



# The University of Georgia

University Council  
Athens, Georgia 30602

January 3, 2013

## UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2012-2013

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Undergraduate Student Representative – Mr. Pranay Udutha  
Graduate Student Representative – Mr. Garrett Jaeger

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal to reorganize the existing Fitness Center into a Center for Physical Activity and Health will be an agenda item for the January 9, 2013, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

David E. Shipley, Chair  
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Jere W. Morehead  
Dr. Laura D. Jolly



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# The University of Georgia

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**College of Education**  
***Department of Kinesiology***

November 8, 2012

College of Education Curriculum Committee:

Please consider the attached proposal from the Department of Kinesiology for transforming the Fitness Center into a Center for Physical Activity and Health. The Department of Kinesiology seeks to retitle, repurpose and reorganize the UGA Fitness Center to: a) broaden its mission to include interdisciplinary translational research, b) integrate it with other UGA academic units, public health agencies, and medical centers, and c) change the focus of the outreach programs to target all sectors of the population with an emphasis on the prevention and management of chronic diseases and physically disabling conditions beneficially influenced by physical activity. The new Center for Physical Activity and Health will bring added value to the University by fostering interdisciplinary research, education and outreach activities. The Department of Kinesiology voted unanimously (21-0) in support of the proposal.

Sincerely,

*Kirk J. Cureton*

Kirk J. Cureton, Ph.D.  
Professor and Department Head



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

**College of Education**

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Kinesiology

Proposal for Transforming the  
*Fitness Center*  
into a  
*Center for Physical Activity and Health*

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Department of Kinesiology, College of Education

November 7, 2012

## A. Overview of Center

A1. Background and Justification for Reorganization: The Fitness Center is an officially-recognized UGA Center approved within the scope of Academic Affairs Policy Statement #7 regarding the establishment and administration of Centers and Institutes at UGA ([http://www.oap.uga.edu/C&I\\_report.htm](http://www.oap.uga.edu/C&I_report.htm)). It was established in 1980 under the direction of Dr. Harry Duval in the Department of Physical Education. It has not been formally reviewed by the University since that time. This proposal seeks to change the name and the purpose of the Center and describes how its new goals meet the criteria of an official center at UGA.

The Fitness Center was designed as an outreach program which also served as a teaching/learning lab, sustained primarily by participant membership fees. Although healthy adults have always participated in the program, the primary mission of the Fitness Center was to provide supervised exercise programs to individuals with cardiac disease (Phase III cardiac rehabilitation) and to train students to work as exercise specialists within cardiac rehabilitation programs. Additionally, although the space and equipment allocated to the Fitness Center has been utilized for departmental research requiring exercise interventions, research has not been a focus of the Center.

