Summer Speaker Series for Students 2023
Getting Started!

• Type your name and institution into the chat box!
  • *Question of the day: What is your favorite food or meal to cook for someone?*

• Remember to keep yourself on mute.

• Type your questions into the chat box.
Summer Speaker Series for Students

- Explore various public health topics related to:
  - Food and nutrition security
  - Federal nutrition assistance programs
  - COVID-19 implications
  - Nutrition equity

- This series is a collaborative effort of Healthy Eating Research (HER) and Nutrition and Obesity Policy Research and Evaluation Network (NOPREN).
  - Healthy Eating Research (HER) is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
  - Nutrition and Obesity Policy Research and Evaluation Network (NOPREN) is a program of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
NOPREN HER Summer Speaker Series for Students

Schedule and Topics

- June 14: Improving Nutrition Security during Early Childhood
- June 28: Food is Medicine: What does it mean? Where are we going?
- July 12: WIC Policy: Behind the Curtain
- July 26: Making Water Win: Policies to Build Quality & Access
- August 9: COVID-19 Policy Implications for USDA Child Nutrition Programs & SNAP
- August 16: Student Presentations

For more information or to register:
https://nopren.ucsf.edu/her-nopren-summer-speaker-series-series-students-2023

The series takes place every-other Wednesday from 4:00 - 5:00 pm EST
REMINDER!

Apply to be a presenter at the Virtual Student Presentation and Poster Session on August 16!

Selected students will give a 5-10-minute presentation on a nutrition-related project or research they worked on over the summer. Students of all levels are encouraged to apply.

Applications due: Wednesday, July 19th at 5:00pm ET
Session 3: WIC Policy: Behind the Curtain
The Work Group is a team of researchers, practitioners, and advocates committed to improving the health of women who are pregnant and lactating and infants and young children through improved research, policy and practice of the USDA Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). The Collaborative falls under the work of the Healthy Food Retail Working Group and is building stronger collaborations with the HER NOPREN Early Childhood Working Group.

Harry Zhang, Co-chair, qzhang@odu.edu
Leslie Hodges, Co-chair, leslie.hodges@usda.gov
Cayley Ryan, Fellow, cer5700@psu.edu
Today’s Presenters

Alison Hard, Chief Policy Officer, USDA, FNS

Meghan Maroney, Campaign Manager, Federal Child Nutrition Programs, CSPI
WIC Rulemaking Process

Child Nutrition Act of 1966 Sec. 17(f)(11)

(C) REVIEW OF AVAILABLE SUPPLEMENTAL FOODS.—As frequently as determined by the Secretary to be necessary to reflect the most recent scientific knowledge, but not less than every 10 years, the Secretary shall— (i) conduct a scientific review of the supplemental foods available under the program; and (ii) amend the supplemental foods available, as necessary, to reflect nutrition science, public health concerns, and cultural eating patterns.
WIC Rulemaking Process

“We can do big things together to end hunger. You are all part of the solution.”
- President Biden
WIC Rulemaking Process

REVIEW OF WIC FOOD PACKAGES
Improving Balance and Choice
Final Report

ADVICE ABOUT EATING FISH

Healthy Eating Research

The National Academies of
SCIENCE • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

USDA

Nutrition & Obesity
Policy, Research & Evaluation Network

Make Every Bite Count With the Dietary Guidelines

2020 - 2025
The Role of Researchers in Policymaking

July 12, 2023

Meghan Maroney
Campaign Manager, Federal Child Nutrition Programs
Center for Science in the Public Interest
The Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) is your food and health watchdog. CSPI envisions a healthy population with reduced impact and burden of preventable diseases and an equitable food system that makes healthy, sustainable food accessible to all. CSPI values independence, scientific rigor, and transparency.

CSPI is independent from food industry or government influence.
We have a healthletter called Nutrition Action:
www.nutritionaction.com
Agenda

● Policy Advocacy 101
● Examples in Action
  ○ Revisions to the Food Package
  ○ WIC Community Innovation and Outreach Project
● Tips for Policy Relevant Research
● Research Needs
  ○ Innovation
  ○ Implementation
  ○ Evaluation (what works, what doesn’t)
  ○ Revisions to the food package
  ○ Participant perceptions
The Policy Process

Source:
CDC Policy Process
Once a bill has been introduced, the opportunity to use research to inform the bill text has passed.
• Urge lawmakers not to pass the bill OR (especially if must-pass), do damage control
  • Counter misinformation
  • Use data to demonstrate harm the policy would do
  • Consider potential compromises

• Tactics
  • Educate the lawmaker
  • Educate and activate constituents
    • Action Alerts
  • Lobby
    • Work with office on bill text
  • Social media (tagging lawmakers)

• Advocate for bill intro, then garner support for and protect the bill
  • Educate MoC
  • Educate and activate constituents
  • Lobby
  • Inform bill text
  • Counter opposition or amendments
Revisions to the WIC Food Package
Tips for Making Your Research Advocacy-Friendly

Study sample: Generalizable (nationally representative is best!)
Peer-reviewed
Consider a policy relevance section in your manuscript (advocacy groups are happy to consult with you about this – nonpartisan is ideal)
When sharing with advocacy groups/listservs, consider a policy relevance discussion and sample social media posts that summarize your findings and the policy relevance

Consider asking yourself:
What do these findings tell us about how well WIC:
• Reaches underserved communities?
• Supports WIC’s stated goals?
• Recruits and retains participants?
• Do these findings help us understand ways that WIC might be improved?
WIC Community Innovation and Outreach Project

Learn more at: frac.org/wic-ciao
Thank you!

Meghan Maroney

mmaroney@cspinet.org
Breakout Rooms
Announcements

Scan the QR code to evaluate this session

Join us for the next session of the speaker series!
- Wednesday, July 26 from 4:00 - 5:00 PM ET
- Making Water Win: Policies to Build Quality & Access

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Application Opens: Wednesday, June 14
Applications Due: Wednesday, July 19 by 5pm EST