Heymsfield SB, Allison DB. Order of magnitude misestimation of weight effects of children's meal policy proposals. Child Obes. 2014 Dec;10(6):542-4. <http://goo.gl/IEzQd1>
- **Dhurandhar NV** and Dhurandhar EJ. The role of eggs in weight management RR Watson and F. De Meester (eds) Handbook of eggs in human function. Human Health Handbook No 9 - DOI 10.3920/978-90-8686-804-9\_4 C Wageningen Academic Publishers 2015.
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- **LeMieux MJ**, Kalupahana NS, **Scoggin S**, **Moustaid-Moussa N**. Eicosapentaenoic Acid reduces adipocyte hypertrophy and inflammation in diet-induced obese mice in an adiposity-independent manner. J Nutr. 2015 Mar;145(3):411-7. <http://goo.gl/eAeSqr>



## Most requested JNB articles in 2014

### The 2nd most popular article:

- **Wang S, Moustaid-Moussa N**, Chen L, Mo H, Shastri A, Su R, Bapat P, Kwun I, Shen CL. Novel insights of dietary polyphenols and obesity. J Nutr Biochem. 2014 Jan;25(1):1-18. <http://goo.gl/9FLMGn>
- Requested: 5,201 times

### The 12th most popular article:

- **Wang S**, Su R, Nie S, Sun M, **Zhang J**, Wu D, **Moustaid-Moussa N**. Application of nanotechnology in improving bioavailability and bioactivity of diet-derived phytochemicals. J Nutr Biochem. 2014 Apr;25(4):363-76. <http://goo.gl/YOPcko>
- Requested: 2,017 times

### The 15th most popular article:

- Siriwardhana N, Kalupahana NS, Cekanova M, **LeMieux M**, Greer B, **Moustaid-Moussa N**. Modulation of adipose tissue inflammation by bioactive food compounds. J Nutr Biochem. 2013 Apr;24(4):613-23. <http://goo.gl/fZJ2xy>
- Requested: 1,631 times

## Invited Lectures by Students

### **Monique LeMieux**, Ph.D. student

Boston University. 'The Role of Adipose-Specific Angiotensinogen in Obesity, Insulin Resistance, and Inflammation'. Boston MA. April 2015.

### **Monique LeMieux**, Ph.D. student

Texas Woman's University. 'Anti-Inflammatory Effects of Eicosapentaenoic Acid in Adipose Tissue and Obesity'. Denton TX. April 2015.

## Invited Lectures by Professors



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
Nutritional Sciences

### Dr. Martin Binks

ObesityWeek 2014 (ASMBS invited Workshop). 'Identifying the Troubled Candidate: Psych Evaluation and Ongoing Therapy.' Boston MA. November 2014.

### Dr. Martin Binks

ObesityWeek 2014. 'TOS Academic Career Panel Discussion.' Boston MA. November 2014.

### Dr. Martin Binks

III World Congress of Public Health Nutrition: Iberomeric Nutrition Foundation (FINUT); Spanish Society of Nutrition (SEN). 'Research Integrity & The Fallacy of the Ad Hominem.' Las Palmas, Gran Canaries Spain. November 2014.

### Dr. Mary Murimi

Korean Society of Community Nutrition Conference. 'Nutrition intervention service for the low-income households.' South Korea. November 20, 2014.

### Dr. Martin Binks

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). 'Staying active across the lifespan: The importance of physical activity to our health.' January 27, 2015.

### Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar

Obesity Round table of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. Topics: a) Infectobesity; b) Future obesity research - Research panel participation on March 3, 2015.

### Dr. Martin Binks

TOS-Eisai TwitterChat #ObesityRisks; #ObesityCauses March 2015.

### Dr. Naima Moustaid-Moussa

Texas Woman's University. 'The role of the adipocyte renin angiotensin system in obesity-associated inflammation and insulin resistance.' Denton TX. March 25, 2015.