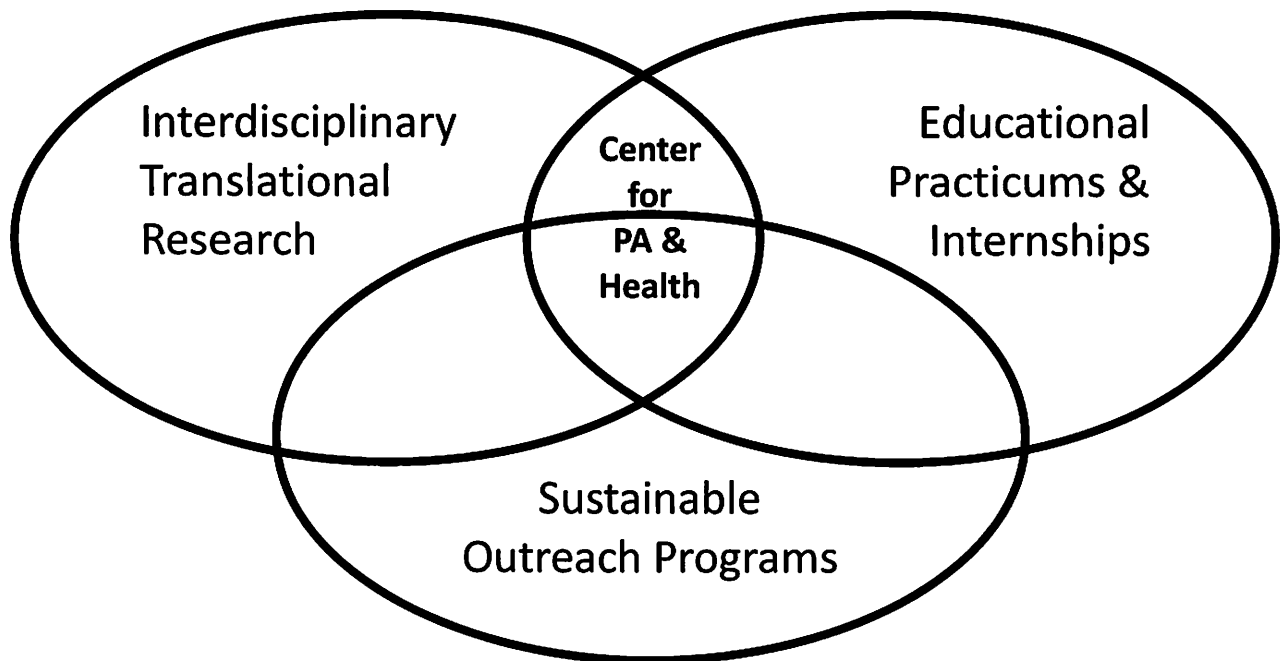
We propose changing the Fitness Center into primarily a research and development center that: a) fosters translational and interdisciplinary research regarding the effects of physical activity on critical health challenges, including obesity, type 2 diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular disease, mental health problems, and disabling chronic neuromuscular conditions, and b) serves as an important catalyst for resource development, including federal grant funding and endowments. Through this transformation, we strive to increase our excellence in all aspects of the mission of the land-grant institution: research, teaching/learning, and public service. Thus, the Department of Kinesiology seeks to retitle, repurpose and reorganize the UGA Fitness Center to: a) broaden its mission to include interdisciplinary translational research, b) integrate it with other UGA academic units, public health agencies, and medical centers, and c) change the focus of the outreach programs to target all sectors of the population with an emphasis on the prevention and management of chronic diseases and physically disabling conditions beneficially influenced by physical activity. The chosen name, the Center for Physical Activity and Health, reflects the contemporary vision for the Center. Accordingly, this proposal will provide the mission, goals and aims, vision, and working strategic plan for the re-development of the Center, which will add value to its contributions to the University of Georgia.

A2. Mission: The mission of the Center for Physical Activity and Health is to promote interdisciplinary translational research, education and outreach activities related to the promotion of physical activity to sustain or enhance health across the lifespan. Health is defined broadly with efforts directed toward health enhancement and the treatment of chronic physical disability. Furthermore, health is defined multi-dimensionally being inclusive of physical and psycho-social domains. The Center will foster interactions with the UGA campus, local and state communities by facilitating new or enhancing existing research, education and outreach collaborations with campus scholars and educators within and across colleges, local medical entities (e.g., Athens Orthopedic Clinic, Athens Regional Medical Center, Athens Neurological Associates, and St. Mary's Health Care System), Atlanta research medical centers (e.g., Shepherd Center), the Georgia Health Sciences University (GHSU) and the GHSU/UGA Medical Partnership, local schools, and public health organizations.

A3. **Goals and Aims:** The overarching goal of the Center is to increase the impact, quality, and visibility of work at UGA regarding physical activity toward the end of enhancing health. Specific aims with regard to the research, education, and outreach components of the mission of the Center are the following:

- To facilitate and support teams of scholars to secure external funding for interdisciplinary and translational research, including projects involving physical activity interventions.
- To develop training opportunities to support both graduate and undergraduate education with interdisciplinary capstone experiences as a teaching/learning laboratory.
- To engage campus and regional community members of all ages in physical activity programs, including knowledge dissemination and participation opportunities to prevent/treat chronic diseases and disabling conditions, and enhance health.

A4. **Vision:** It is our vision that by 2020 the Center will be an established center in Georgia/Southeast for interdisciplinary translational research, education and outreach related to physical activity and health. Moreover, the Center will be unique in that each of the three facets of the University's tri-part mission will support, and in a reciprocal manner, inform the other two facets. Importantly, the creative blending of the multidimensional facets of the Center will enhance resource development and sustainability.



