

**College of Health and Human Development  
Faculty Research Themes**

**Diabetes and Pre-Diabetes**

- Leann Birch***                      **Distinguished Professor; Director, Center for Childhood Obesity Research  
Human Development & Family Studies**                      Email Address: **LLB15@PSU.EDU**  
Research Interests                      The links among parents' own eating and weight status, parenting practices, and child outcomes from infancy through adolescence, with a current focus on the emergence of dieting and problems of energy balance in girls during middle childhood and early adolescence.
- Rebecca Corwin***                      **Associate Professor  
Nutritional Sciences**                      Email Address: **BCORWIN@PSU.EDU**  
Research Interests                      Skeletal consequences of dietary fat during aging; neurochemical consequences of binge eating.
- Danielle Symons Downs***                      **Assistant Professor  
Kinesiology**                      Email Address: **DSD11@PSU.EDU**  
Research Interests                      Psychosocial determinants of exercise (age, gender, race), application of theoretical models to exercise (theory of planned behavior, transtheoretical model), exercise dependence, body image.
- Terryl Hartman***                      **Associate Professor  
Nutritional Sciences**                      Email Address: **TJH9@PSU.EDU**  
Research Interests                      Nutrition epidemiology and physical activity related to chronic disease; nutrition and cancer prevention and control.
- Barbara Rolls***                      **Professor; Helen A. Guthrie Chair  
Nutritional Sciences**                      Email Address: **BJR4@PSU.EDU**  
Research Interests                      Psychological and physiological controls of food intake and selection in normal weight and obese humans across the life span; nutritional strategies for weight management.
- Dennis Scanlon***                      **Associate Professor  
Health Policy & Administration**                      Email Address: **DPSCANLON@PSU.EDU**  
Research Interests                      Consumer information and health care markets, health insurance and HMO plan performance, measurement of quality, and minority health outcomes.
- Carol Smith***                      **Associate Professor  
Nursing**                      Email Address: **CAS35@PSU.EDU**  
Research Interests                      Translational research, health improvement in vulnerable populations, prevention of diabetes in rural families, technology applications for advanced practice nursing.
- Sheila West***                      **Associate Professor  
Biobehavioral Health**                      Email Address: **SGW2@PSU.EDU**  
Research Interests                      Nutraceuticals, interventions for reducing cardiac risk, hormone replacement therapy, phytoestrogens, functional foods, reproductive physiology, lipid metabolism, and vascular biology.