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# College of Health and Human Services

## Administration

Dean: Larry S. Verity (Interim)  
Associate Dean: Guadalupe X. Ayala  
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs: Jessica M. Robinson  
International Programs Coordinator: Roxanne Riedel

## Research Centers and Institutes

### Academy for Professional Excellence Jennifer Tucker-Tutlow, Director

The Academy for Professional Excellence, administered through the School of Social Work, was established in 1996 with the mission to provide quality training and organizational support to health and human services agencies in the Southern California region including the counties of Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. The goal of the academy is to have university faculty and staff available to public and private health and human services agencies in the region by providing coaching, community building (classroom, field-based, online), curriculum development, organization development services, leadership development, training, and training evaluation. The academy develops competency-based curriculum on select topics for health and human services agencies in the region, provides quality training to service providers and administrators employed in health and human services agencies, engages in research and evaluation to improve the quality, accountability, and responsiveness of health and human service agencies, and develops executives in the Southern California region who will have the experience, knowledge, and skills to effectively guide organizational change and development. The academy has extensive experience managing contracts with multiple partners and organizations/agencies. The academy manages an annual operating budget of over six million dollars, comprised of multiple grants and contracts from local, federal, state governments, and private foundations.

The academy is located at 6505 Alvarado Road, Suite 107, and can be reached at 619-594-3546 or at <http://pcwta.sdsu.edu>.

### Center for Alcohol and Drug Studies and Services Susan I. Woodruff, Director

The Center for Alcohol and Drug Studies and Services is a project of SDSU's School of Social Work. Originally named the Center on Substance Abuse, the center was established in 1985 to address alcohol and other drug-related problems at San Diego State University and in the larger community. The center specializes in research and evaluation design with an emphasis on socio-behavioral research and applied evaluation and is an umbrella organization for several alcohol and drug-related research initiatives, including the SDSU Driving Under the Influence Program, which provides education and counseling services for court-ordered offenders in the central judicial district of San Diego County. Over the past decade, the center has received numerous federal, state, and county grants and contracts from sponsors that include NIH, NIDA, NIAAA, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, SAMHSA, and the Department of Defense. Our multi-disciplinary researchers have decades of experience in research and evaluation and are highly committed to scientific excellence. The center is located at 6386 Alvarado Court, Suite 224, 619-229-2340. We invite you to learn more about us through our website at <http://www.centerforaod.sdsu.edu>.

### Center for Behavioral Epidemiology and Community Health (CBEACH) Melbourne F. Hovell, Director

Administered through the Graduate School of Public Health, CBEACH was established for the purpose of promoting research to study behaviors that prevent or contribute to the causes of disease and injury. Both non-intervention and empirical studies are conducted to determine the factors most responsible for lifestyle practices related to morbidity and mortality. The center focuses on health related behaviors – either protective practices or risk practices – and has been concerned with a wide range of public health and medical concerns such as: tobacco prevention in youth; environmental tobacco exposure reduction in children; STDs, AIDS, pregnancy prevention in adolescents, and prevention in women and divorced adults; violence and anger prevention. CBEACH conducts scientific investigations into the following broad areas: behavioral epidemiology, measurement, and interventions (clinical and community-based).

For more information, visit <http://www.cbeach.sdsu.com>.

### Center for Research on Sexuality and Sexual Health (SASH) Eric Buhi and Heather L. Corliss, Co-Directors

Administered through the Graduate School of Public Health, the Center for Research on Sexuality and Sexual Health (SASH) contributes to the mission of SDSU by helping to advance and extend knowledge, learning, and culture related to sexuality and sexual health; provides opportunities for individuals to develop intellectually, personally, professionally; and prepares significant numbers of educated, responsible people to contribute to California's communities, culture, economy, future, and schools. SASH provides a quality, well-balanced education for undergraduate and graduate students, contributes knowledge and solutions to problems related to sexuality and sexual health through excellence and distinction in research, service, and teaching.