## B. Justification of Need

B1. Interdisciplinary Translational Research: Central to its land-grant mission, the University of Georgia has experienced an ever-increasing emphasis on research and scholarly productivity. Within the Department of Kinesiology, there has been ongoing success in generating independent programs of research. However, two important shifts are occurring in science that has impacted the nature of scholarly work regarding physical activity. First, there is an increased emphasis on *multi- and interdisciplinary research* or “team science” to explore pressing health issues that cannot be effectively investigated in isolation. Second, an increased focus is being placed on how the results of our research efforts are translated into effective practice in our clinics and communities. The focus on interdisciplinary research stems from the increasing complexity of research problems and priorities that are being supported by funding agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health, and foundations, such as the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, especially with regard to preventive and behavioral medicine aspects of physical activity. Such interdisciplinary activity is only possible when there is *support within an organization* that enables scholars and researchers to work together informally as well as formally to develop and prepare proposals and then support their funded work. The capacity to pursue opportunities that involve cross-unit initiatives without having to “invent” such collaborations only when an opportunity presents itself is currently lacking. Time is essential to successfully meet a proposal deadline of a funding agency; request-for-proposal (RFP) deadlines are often short. We need an organizational structure in place to foster the development of interdisciplinary teams of scholars well in advance of RFP announcements. Similarly, the increase in translational research will only be possible with synergistic interactions with the local, regional and state communities. The Center will serve as the organizational structure for these interdisciplinary translational efforts related to the effects of physical activity on health.

The proposed Center will serve as a coordinating unit to integrate the strengths of faculty members within the Department of Kinesiology and across colleges and disciplines at the University of Georgia in research involving physical activity. For example, significant collaborations already exist with the UGA Departments of Foods and Nutrition, Health Promotion and Behavior, and Psychology; the Biomedical and Health Sciences and Gerontology Institutes; the Biomedical Imaging Research Center, and the Georgia Health Sciences University/UGA partnership. Thus, the primary need that the Center will meet is to enhance the development and success of interdisciplinary grant and contract proposals addressing some of the complex problems facing our society by a) coordinating teams of researchers with converging research interests, and b) interfacing with university-wide research initiatives (e.g., Obesity Initiative). Another need that the Center will meet is to provide resources for translational research which often requires medical oversight, physical activity intervention space and equipment, sophisticated instrumentation and procedures to measure physical activity and medically-related outcome variables, human subject recruitment assistance, data management, and specialized expertise related to measuring physical activity and exercise testing, prescription, programs and leadership. Finally, the Center will also: a) contribute to professional development opportunities for existing faculty; b) enrich the preparation of future researchers to engage in interdisciplinary translational research; and, c) augment recruitment efforts to attract talented scholars to join the UGA faculty.

B2. Teaching and Learning: Although the creation and dissemination of knowledge is central to the mission of UGA, contemporary and effective education is also of primary importance. In keeping with the interdisciplinary nature of the contemporary health focus of much of the kinesiology discipline, the preparation of our students also needs to become more integrative. Our future practitioners in the area of physical activity will require knowledge traditionally representing multiple disciplines, especially in areas of teaching and coaching effective behavior change/management, which is typically taught in departments of Health Promotion and Behavior or Counseling Psychology or within Colleges of Public Health. Similarly, all chronic diseases impacted by physical activity are also influenced greatly by dietary intake. Indeed, many of the national certifications sought by our majors have a substantial nutrition knowledge expectation, which is typically taught in the department of Foods and Nutrition. Similarly, as we prepare our scholars of the future, it is essential that we teach and model the practice of effective interdisciplinary scholarship or "team science." Finally, the Center could facilitate the successful submission of training grants.

The Center will contribute to our curriculum through the following primary means: First, the Center with its research and service programs will provide practicum and internship experiences for Kinesiology undergraduate and graduate students. For example, the Center's supervised exercise programs provide education and experience in exercise testing, prescription and leadership associated with the rehabilitation for those with chronic disease and disabilities. Stress tests to determine the safety for exercise participation and other health assessments will also afford exceptional experiences for our students. Second, the Center will facilitate the coordination of external internships and other service learning projects within the community. Finally, the Center will integrate with other units on campus to provide internships related to physical activity and fitness for other units, such as the Departments of Health, Promotion and Behavior, and Foods and Nutrition.

B3. Outreach and Community Engagement: The primary means by which the Center will enact its outreach and public engagement mission is through knowledge dissemination and the provision of supervised physical activity programs. The Center will coordinate activities to disseminate information related to how physical activity can prevent and/or benefit chronic diseases and disabilities thereby improving quality of life. It will also serve as a resource for community health care to the local, scientific and clinical care communities. Supervised exercise programs will be offered through the Center inclusive of preventive and rehabilitative physical activity programs to enhance health and physical function and to rehabilitate individuals with chronic health conditions and disabilities within the University and local community. Importantly, the offered programs will span the lifespan with special emphasis on children, UGA employees, older adults and individuals with physical/movement disabilities.

