

Kansas State University
Department of Human Nutrition Profile

Mission

The mission of the Department of Human Nutrition is to discover, disseminate, and apply knowledge to promote improved food choices, nutritional status, and well-being of people.

Vision

The vision of the department is to enhance the well-being of people by promoting informed food choices and optimal nutrition.

Academic Programs

Number of Enrolled Students

Undergraduate	
Nutritional Sciences (including Pre-Med)	48
Nutrition and Kinesiology	95
Public Health Nutrition	59
Athletic Training	131
Graduate (MS, MPH, PhD)	41
Total Students	374

Highlights

- 4th consecutive year sensory students placed first in world-wide competition sponsored by Sensory Spectrum
- Invitations for presentations in France, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam
- Dr. Edgar Chambers was designated a University Distinguished Professor
- Largest nutrition and exercise undergraduate curriculum in the nation
- One of few undergraduate curricula in public health nutrition in the nation
- High rate of acceptance into medical school and dietetic internships for nutrition curriculum graduates
- Active internship experiences, including corporate placements in Unilever and McCormick
- Karen Hudson, Family Nutrition Program Coordinator and Extension Associate, received the K-State Research and Extension Diversity Award
- Graduate scholarships available universally
- Grants from NIH, USDA, Sunflower Foundation, United Health Ministry Fund, Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, Kansas Wheat Commission, American Heart Association, MGP Ingredients, and Wyeth Labs
- More than \$1.7 million obtained in external research funding
- 27 published articles in 2007; 40 presentations at national and international meetings
- Numerous educational and mission trips to various parts of Africa including Kenya and Zambia
- Among the largest accredited BS Athletic Training degree programs in the nation
- Over 300% growth in student enrollment at all levels in 5 years

Special Facilities and Initiatives

- World-renowned Sensory Analysis Center
- Accredited Animal Care Facility
- Active participation in and support for the interdepartmental Master of Public Health (MPH) Program, and the interdepartmental Food Science Program
- \$4 million Family Nutrition Program (FNP) for Kansas food stamp eligible audiences of all ages
- Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) targets limited resource audiences, especially young families with children, in 5 Kansas counties
- Bionutrition and functional foods emphasis researches nutritional quality of foods; identifies new compounds yielding health benefits
- \$2 million departmental endowment

The Faculty

Koushik Adhikari, PhD, 2000, University of Missouri. Assistant Professor. Sensory, flavor and texture profiling of food products; Generic, descriptive analyses of food products and their correlation with instrumental analyses by utilizing advanced multi-variate statistical tools.

Toni Bryant, MS, 2004, Kansas State University. Extension Assistant. Assistant Family Nutrition Program Coordinator.

Diane Challacombe, BS in Dietetics, 1996, Kansas State University. Research Aide in the Sensory Analysis Center

Delores Chambers, PhD, 1994, Kansas State University. Associate Professor. Co-Director, Sensory Analysis Center. Product attributes and evaluation of sensory panel performance and measurement of consumer perceptions of products, nutrition and health information.

Edgar Chambers IV, PhD, 1980, Kansas State University. University Distinguished Professor. Co-Director, Sensory Analysis Center. Testing of sensory methodology with food and non-food products; food/beverage; product development and flavor transfer in packaging.

John DiCicco, MEd, 1996, Arizona State University. ATC, CSCS. Clinical Coordinator and Instructor. Coordinates KSU Athletic Training Education Program and placement of students in university athletics and off campus clinical sites, as well as, teaching athletic training courses.

Katharine K. Grunewald, PhD, RD 1979, University of Kentucky. Professor. Nutrition and exercise, particularly effects on adiposity and muscle development; sports nutrition; physical fitness; obesity.

Mark D. Haub, PhD 1998, University of Kansas. Associate Professor, Assistant Department Head, and Chair, Graduate Program in Human Nutrition. The influence of nutrition and exercise on disease prevention and human performance with emphasis on myocellular metabolism in older adults and athletes.

Mary Meck Higgins, PhD, RD, LD, CDE, 1982, Iowa State University. Associate Professor. Extension specialist, specializing in modified diets, health and disease, and nutrition programs for older adults.