For more information, visit <http://publichealth.sdsu.edu/sash/>.

### Consensus Organizing Center (COC) Jennifer M. Cosio, Director

The Consensus Organizing Center is administered through the School of Social Work. The COC's mission is to educate and train a new generation of social workers in community building techniques in order to make them effective catalysts for civic engagement and social change. Through school-based programs and community interventions, the center has created an environment for the teaching of consensus organizing skills to community leaders, foster youth, high school students, and social workers. Specific activities include developing a fellowship program for high school students and providing employment opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students, as well as training to the public in San Diego and throughout the nation. The COC has maintained a pledge to support community-based learning by training a select handful of highly qualified SDSU social work interns in the consensus organizing model and placing them in the San Diego community. Under the direction of Director Jennifer M. Cosio, the COC remains a strong influence in the San Diego community and has developed several successful initiatives using the consensus organizing model.

The center can be contacted at 619-594-4813 or at <http://www.consensus.sdsu.edu>.

### **Heart Institute**

**Christopher C. Glembotski, Director**

The Heart Institute is sponsored by the College of Health and Human Services and the College of Sciences. The goals of the institute are to enhance basic and clinical research in the cardiovascular sciences, to foster undergraduate and graduate education in cardiovascular physiology and medicine, and to provide a community outreach service focused at heightening the awareness of cardiovascular disease and its prevention in the San Diego region surrounding SDSU. The institute is comprised of faculty members representing four different colleges at SDSU, as well as physicians and scientists from local hospitals and clinical research centers. Importantly, the institute also sponsors SDSU undergraduate and graduate student memberships, which strengthens the involvement of students in all aspects of Heart Institute activities. The unusual blend of talent and expertise that comprise the institute membership results in an interdisciplinary approach to cardiovascular research, education and community outreach that is unique to the Heart Institute. The institute sponsors special seminars, on- and off-campus, which cover a wide range of topics in the field, and provides funding for the support of graduate students who are involved in cardiovascular research at SDSU. Areas of focus for the institute include studies of the molecular basis of cardiovascular disease, establishment of unique approaches for the early detection and prevention of cardiovascular disease, and the promotion of cardiovascular health in San Diego area K-12 schools. An important feature of these efforts that distinguishes the Heart Institute is the central role that SDSU students play in each of these areas. Funding for Heart Institute activities comes from a variety of sources, including the National Institutes of Health, the American Heart Association, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the Rees-Stealy Research Foundation, and several San Diego-based biotechnology companies. For more information, contact the Heart Institute office at 619-594-5504 or at <http://www.bio.sdsu.edu/heart/sdsuhome.htm>.

### **Institute for Behavioral and Community Health (IBACH)**

**Guadalupe X. Ayala, Director**

Administered through the Graduate School of Public Health, IBACH, formerly known as the Center for Behavioral Medicine, was established in 1982 for the purpose of promoting research and academic programs relevant to the application of behavioral science principles to medicine and health care. IBACH's current mission is to identify determinants of Latino and other health disparities and intervention approaches that address these determinants. IBACH has 27 investigators from the College of Health and Human Services (Graduate School of Public Health, Exercise and Nutritional Sciences), College of Sciences (Psychology), and the Fowler College of Business (Marketing). It has two centers, the South Bay Latino Research Center and the Center for Research on Sexuality and Sexual Health. Strong research and teaching partnerships have been established with the UCSD School of Medicine, the Department of Pediatrics – Division of Child Development and Community Health, the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, and Moores Cancer Center. Additional collaborations include Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo, Inc., Healthy Eating and Active Communities, San Ysidro Health Center Scripps Institute, Scripps Whittier Diabetes Institute, Inc., and WalkSan Diego. Funding comes from the National Institutes of Health (NCI, NICHD, NIDDK, NHLBI, NINR), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Patient Centered Outcomes Research Initiative, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, American Cancer Society, Dentaquest Foundation, Howell Foundation, and Kaiser Family Foundation. The institute provides important research experiences to trainees at all levels who intend to pursue related careers and offers opportunities for project staff and graduate students to participate in community-based work. IBACH offices are located at 9245 Sky Park Court, Suite 221, San Diego, CA 92113; additional sites are in Imperial County (Calxico and El Centro) and Chula Vista. For more information about IBACH, please visit our website at <http://ibachsd.org>.