## **C. Services Offered**

C1. Research: All successful academic centers are built on the commitment and productivity of their faculty members. Because faculty membership in the Center is voluntary, services will be critical to foster buy-in from faculty and other entities within UGA, the community and the State. Coordination of the services will be the responsibility of the Director under the guidance of the Advisory Committee. Services will be funded by grants and contracts of the faculty who need the services. The following is a listing of the primary services that will be provided by the Center:

- Space, equipment, technical expertise, and medical supervision for graded exercise testing to medically screen individuals for participation in exercise programs.
- Space, equipment, and technical expertise for exercise training research interventions.
- Space, equipment, and technical expertise for measurement of health and physical fitness status, including aerobic capacity, body composition, strength, balance, flexibility and physical function testing.
- Equipment and technical expertise for various approaches for measuring free-living physical activity, such as with accelerometers, pedometers, heart rate monitors, and physical activity recall.
- Assistance in forming collaborative teams (study groups) for research involving physical activity and health.
- Research expertise for studies involving physical activity and physical and mental health outcomes; adoption or adherence to exercise programs; biomechanics, gait, and injury prevention; cognition, mental processing, learning of motor skills; skeletal muscle metabolism and function; cardiovascular and metabolic responses to exercise; and, exercise in various environmental conditions.
- Expertise for developing individual, group, and community physical activity programs for healthy individuals and individuals with chronic diseases and disabilities throughout the lifespan.
- Custom database programming and management for clinical trial research involving physical activity and health.

C2. Instruction: Numerous services will continue to provide teaching learning lab experiences for undergraduate and graduate students, including:

- On the UGA campus within the Department of Kinesiology, site and supervision for student practicum experiences for safe and effective exercise program delivery to various populations, including those with chronic conditions and disabilities and older adults.
- Practicum and internship experiences within a) other units of the campus community (e.g., Athletic Department, University Health Center), b) community educational entities such as local schools, and c) medical centers.
- Research experiences involving supervised exercise testing, exercise prescription and leadership, and data management.

C3. Service and Outreach: The Center has had a long history of successful outreach programs with cardiac patients. The expanded Center will offer programs to a more diverse population of chronically diseased individuals as well as healthy adults. Importantly, future programming efforts will cover the lifespan from children to older adults, including:

- Ongoing supervised exercise programs for healthy, chronically diseased or disabled faculty, staff and community members.
- Summer physical activity programs for children.
- Health assessments for all individuals, including medical screening with supervised graded exercise test, cardiorespiratory endurance testing, body composition, strength and physical function.
- Continuing education workshops or presentations on topics related to physical activity and health.



## D. Resources

D1. Physical Space and Equipment: All space to be occupied by the Center in the next 3 years is available in the Department of Kinesiology. Most of the space is currently allocated to the Fitness Center within the Ramsey Student Center (rooms 101A – 101N). The dedicated space is 2000 ft<sup>2</sup> of exercise space complete with group exercise equipment and strength training and cardiovascular exercise equipment; 700 ft<sup>2</sup> of fitness testing and research space; and 1155 ft<sup>2</sup> of office space. Additionally, the Center will have access to shared research space within the Department of Kinesiology for metabolic testing, biomarker specimen processing, body composition assessment, and strength and physical function testing. Space, equipment and testing capabilities in athletic training, biomechanics, exercise physiology, exercise psychology, and motor behavior labs also will support research activities of the Center, contingent on the collaboration of faculty with the expertise and space to provide such services.

D2. Faculty and Administrative Staff: The Center is directed by a faculty member with 25% service time for the assignment. A physician serves as Medical Director, supported by program fees. Graduate assistants supported by fees from the service programs, contracts and grants support and deliver the programs. Secretarial and accounting support is provided by the Department of Kinesiology and College of Education. As the Center expands, it is anticipated that the support will need to increase. For example, it would be desirable if the Medical Director had an ongoing appointment within the Center through the Department of Kinesiology. Grant support services are available through the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Education and Human Development and from the COE Office of the Associate Dean for Research, which provides pre-award and post-award services.

D3. Financial: The Center will be supported by a diverse pool of resources, including: a) externally-funded research grants and contracts, b) public service program memberships, c) fees for service including fitness assessments and continuing education, and d) gifts, donations and endowments.

Examples of grants and contracts in the Department of Kinesiology related to physical activity and health which may affiliate with the Center when its expanded mission is approved are summarized in Appendix A.

The current service programs of the Center are supported by membership fees which are charged for the supervised exercise program (≈\$40/month). These fees have generated approximately \$25,000/year over the last 3 years. Expenditures include stipends for graduate assistants to work with the programs and a small amount for supplies. The Department of Kinesiology and College of Education provide ongoing support for the Center by providing the director's salary, administrative support, facilities, and equipment replacement and maintenance.

