IRP RIDGE News: Spring 2013

IRP is one of two food and nutrition assistance research centers established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Economic Research Service. As the RIDGE Center for National Research, IRP seeks to stimulate innovative research related to food assistance programs; enable training of researchers interested in food assistance issues; and provide timely and accessible information on new research findings. The second center, the RIDGE Center for Targeted Studies, is at the Southern Rural Development Center, Mississippi State University, supports food and nutrition assistance research directed at specific populations, including rural residents, Native Americans, and immigrants.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: 2013–2014 RIDGE GRANTS

**Research Theme:** The Impacts of Food Assistance Programs on Food Security, Consumption Patterns, Food Choices, Nutritional Outcomes, and Other Diet-Related Health Outcomes

Deadline for notice of intent (e-mail): **April 15, 2013**; Deadline for proposal receipt: **April 30, 2013**

RFP / Research Theme Description

2012–2013 VISITING SCHOLARS

As the RIDGE Center for National Research, IRP hosts emerging food assistance researchers for one-week visits, to share their work and meet with IRP affiliates with related interests. This year’s scholars are briefly profiled below. A call for 2013–2014 scholars will be released in early May.

**Taryn W. Morrissey**

Taryn W. Morrissey, an assistant professor in the Department of Public Administration and Policy at American University, will be in residence from March 11 through 15, 2013. She will present a seminar on March 14 on “Food Assistance, Neighborhood Context, and Children’s Weight Outcomes and Food Security.”

Morrissey earned a Ph.D. in developmental psychology from Cornell University in 2008, with a minor in social and health systems planning. An assistant professor in the Department of Public Administration and Policy at American University, Morrissey is on leave this year, serving as Senior Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Services Policy in the DHHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. Prior to joining the American University faculty in fall 2010, she served as a Health Policy Advisor on the staff of the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, first for Senator Edward Kennedy and then for Senator Tom Harkin. More…

**Daniel P. Miller**

Daniel P. Miller, an assistant professor of human behavior in the Boston University School of Social Work, will be in residence from April 13 through 19, 2013. He will present a seminar on April 18 on “Changes in Family Structure and Child Food Insecurity.”

Miller earned a Ph.D. with distinction in social policy and policy analysis from the Columbia University School of Social Work in 2009. His research and practice interests include child obesity and the effects of the
environment on racial and ethnic disparities in rates of overweight and obesity; the intersection of developmental science and social policy; and father involvement and child outcomes. More…

FAST FOCUS RESEARCH BRIEF
“Local Food Prices and Food Assistance: Effects on Child Eating Patterns, Food Insecurity, and Overweight,” Taryn Morrissey, Alison Jacknowitz, and Katie Vinopal

2012–2013 GRANTS
The 2012–2013 research theme was The Role of Food Assistance Programs During and After the Great Recession. Click on the titles to see project abstracts. Final reports will be available on the IRP RIDGE website in February 2014.

“Food Assistance During and After the Great Recession in Metropolitan Detroit”
Scott Allard, University of Chicago, and Sandra Danziger, University of Michigan

“The Effects of SNAP after the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (2009)”
Timothy Beatty and Elton Mykerezi, University of Minnesota

“Impact of the 2009 ARRA Increase in SNAP Benefits on Dietary Intake and Consumption Patterns”
Partha Deb, Hunter College, and Geetha Waehrer, Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation

“Are WIC and School Meal Programs Effectively Reaching Those in Need? Trends in Children's Early and Continuous Use of Federal Nutritional Policy”
Margot Jackson, Brown University

“The Dynamics of Joint Participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Unemployment Insurance by Low-Educated Workers during the Great Recession”

2011–2012 GRANTS
The 2011–2012 research theme was Food Assistance Programs, Food Choices, and Obesity and Other Health Outcomes. Click on the titles to see abstracts, project summaries, and final reports.

“Does the Neighborhood Food Environment Influence the Relationship between Food Stamp Program Participation and Weight-Related Outcomes?”
Diane Gibson, School of Public Affairs, Baruch College, City University of New York

“Food Stamps, Food Insufficiency, and Diet-Related Diseases among the Elderly”
Nadia Greenhalgh-Stanley, Department of Economics, Kent State University

“Studying Non-Use of Food Assistance among Low-Income San Franciscans”
David B. Grusky and Christopher Wimer, Center for the Study of Poverty and Inequality, Stanford University

“Food Assistance and Children’s Eating Patterns, Food Insecurity, and Obesity: The Influence of Local Food Prices”
Taryn Morrissey and Alison Jacknowitz, Department of Public Administration and Policy, American University

“SNAP Participation, Food Choices, Nutritional and Health Outcomes among Low-Income Women”
Zhou Yang, Department of Health Policy and Management, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University

CONNECT TO THE IRP RIDGE CENTER
Recent additions to the IRP RIDGE Center Research Resources web pages include links to food assistance research-related IRP publications in the Focus newsletter, Fast Focus research briefs, and discussion papers.
Listen to a podcast with IRP RIDGE Director Judith Bartfeld in which she discusses “Food Security Trends and an Introduction to the Wisconsin Food Security Project.”

Connect to IRP on Facebook and IRP on Twitter, where we include IRP RIDGE Center features.

See also our RIDGE News page, which features recent food-assistance-related news items.

About the IRP RIDGE News Listserv
IRP RIDGE News periodically informs subscribers of food assistance research grant opportunities, announces calls for visiting scholar applications, and provides links to IRP RIDGE Center research projects, activities, and new research findings.

To subscribe to this listserv, send an e-mail message with “subscribe” in the subject line to: irpridge-request@ssc.wisc.edu. To avoid receiving future posts, send an e-mail message with “unsubscribe” in the subject line to: irpridge-request@ssc.wisc.edu.

About the IRP RIDGE Center for National Food and Nutrition Assistance Research
The Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program of the USDA’s Economic Research Service established the Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) at the University of Wisconsin–Madison as the Research Innovation and Development Grants in Economics (RIDGE) Center for National Food and Nutrition Assistance Research. ERS has also established a second center, the RIDGE Center for Targeted Studies, at the Southern Rural Development Center at Mississippi State University. The RIDGE Centers provide renewed focus on economic aspects of food and nutrition assistance research; stimulate new and innovative research on food and nutrition assistance issues; and broaden the support of both established and emerging food and nutrition assistance scholars.

About the Institute for Research on Poverty
The Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP), the nation’s original poverty research center, was established in 1966 at the University of Wisconsin–Madison as a university-based, multidisciplinary research center into the causes and consequences of poverty and social inequality in the United States. IRP is nonpartisan and nonprofit.

Major funding for IRP is provided by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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