# Miscellaneous Board and Other Appointments



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Nutritional Sciences

## Dr. Martin Binks

- Invited as founding Editorial Board Member for the new International World Obesity Federation / Obesity Society journal Obesity Science & Practice November 2014.
- Invited to extend his term on the Editorial Board of The International Journal of Obesity for 3 years.

## Dr. Martin Binks

Invited as a founding member of 2 new international organizations:

- Global Energy Balance Network (GEBN) November 2014.
- International Association of Community Nutrition and Public Health (IACON) November 2014.

## Dr. Martin Binks

Appointed to the newly created 'World Obesity Federation: Corporate Responsibility Advisory Committee' Nov 2014.

## Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar

Invited as a founding member of the new international organization Global Energy Balance Network (GEBN) March 2015.

# In the Media

- [Students in the Media](#) • [Professors in Local Media](#) • [Professors in National Media](#)

## Students in the Media

### Monique LeMieux, Ph.D. student

Texas Tech Today on March 12, 2015 entitled 'Graduate Student Receives Grand Prize for Young Minority Investigator'. <http://goo.gl/bBrvcG>



## Professors in Local Media



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
Nutritional Sciences

### **Dr. Naima Moustaid-Moussa, Dr. Jamie Cooper and Dr. Martin Binks and Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar**

Texas Tech Today on November 3, 2014 entitled 'Professors Take Leadership Roles at Obesity Week 2014'. <http://goo.gl/cfKihE>

### **Dr. Jamie Cooper**

Texas Tech Today on November 11, 2014 entitled 'Ask the Experts: Nutritionist Discusses Role of Diet in Diabetes Treatment'. <http://goo.gl/s1Spi7>

### **Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar**

Texas Tech Today on February 9, 2015 entitled 'Infectobesity Researcher Becomes First Chair of Nutritional Sciences Department'. <http://goo.gl/lhRSP5>

### **Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar and Dr. Vijay Hegde**

Lubbockonline.com on February 23, 2015 entitled 'Lubbock researcher finds link between virus, obesity'. <http://goo.gl/VaBO9N>

### **Dr. Naima Moustaid-Moussa and Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar**

Texas Tech Today on March 4, 2015 entitled 'Two Nutritional Sciences Professors Receive National Awards'. <http://goo.gl/NQDveH>

### **Dr. Debra Reed**

Texas Tech Today on March 9, 2015 entitled 'Nutritionist Talks Daily Calorie Counts, Food Insecurity'. <http://goo.gl/BNMrGa>

### **Dr. Naima Moustaid-Moussa and Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar**

FOX34 News on March 13, 2015 entitled 'Tech professors awarded for research in obesity'. <http://goo.gl/vJ5Pes>

# Professors in National Media



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
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## Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar

Newswise on January 29, 2015 entitled 'Pioneer of Infectobesity Movement Continues Groundbreaking Research at Texas Tech'. <http://goo.gl/oqMZFv>

## Dr. Jamie Cooper

Mother Nature Network on February 26, 2015 entitled 'How to shed winter weight before winter is over'. <http://goo.gl/aAoSbe>

## Dr. Nikhil Dhurandhar

Provided comment on the topic of Puerto Rico proposed law to fine parents of obese children. The syndicated story was picked up by dozens of international news outlets resulting in significant coverage (partial list below):

- Redorbit.com on February 13, 2015 entitled 'Puerto Rican lawmakers look to fine parents of obese children'. <http://goo.gl/Du6eKa>
- CNN television on February 26, 2015 entitled 'Should parents be punished for obese kids?' <http://goo.gl/hV8Z1j>

## Dr. Martin Binks

Provided comment through multiple syndicated international news outlets (partial list below) on New FDA approvals of pharmacological agents and devices for obesity treatment and also the topic of 'healthy obesity'