D4. Faculty Affiliation: Faculty in any department who wish to participate in the activities and utilize services of the Center may apply for affiliation. It is anticipated that faculty from the following Colleges, Departments, Institutes, and Initiatives, among others, will affiliate. See Appendix B for letters of support.

- College of Education: Department of Kinesiology, Department of Counseling and Human Development Services, Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Education and Human Development, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
- College of Public Health: Departments of Health Promotion and Behavior and Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Institute of Gerontology
- Department of Foods and Nutrition
- Department of Psychology, Institute for Behavioral Research
- GHSU Medical Partnership
- Obesity Initiative

#### **E. Operating Policies and Procedures**

E1. Administrative Unit: The Center will be located administratively within the Department of Kinesiology, College of Education. The Center will be affiliated with the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Education and Human Development.

E2. Advisory Boards: The Center will have an Advisory Board with the following responsibilities: a) recommend policies for the Center, b) provide advice regarding priorities for the coordination of services, c) provide an annual review of the Center and its Director, d) recommend changes in the strategic plan, and d) approve membership applications. Members of the Board will initially be appointed by the Director, with later appointments approved by the Board. The Advisory Board will include the Center Medical Director and faculty researchers involved with the Center representing the various units with approximately 8 members inclusive of the Director. Board members will serve 3-year terms.

E3. Appointments and Affiliations: The Director of the Center will be appointed and reviewed annually by the Head of the Department of Kinesiology. Faculty interested in affiliation with the Center will apply for membership with review by the Board. The personnel (graduate students, part-time professionals) appointed to support the service programs of the Center will be selected and supervised by the Director. Graduate assistants may be advised by any faculty participating in the Center. Personnel supported on grant or contract resources that will utilize the Center will be determined by the Principal Investigator or Program Director of the given project/program.

E4. Review Process: An annual report will be submitted by the Center Director to the Kinesiology Department head, Director of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Education and Human Development, and the College of Education Dean documenting research, education and service activities and summarizing progress toward the goals stated in this proposal. The report will include evidence substantiated with measured outcomes and demonstrated added value to the University. The annual report will be placed on file with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

The Center will undergo formal review by the Kinesiology Department and College of Education at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year from the approval of changes proposed here. Thereafter, the Center will be reviewed no less than once every 5 years. This review will evaluate progress toward the overarching goals in research, teaching and outreach, a description of changes to resources, commitments or operating agreements, and a statement that continuation of the Center is either recommended or not recommended.

Measurable outcomes to document progress to the goals to be included in annual reports and reviews are the:

- Number of Center faculty affiliates
- Number of different departments, centers, institutes represented by faculty affiliates, and other institutional affiliates
- Amount of external funding received
- Number of grant and contract proposals submitted and awarded
- Number of internal practicum and internship course credits generated
- Number of service learning and external internships supervised
- Revenue generated from physical activity and other service programs
- Number of, and diversity of, individuals served with physical activity programs
- Number of, and revenue generated from, continuing education programs

**Appendix A:****Funded Physical Activity and Health Research within the Department of Kinesiology****Note:** Current as of November 7, 2012PI Kinesiology Faculty in ***bold italics***

\*Title Superscript = Funding Agency Type: 1 – federal; 2 – industry; 3 - foundation

<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Project Start Date</b>	<b>Project End Date</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
<b><i>McCULLY, KEVIN WHITE, LESLEY OLEJNICK, STEPHEN</i></b>	MUSCLE PLASTICITY, FITNESS AND HEALTH AFTER SPINAL CORD INJURY	NIH <sup>1</sup>	12/1/00	3/31/13	\$1,766,680
<b><i>TOMPOROWSKI, PHILLIP MCDOWELL, JENNIFER</i></b>	EXERCISE & OVERWEIGHT CHILDREN'S COGNITION	NIH <sup>1</sup>	9/5/08	7/31/13	\$672,351
<b><i>FERRARA, MICHAEL</i></b>	THE RISK OF EXERTIONAL HEAT INJURIES IN INTERSCHOLASTIC FOOTBALL	National Athletic Training Association <sup>3</sup>	1/14/09	1/13/12	\$109,006
<b><i>DISHMAN, RODNEY VANDENBERG, ROBERT</i></b>	PHYSICAL ACTIVITY DURING THE TRANSITION FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO MIDDLE SCHOOL	NIH <sup>1</sup>	4/15/09	2/28/14	\$320,114
<b><i>FERRARA, MICHAEL</i></b>	THE RISK OF EXERTIONAL HEAT INJURIES IN INTERSCHOLASTIC FOOTBALL	Georgia High School Association <sup>3</sup>	1/14/09	1/13/12	\$30,000
<b><i>DISHMAN, RODNEY VANDENBERG, ROBERT</i></b>	TRAINING INTERVENTIONS AND GENETICS OF EXERCISE RESPONSE (TIGER)	NIH <sup>1</sup>	6/14/10	5/31/15	\$312,159
<b><i>EVANS, ELLEN CURETON, KIRK</i></b>	RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED PARALLEL TRIAL TO EVALUATE THE CHRONIC CONSUMPTION OF 9 MG OF DIHYDROCAPSIATE ON ENERGY EXPENDITURE, FAT OXIDATION AND BODY WEIGHT IN WOMEN	Kellogg Company <sup>2</sup>	9/23/10	9/22/13	\$875,579
<b><i>EVANS, ELLEN M</i></b>	PROJECT PEER: PEER EDUCATION, EXERCISING AND EATING RIGHT	USDA <sup>1</sup>	9/1/10	2/28/13	\$278,500
<b><i>O'CONNOR, PATRICK</i></b>	EFFECT OF SPICES ON MENTAL ENERGY AND FATIGUE	McCormick Science Institute <sup>3</sup>	5/1/11	12/31/12	\$19,654

