Happening in SRO

You can find this "Happening in SRO" and all similar newsletters on the SRO Intranet Home Page, located at: http://isr-wp.isr.umich.edu/srointranet/ under Recent News.

If you have items for the newsletter or if you would like to highlight an event, please let Ann Vernier or your unit director know.

D-AMP
(Juan Carlos Donoso)

Alzheimer's Disease (AD) afflicts 11% of the United States (US) population aged 65 and over, with as many as half of these cases medically undiagnosed. The incidence of mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and AD is even higher among many racial/ethnic minorities, but rates among Arab Americans are unknown. AD disparities may mirror other documented Arab American-white health disparities, including higher rates of diabetes and hypertension- both of which are known risk factors for AD. Traditional factors that explain better health among immigrants compared to their US-born counterparts may prove inadequate for the Arab American case. Social networks have received considerable attention for influencing AD risk and racial/ethnic differences in health. Preliminary data show that Arab Americans report social network characteristics distinct from both whites and blacks. Characterizing how social networks vary as a function of ethnic experiences and clarifying their unique links to MCI and AD would advance the field in terms of theory, practice and intervention.

The Detroit Aging and Memory Project (D-AMP) will collect regionally representative data from a new sample of Arab Americans (N=600) aged 65 and over living in the metro-Detroit area, home to the largest Arab American community in the US. Additionally, we plan to collect data from a subsample of the Social Relations Study (N=330), to compare and contrast cognitive health and social networks to representative samples of non-Arab whites and blacks in the same geographic area. The study will provide baseline data for a future prospective study as well as provide opportunities to compare to regional and national data on other racial/ethnic minorities in the quest to further understand health disparities.

Field data collection will begin in April and is expected to continue through December. For the Arab American sample, the protocol begins with a screening interview, which identifies eligible respondents, aged 65 and over and who identify as Middle Eastern/North African (MENA).

Selected respondents are invited to complete a 2.5 hour face-to-face interview that includes a survey questionnaire, a set of cognitive tests (MoCA, Category Fluency, Color trails, Benson Complex Figure, Verbal Fluency), a set of physical measures (blood pressure, grip strength, height and weight) and the collection of a saliva sample. Once the interview is completed, the respondent is asked to nominate an informant, who is invited to complete a 15 minute interview with questions about the respondent. The full protocol is available in English and Arabic. We expect that 60% of the interviews of the newly screened sample will be conducted in Arabic.

We are expecting to recruit 25 interviewers for this study; a majority of new interviewers who speak English and Arabic and approximately four on-staffers who are English speakers only who will mostly work on the Social Relations sample. Main data collection training will take place on April 16-22. The primary source of funding for D-AMP is the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

New and Improved Mapping for Applicants and Interviewers
(Vivienne Outlaw)

One of the most important steps in determining whether a new hire or an on-staffer field interviewer should be hired or assigned to a project is an assessment of their geographic proximity to the sample. We are now able to provide better and more accurate data on both our applicants and on-staff interviewers. Through the combined efforts of Minako Edgar (DMSS), Hueichun Peng (TSG) and Vivienne Outlaw (DCO) a new geocoding tool has been developed and linked to DCO systems. This new tool not only provides distance between the applicant's home address and the four closest "home areas" (approximately PSUs), but also provides us with both driving distance (miles) and driving time (minutes) (see table below). This is fully integrated with DCO's applicant tracking system.

Appl_ID	LastName	FirstName	HA_1	HAName_1	HA_1_DRIVING_MIN	HA_1_DRIVING_MIL	HA_2	HAName_2	HA_2_DRIVING_MIN	HA_2_DRIVING_MIL
			'215	Cleveland, OH	39.8	25.9	640	Toledo, OH	94	96.6
			'215	Cleveland, OH	42.3	28.6	640	Toledo, OH	86.3	89.5
			'215	Cleveland, OH	11.2	3.5	755	Youngstown, OH	80.7	75.4
			'215	Cleveland, OH	28.4	19.1	755	Youngstown, OH	86	77.9
			'215	Cleveland, OH	24.1	10.4	755	Youngstown, OH	81.2	70.9
			'045	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	25	22	697	Waco, TX	88.4	91.4
			'045	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	24.8	20.7	697	Waco, TX	115.9	118.6
			'045	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	29.8	26	697	Waco, TX	108.6	107.3
			'045	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	44.8	40.4	697	Waco, TX	107.6	109.5
			'045	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	31.8	27.4	697	Waco, TX	102.5	103.3
			'045	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	25	17.4	697	Waco, TX	92.4	91.5
			'045	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	47.3	45.3	697	Waco, TX	105.1	108.2
			'045	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	15.5	11	697	Waco, TX	93.2	95.6
			'045	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	26.9	22.3	697	Waco, TX	90	87
			'045	Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	31.2	26.9	697	Waco, TX	101.3	103.3

Note: HA_1 is the home area number to which the applicant lives closest.