### **Institute for Public Health (IPH)**

**Suzanne P. Lindsay, Director**

Administered through the Graduate School of Public Health, the mission of the IPH is to serve as a vehicle for the development and support of functional linkages between the SDSU Graduate School of Public Health, local public health agencies, and private organizations

in the San Diego community and neighboring areas, including Mexico. These linkages expand the availability of university-based public health expertise, research and information in the areas of epidemiology, biostatistics, health promotion and behavioral science, occupational and environmental health, maternal and child health, health services management and policy, and global/border health. Specific activities include collaborative research, technical assistance, program evaluation, consultation, continuing education and professional development, student field placement, faculty/practitioner exchange, information dissemination, and various service activities. The institute serves to bridge public health academics and practice by facilitating meaningful partnerships between faculty, students, and local practitioners. Visit the institute online at <http://iph.sdsu.edu/>.

### **Sharp Healthcare Professional Education and Research Institute**

**Marilyn Newhoff, Director**

The institute serves to create a focus for excellence in healthcare education and research, advancing theory and practice in health services. Researchers conduct relevant healthcare research; clinical internships are provided, including in the Sharp Healthcare environment, to talented and promising future healthcare employees; guest lectures, seminars, and workshops are sponsored on emerging healthcare topics; and doctoral projects addressing critical issues in Sharp Healthcare and beyond foster mentoring and advanced applied clinical practice.

### **Social Policy Institute**

**Steve D. Hornberger, Director**

Administered through the School of Social Work, the mission of the institute is to assist local, regional and state public and private sector leaders in the development of policies and programs that focus on family and community well-being. The institute is particularly focused on efforts that impact social determinants of health and reduce adverse outcomes for vulnerable communities, families, and individuals. To that end, we assist in identifying community strengths, needs, outcomes of care, program design, quality, as well as catalyzing and convening community leaders. The institute is particularly interested in innovative efforts that are collaborative, data driven, inclusive, and sustainable. The institute has prepared a training manual and CD-ROM for home visitors and case managers working with vulnerable families and has conducted community needs assessments surveys in Baja California Sur for the purpose of policy and program development. A computerized information system to provide decision and evaluation support to human services agencies has been developed and is available through the San Diego State University Research Foundation Technology Transfer Office.

For more information, visit <http://socialwork.sdsu.edu/research/research-centers-institutes/social-policy-institute>.

### **South Bay Latino Research Center (SBLRC)**

**Gregory A. Talavera, Director**

Administered through the Graduate School of Public Health, the South Bay Latino Research Center (SBLRC) serves as the community-based site for research activities. SBLRC Director, Dr. Gregory A. Talavera, has received numerous grants to study Latino health disparities including serving as the principal investigator of the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos (HCHS/SOL).

For more information, visit <http://sandiegohchssol.blogspot.com/>.

### **University Center on Aging**

**Anita S. Harbert, Director**

The University Center on Aging is administered by the School of Social Work. The center is involved with supporting interdisciplinary educational and curriculum efforts; undertaking research, demonstration and evaluation activities; providing technical assistance and agency consultation for the community; coordinating workshops and seminars; and providing opportunities for student involvement in aging activities. The center serves as a central point for the development, dissemination, and analysis of data related to diversity and aging and long-term care.

Learn more about the center at <http://socialwork.sdsu.edu/coa>.

The center can be contacted at 619-594-4813 or at <http://www.consensus.sdsu.edu>.