<b>SIMPSON, KATHY CROWELL, CATHLEEN</b>	DOES UNICOMPARTMENTAL KNEE ARTHROPLASTIES (ALIGN 360) RESTORE BIOMECHANICS AND PHYSICAL FUNCTION OF PATIENTS?	Arthrex, Inc. <sup>2</sup>	8/15/11	8/14/13	\$250,701
<b>EVANS, ELLEN M CURETON, KIRK</b>	THE E-PHIT STUDY: EGGS, PROTEIN AND HIGH INTENSITY TRAINING: A DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR POSTMENOPAUSAL WOMEN	American Egg Board <sup>3</sup>	12/13/11	12/12/13	\$200,000
<b>O'CONNOR, PATRICK</b>	EFFECT OF PHYTOCHEMICALS FROM THEOBROMA CACAO ON MENTAL ENERGY	The Hershey Company <sup>2</sup>	12/31/11	12/31/12	\$100,909
<b>McCULLY, KEVIN</b>	A BIOMARKR STUDY OF SKELETAL MUSLE ENERGY METABOLISM	Biogen IDEC Inc. <sup>2</sup>	2/7/12	12/31/12	\$263,348
<b>SCHMIDT, MICHAEL EVANS, ELLEN MACKILLOP, JAMES RATHBURN, STEPHEN</b>	PSYCHOLOGICAL PREDICTORS OF COMPENSATORY RESPONSES TO AN EXERCISE INTERVENTION <sup>1</sup>	NIH <sup>1</sup>	4/1/12	3/31/14	\$408,375
<b>EVANS, ELLEN JOHNSON, MARY ANN O'CONNOR, PATRICK McCULLY, KEVIN</b>	EFFECTS OF A HIGHER PROTEIN WEIGHT LOSS DIET AND EXERCISE ON BODY COMPOSITION, PHYSICAL FUNCTION AND FATIGUE IN OVERWEIGHT OLDER WOMEN	National Cattleman's Beef Association <sup>3</sup>	8/1/12	7/31/14	\$272,489
				<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$5,879,865</b>



# The University of Georgia

College of Education  
*Department of Counseling and Human Development Services*

November 6, 2012

Ellen M. Evans, PhD  
Department of Kinesiology  
101A Ramsey Road  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30605-6554

RE: Letter of Support for Transformation of UGA Fitness Center

Dear Dr. Evans:

On behalf of the Department of Counseling and Human Development Services I am writing with enthusiastic support of the proposal to change the name and purpose of the UGA Fitness Center into a Center for Physical Activity and Health. This transformation will enable the newly repurposed center to address all three components of the mission of the University of Georgia: research, teaching and public service/outreach.

One of many clear benefits of this proposed change is that the research focus will foster greater interdisciplinary research collaborations and facilitate translational research. I can see the potential for enhanced opportunities for external funding and there are several faculty and graduate students in the Department of Counseling and Human Development Services who are interested in collaborating on research in your proposed center.

CHDS endorses the proposal for the new name and mission of the Center for Physical Activity and Health and we look forward to departmental, faculty, graduate student, and center (the Center for Counseling and Personal Evaluation which is housed in CHDS) collaboration.