- MedPage Today, Friday Feedback – Is there 'Healthy Obesity' Topic on January 9, 2015. <http://goo.gl/OkWEMJ>
- Healio – Endocrinology Today 'Perspective' on January 14, 2015. <http://goo.gl/IU5Aw9>
- Minneapolis Star Tribune (Newspaper) on January 14, 2015. <http://goo.gl/Y3hJJJ>
- US News and World Report (Magazine + Internet) on January 15, 2015. <http://goo.gl/aPmpSI>
- Reuters (syndicated news service)
- Science Daily on January 15, 2015. <http://goo.gl/Dtl8uN>
- PR Newswire- Obesity Society Press Release on January 15, 2015. <http://goo.gl/MB6BUJ>

# GNO Events

- [Walking Group](#) • [Wellness Day](#) • [Arbor Day](#) • [Cinco de Mayo](#)



Graduate Nutrition Organization (GNO) is an organization for graduate students in the Nutritional Sciences Department at Texas Tech University, under the guidance of Dr. Debra Reed. GNO manages meetings and events for members and also seeks to enhance TTU campus-wide awareness of nutrition-related issues.

## Walking Group

GNO has organized a walking group to increase physical activity and networking among graduate students and faculty across departments. The walking group meets every Tuesday and Friday at noon. They meet at the [Preston Smith Statue](#) on the south side of the Administration Building--- come join us!



Walking group braves chilly temperatures on March 11, 2015.

## Wellness Day

GNO collaborates with the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC) to provide Wellness Day for all TTU graduate students on the last Wednesday of each month at the new TTU Graduate Center in the basement of the Administration building from 5:00-6:00 pm. The topic for Wellness Day varies from month to month, and it is a good opportunity for graduate students to learn varied topics related to health and nutrition.

## Arbor Day

[Arbor Day 2015](#) is on April 24, and it is an annual planting tradition event. It provides an opportunity for students and faculty members to beautify the Tech campus. Contact Seth Klobodu ([selorm.klobodu@ttu.edu](mailto:selorm.klobodu@ttu.edu)) to volunteer.



GNO participated in Arbor Day 2014.

## Cinco de Mayo

Nutritional Sciences undergraduate and graduate students will be involved in a partnership with NS alumna, Robin Lucky and TTU Hospitality Services, to provide an educational event on avocados at the TTU Leisure Pool on May 5, 2015.

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# Other Announcements and Notices

- [Obesity Research Cluster \(ORC\)](#) • [35th Annual US. Foods Seminar](#)



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
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## Obesity Research Cluster (ORC)

The Obesity Research Cluster fosters and enhances interdisciplinary basic clinical translational and community translational research; to understand the causes and complications of obesity; and develop methods that will help prevent and treat obesity along with its related complications. Click here to join ORC and the Listserv to receive the seminar reminder and ORC events information:

- Home page: <http://goo.gl/mkSJ21>
- Join ORC Listserv: <http://goo.gl/n3IJQ4>

## Nutrition and Obesity Seminars

The Obesity Research Cluster Weekly Seminar series highlights presentations from faculty and students at TTU and HSC as well as invited speakers who are experts in obesity and related disorders. [Seminar series](#) are being held this spring semester from 4:00-5:00 pm every Thursday in room HS212. A world-renowned obesity expert, Dr. David Allison, will give a lecture on Obesity, Myths and Facts as an external speaker on April 30, 2015.

## The ORC second annual meeting

This meeting will be held on May 6, 2015. Highlights will include networking activities, ORC progress report, student poster competition and awards.

The deadline for graduate students to submit their abstracts for the poster competition is 5pm on April 24, 2015. More information will be posted at this link: <http://goo.gl/eiwtv7>

## 35th Annual US. Foods Seminar

This annual seminar will be held on May 19-20, 2015 in College of Human Science Room 169. In this seminar series, internal and external experts will present the various topics in food and nutritional sciences. Learn more about [US Foods](#).

## Contact Us

Tell us your comments and suggestions. Email the editor ([shao-hua.chin@ttu.edu](mailto:shao-hua.chin@ttu.edu)) whenever you receive awards or funding; appear in media; have lab updates, publications, presentations or other achievements you want to share. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

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