The Applicant Mapping tool allows recruiters to better match applicants to the correct home area and make sure that the best qualified applicants are also living within a reasonable distance to the sample. We have moved from a manual process to one that runs automatically, reducing recruitment costs for our projects.

This same tool is used in our Field Research Employee Database (FRED) where it displays miles and time from the interviewer's home to the center of their assigned home area (see table below). The increased accuracy of the data has allowed us to review and, when needed, adjust the home area assignments of field interviewers. Our new Applicant Mapping tool also includes an automated process for updating home area time and distance data anytime interviewers submit changes of address, improving the accuracy of our data and reducing staff time.

Geocode Data	
Geocoding Refresh	Check to Refresh Geocoding: ☐
Closest HomeArea Based on Geocoding	St. Louis, MO (110) Distance: 7.09 Time: 16.03
Longitude / Latitude	-91.243399 / 3 .715009
FIPS County	510
Census Tract / Block Group (2000)	108100 / 1000
Core-Based Statistical Areas	41180
Driving MIL and MIN (based on HomeArea: 110)	Distance: 7.09 MIL; Time: 16.03 MIN

For the final phase of the project a connection has been established between the interactive shiny mapping tool and FRED. R shiny mapping tool is an interactive web mapping tool. This will allow staff to create maps using FRED data directly and will improve sample assignments, minimizing driving distances and maximizing productivity. The maps will be rolled out to staff in the next 6-8 weeks.

The CCP Corner - Do you know about Seasonal Affective Disorder?
(Aimee Miller)

While the exact mechanisms are unknown, seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is believed to be caused by a lack of sunlight, which is more likely to affect those far from the Equator during the fall, winter and early spring months. Michigan's distance from the equator, in addition being ranked by the Farmer's Almanac as the seventh cloudiest state in the nation, makes experiencing SAD more likely than for those who live in warmer and sunnier climates. For additional information about SAD, check out the resource link below. If you think you may be experiencing SAD, consult with your health care provider about assessment and treatment options.

https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/seasonal-affective-disorder/index.shtml

Nancy Knows – SRO Records and Clean-Up Day
(Nancy Bylica)

SRO Records and Clean-Up Day will be scheduled on March 25, 26 and 27 in conjunction with the *University's RecycleMania 2020*.

Have you been meaning to recycle that set of training manuals in the corner of your office? Or move those project files off of your hard drive? Maybe you've been flirting with Inbox Zero, but needed to carve out a chunk of time to actually achieve it?

This is your chance!

Please join us for the fourth SRO Records and Clean-up Day! This year we are spreading it over three days to give you more opportunity to find a few moments during the day to organize, clean, recycle, shred, or archive records in your area. Together we can reduce the burden of physical storage, be good stewards of our digital records, and maybe even win a "battle of the buildings" award!

Some examples of what you could do:
- Clear out extra office supplies from your desk
- Archive old paper project files and manuals
- Recycle duplicate copies of files and manuals
- Move project files off of your hard drive to the main project folders
- Clean your office
- Sort, file, and organize your email
- Delete duplicates and working versions of old project files
- Shred old removable media

Extra shredding and recycling bins as well as cleaning supplies will be provided for each floor. Boxes for collecting extra office supplies will be centrally located in each bay. Guidelines on what to keep and what to destroy will be posted by the common areas.

If the majority of your time is currently being charged to projects, please spread your time across those projects, relative to your overall effort. If you normally charge the majority of your time to an overhead account, please charge your time to the same account. We expect everyone to spend up to 2 hours on this cleaning activity.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kelly Chatain (kchatain) or Nancy Bylica (nbylica). Additional details will be sent out to everyone by mid March.