Sincerely,

Diane L. Cooper, Ph.D.  
Professor and Department Head

Edward Delgado-Romero, Ph.D.  
Professor and Associate Department Head

Linda F. Campbell, Ph.D.  
Professor and Director of the  
Center for Counseling and Personal Evaluation

Counseling Psychology • Community Counseling • School Counseling  
College Student Affairs Administration • Recreation and Leisure Studies Programs

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Email [chds@uga.edu](mailto:chds@uga.edu) • Webpage [www.coe.uga.edu/chds](http://www.coe.uga.edu/chds)  
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# The University of Georgia

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Allan S. Cohen

College of Education

Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Education and Human Development

October 2, 2012

Ellen M. Evans, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Department of Kinesiology  
101 A Ramsey Center  
330 River Road  
University of Georgia  
Athens 30602

Dear Dr. Evans,

I am writing in support for your proposal to change the UGA Fitness Center from a teaching/learning lab concerned with public outreach to a Center that has a tri-part mission of research, teaching and public outreach. I believe this change will be of great benefit to faculty, students and other researchers on campus.

I believe this change will help further your efforts to investigate obesity and other health problems related to diet and exercise. I also believe that this will benefit other researchers in the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Education and Human Development with whom you might collaborate.

Sincerely,

Allan S. Cohen, Aderhold Professor of Research Methodology  
Director, Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Education and Human Development  
Director, Georgia Center for Assessment



October 12, 2012

Ellen M. Evans, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Department of Kinesiology  
101A Ramsey Center  
330 River Road  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30605-6554

Dear Dr. Evans:

I am writing to support your proposal to change the UGA Fitness Center into the Center for Physical Activity and Health. The alignment with the University's mission of teaching, research, and outreach will provide the catalyst for greater research opportunities; partnerships within the University, including the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Georgia; and important public outreach which will address public health issues that can be improved with physical activity.

I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katy Crapo".

Katy Crapo  
Executive Director





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# The University of Georgia

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College of Public Health  
*Dean's Office*  
November 1, 2012

Ellen M. Evans, PhD  
Department of Kinesiology  
101A Ramsey Road  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30605-6554

RE: Letter of Support for Transformation of UGA Fitness Center

Dear Dr. Evans:

I am writing in support of the proposal to change the UGA Fitness Center into a Center for Physical Activity and Health. I am enthusiastic about this proposal and the change in mission from a primarily service and outreach center into a center that addresses all three components of the tri-part mission of our land grant institution: research, teaching and public service/outreach. I believe the interdisciplinary collaborations facilitated will enhance the health of Georgians, add contemporary offerings to our instructional efforts on campus and importantly, facilitate greater interdisciplinary and translational research efforts.

Faculty members within the College of Public Health, specifically the Department of Health Promotion and Behavior, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and the Institute of Gerontology, historically have had collaborations with faculty in the Department of Kinesiology. It is anticipated that these collaborative efforts will be enhanced in research and also facilitate our instructional and outreach efforts with the newly titled and proposed Center for Physical Activity and Health.

In closing, I support your proposal and am confident that members of the College of Public Health will become participants in its programs and research.

Sincerely,

Phillip L. Williams, Ph.D.  
Dean

PLW/dsb



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# The University of Georgia

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College of Family and Consumer Sciences  
*Department of Foods and Nutrition*

October 11, 2012

Ellen M. Evans, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Department of Kinesiology  
101A Ramsey Center  
330 River Road  
University of Georgia  
Athens GA 30605

Dear Dr. Evans:

This letter is written in support of your proposal to change the name and the purpose of the UGA Fitness Center. I agree with the plans to change the Center from a teaching/learning lab concerned with public outreach to a Center with a mission congruent with the tri-part mission of our land-grant institution of research, teaching and public outreach.

The intended change to a research focus will enhance opportunities to secure external funding from key granting agencies as well as foster new interdisciplinary research endeavors. An enhanced research emphasis would encourage new collaborations with a number of faculty in the Department of Foods and Nutrition and would generate new opportunities for graduate students to be involved in research endeavors conducted in the Center.

The revised name, Center for Physical Activity and Health, encompasses the new goals and vision of the Center. I endorse the proposed revised name in addition to the modified aims and feel that these changes will enhance the ability of the Center to foster collaborative research opportunities at UGA as well as external funding and graduate education programs.

Sincerely,

Lynn B. Bailey, PhD  
Professor and Department Head  
Department of Foods and Nutrition



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# The University of Georgia

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Franklin College of Arts and Sciences  
*Department of Psychology*

Ellen M. Evans, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Department of Kinesiology  
101A Ramsey Center  
330 River Road  
University of Georgia  
Athens GA 30605-6554

Dear Dr. Evan:

I support your proposal to change the UGA Fitness Center from a teaching/learning lab concerned with public outreach to a Center with a mission congruent with the tri-part mission of a land-grant institution of research, teaching and public outreach. Such a change will help us investigate and address many social ills, such as obesity. I believe that this change would directly benefit students and faculty researchers in the Department of Psychology as well as many other stakeholders on campus.