Mindy Hoffman, MAT, ATC, LAT, 2006, Texas Tech University. Assistant Athletic Trainer. Instructor. Coordinates rehabilitation for football.

Karen Hudson, MEd, RD, LD, 1973, University of Arkansas. Coordinator Family Nutrition Program. Nutrition education for low-income audiences.

Alicia Jenkins, B.S., 1999, Kansas State University. Research Assistant. The Sensory Analysis Center. Manages the Descriptive Panel and supervises undergraduate student employees.

Shawna Jordan, PhD, ATC, LAT, 2006, Kansas State University. Director/Assistant Professor of Athletic Training Degree Program and Assistant Professor. Coordinates and oversees educational and internship opportunities for athletic training students and teaches athletic training courses.

Tandalayo Kidd, PhD, RD, LPN, 2005, Kansas State University. Assistant Professor. Extension Specialist in Human Nutrition, specializing in obesity, eating disorders, and sports nutrition in the child to adult population.

Dingbo Lin, Ph.D, 1996, Zhejiang Agricultural University, China. Specializes in nutrition and biochemistry. Research Assistant Professor.

Annika Linde, PhD, 2008, Kansas State University. Research Associate. Specializes in comparative cardiovascular immunophysiology including innate cardiac host defense peptide response in inflammation, and innate immunity in special species.

Brian Lindshield, PhD, 2008, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Assistant Professor. Specializing in phytochemicals, fat-soluble vitamins, and cancer.

Sherry McGraw, B.S., 1978, Fort Hays State. Research Associate, The Sensory Analysis Center, The Consumer Research Manager for The Sensory Analysis Center.

Denis M. Medeiros, PhD, RD 1981, Clemson University. Professor, Department Head, and Associate Dean for Scholarship and Research in Human Ecology. The role of copper-deficiency in the development of cardiac hypertrophy. Impact of trace elemental deficiencies upon ultrastructural, physiological and molecular aspects of the heart.

Tonatiuh Melgarejo, DVM, Esp., MS, PhD, 1998, National A. University of Mexico. Assistant Professor. Intestinal innate immunity. Regulatory mechanisms of epithelium-derived antimicrobial peptides. Identification and development of novel natural antibiotics and immunostimulants. Molecular aspects of comparative nutrition.

Sharon Morcos, MS, RD, LD, 1984, Kansas State University. Instructor. Nutrition Educator. Development of education materials and methods for teaching nutrition as general education.

Paula Peters, PhD, 1991, The Ohio State University. Associate Professor. Extension Human Nutrition; Assistant Director of Family and Consumer Sciences. Research interests include eating behaviors of children and young adults.

Sandy Procter, PhD, RD, LD, 2006, Kansas State University. Assistant Professor/Extension Specialist. Coordinator Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). Nutrition education for low-income audiences, family nutrition, and maternal and child nutrition.

Valentina Remig, PhD, RD/LD, FADA 1990, Ohio State University. Assistant Professor. Areas of research interest include working with mature adults (Senior Citizens/Older Americans) to attain healthy aging, as well as exploring the nutrition applications of various clinical conditions, e.g. Parkinson's Disease, fitness, and changing nutritional needs throughout the life span.

Richard Rosenkranz, PhD, 2008, Kansas State University. Assistant Professor. Research in environmental and behavioral aspects of childhood obesity prevention. Teaching public health nutrition and nutritional epidemiology.

Kathy Walsten, BS, 1972, Kansas State University. Nutrition Educator with the Family Nutrition Program and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) for individuals and families with limited resources.

Weiqun (George) Wang, PhD, 1990, Nanjing (China) Agricultural University. Associate Professor. Functional foods, dietary calories and phytochemicals on cancer prevention with emphasis on molecular mechanisms.

Brandon Yoder, MLA, ATC, LAT, 2005, Southern Methodist University. Assistant Athletic Trainer. Instructor. Coordinates rehabilitation for baseball.

The Staff: Shelly Burklund, Susan Figge, Janet Finney, Pam Gudjohnsen, Angie Hageman, Debbie Pickrell, Ray Schwellenbach, Judy Speer, Lara Weisbender