Sincerely,

W. Keith Campbell  
Professor and Department Head



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# The University of Georgia

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William A. and Barbara R. Owens Institute for Behavioral Research

Ellen M. Evans, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Department of Kinesiology  
101A Ramsey Center  
330 River Road  
University of Georgia  
Athens GA 30605-6554

Dear Dr. Evans,

I am writing to support your proposal to change the UGA Fitness Center from a teaching/learning lab concerned with public outreach to a Center that has a tri-part mission of research, teaching and public outreach.

I hope that this will further your efforts to investigate and address obesity and other health problems related to exercise and diet and to identify novel approaches that may enhance the health of Georgians and others. I also expect that this change will benefit Owens IBR researchers who may collaborate with you in the future, as well as allowing new form of collaboration with many other stakeholders across campus.

I wish you the best of luck in this effort.

Sincerely Yours,

Steven R. H. Beach, Ph.D.  
Director, Owens Institute for Behavioral Research

Georgia Health Sciences University  The University of Georgia  
**MEDICAL PARTNERSHIP**

October 12, 2012

Ellen M. Evans, PhD  
Department of Kinesiology  
101A Ramsey Center  
330 River Road  
University of Georgia  
Athens, Georgia 30605-6554

**RE: Transforming the Fitness Center**

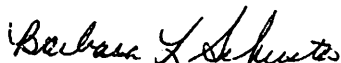
Dear Dr. Evans:

Thank you for asking me to review the proposal to change the UGA Fitness Center into a Center for Physical Activity and Health. After my review, I became very enthusiastic thinking of the interdisciplinary collaborations which could address many of the problems of the health of Georgians, the opportunities for educational experiences in multiple fields for both undergraduate and graduate or professional students, and broaden the possibilities of clinical and translational research. Indeed, an expanded vision for a transformed center would be consistent with the mission of the University of Georgia.

Faculty members of the GHSU/UGA Medical Partnership presently have ongoing collaborative research with members of the Department of Kinesiology and the Partnership helps support a graduate student assistantship. This collaboration has already led to opportunities for medical students for clinical research projects. However, by increasing the focus of the center to areas of obesity, the disabled adult, and healthy aging, the talents of multiple faculty members from multiple colleges can be parlayed into programs that immediately affect the care of the community. The development of research questions will naturally flow from the programs which in turn will lead to new information that can be leveraged to develop preventive health programs.

Therefore, I enthusiastically support your proposal and am confident that the GHSU/UGA Medical Partnership will become active participants in its programs and research.

Sincerely,



Barbara L. Schuster, MD, MACP  
Campus Dean  
GHSU/UGA Medical Partnership



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# The University of Georgia

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College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences  
*Animal and Dairy Science Department*

(706) 542-4094  
Fax: (706) 542-7925  
cbaile@uga.edu

October 31, 2012

Ellen M. Evans, PhD  
Department of Kinesiology  
101A Ramsey Road  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30605-6554

RE: Letter of Support for Transformation of UGA Fitness Center

Dear Dr. Evans:

I am writing in support of the proposal to change the UGA Fitness Center into a Center for Physical Activity and Health. I have reviewed your proposal and have had exposure to your vision for the CPAH through your presentations within the Obesity Initiative. The change in mission from a primarily service and outreach center into a center that addresses all three components of the tri-part mission of our land grant institution: research, teaching and public service/outreach is very exciting. I believe the interdisciplinary collaborations facilitated will enhance the health of Georgians, add contemporary offerings to our instructional efforts on campus and importantly, facilitate greater interdisciplinary and translational research efforts. This is especially true related to the Obesity Initiative of which I am the Director.

As physical activity is integral to weight management, many faculty members affiliated with the Obesity Initiative are natural collaborators. It is anticipated that these collaborative efforts will enhance our research and also facilitate our instructional and public outreach efforts with the newly titled and purposed Center for Physical Activity and Health. In closing, I enthusiastically support your proposal and am highly confident that Obesity Initiative members will become active participants in its programs and research.

Sincerely,

Clifton A. Baile, Ph.D.

D. W. Brooks Distinguished Professor of Animal Science and Foods & Nutrition  
and GRA Eminent Scholar in Agricultural Biotechnology