

Kathleen M. Merchant

San Diego State University, School of Public Health
Hardy Tower Room 119
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego CA 92182-4162

kmerchant@sdsu.edu

EDUCATION:

- M.A. Education – School Psychology, Alliant International University, San Diego, CA, June 2008.
California Credential: PPS (Personnel Pupil Services): School Psychology 7/2009.
- Ph.D. International Nutrition, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, August, 1989.
Minor - Epidemiology
Minor - Human Development and Family Studies
Dissertation Title - "Maternal Nutritional Depletion: Consequences of the Energetic Stress of Frequent Reproductive Cycling on Mother and Fetus"
- M.S. International Nutrition, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, May, 1986.
Minor - Human Development and Family Studies
Thesis Title - "Maternal Nutritional Status, Metabolic Differences and Resulting Fetal Growth in a Bolivian Population"
- B.A. Molecular Biology / Biochemistry, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, June, 1981.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

American Society for Nutrition – Global Nutrition Council
Society of Nutrition Education and Behavior
American Public Health Association

COMMITTEE SERVICE:

Co-Chair of Early Childhood Domain Representative serving on Leadership Council of Childhood Obesity Initiative of San Diego County. (2014 – present).

Local Agency Representative and Member of the National WIC Association Evaluation Committee. (2015 – 2019).

RESEARCH PROJECTS:

WIC Program:

“Innovative Strategies Child Retention: Establishing and Strengthening Participants Relationships to WIC”. Funded by California Department of Public Health WIC Branch. Research to identify and improve participation patterns from pregnancy through to a child’s 5th year. \$450,000 over 3 years Oct 1, 2016 – Sept. 30, 2019.

“Streamlining Certification”. A national research project coordinated by the Center for Budget and Policy Planning and Altarum Research Institute of Washington, DC. Eight State WIC and Local Agency programs are participating in a yearlong effort to improve successful certification and re-certification rates. Oct 1, 2017 – Sept. 30, 2018.

“San Diego County WIC Infant and Child Obesity Risk and Prevention Project”. The five San Diego County WIC Agencies share anthropometric and selective feeding choice data to provide a complete county picture of WIC participants’ status with respect to various characteristics of risk for overweight and obesity.

NIH Supplement Funding for Re-entry to Research Career – Two years of full-time salary to support research activities conducted at San Diego State University within the Family and Child Weight Control Program within the Center for Eating and Weight disorders, funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, (5/1/02-4/30/04). *National Institutes of Health, Washington, DC.*

Principal Investigator - "The Impact of Poor Nutritional Status (Acute and Chronic) on Maternal Mortality: Maternal Stunting, Fetal Growth and Risk of Obstetric Complications". Funded by the World Health Organization's Maternal Health and Safe Motherhood Research Programme. Research to identify nutritional antecedents to the major causes of maternal mortality. Direct \$40,000 (7/90-5/91) *World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland.*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Adjunct Assistant Professor (05/02-present) *School of Public Health, College of Health and Human Services, San Diego State University.* Research focus includes: development of interventions to address disproportionate burden of obesity and food insecurity within low-income communities; energy balance, particularly during periods of rapid growth and reproduction and within populations exposed to conditions of chronic undernutrition and overnutrition, including methods for assessing and characterizing child growth and development, body size and relationships to health risk. Facilitating collaborative research effort for increasing Physical Activity of Pregnant Women. Mentoring High School Students in Scientific Methods course.

Research and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Manager (09/12-09/19) *San Diego State University Research Foundation WIC Program.* Led the research team conducting research to enhance program reach and service delivery to WIC participants. Developed, tested, and implemented innovative strategies for continuous quality improvement as well as improving tools to monitor compliance with WIC program mandates and monitor the quality and effectiveness of WIC program delivery and services.

Faculty Lecturer (Spring 2015; Fall 2017) *School of Exercise and Nutritional Sciences, College of Health and Human Services, San Diego State University.* Taught Graduate Course ENS 602 Research Evaluation in Exercise and Nutrition. Techniques in designing, conducting, and reporting research in exercise and nutritional science. Qualitative and quantitative paradigms examined. Ethical considerations of human research. Taught Graduate Course NUTR 700 Seminar in Nutrition – Reading, analyses and presentations of basic and applied research in nutrition.

School Psychologist (03/12- 6/12) *Cardiff School District.* Provide direct services of counseling to designated students; Conduct psycho-education assessments of designated students, including behavioral observations and administering and scoring specific psycho-educational tests; Contribute to psycho-educational evaluation process of designated students as needed.

Early Mental Health Initiative Guidance Counselor (03/10- 6/12) *Doyle Elementary School & Lindbergh-Schweitzer Elementary School, San Diego Unified School District.* Provide non-directive play therapy to qualifying children with mild to moderate school adjustment difficulties in grades K-3.

Adjunct Faculty (08/09-10/10) *School Psychology Program, Shirley Hufstедler Graduate School of Education, Alliant International University.* Taught two graduate courses within the School Psychology Program: PPS 6024 – Program Development and Evaluation; PPS 6019 – Methodology of Educational Research.

Associate Faculty (01/08-06/09) *Department of Kinesiology, Health, and Nutrition; MiraCosta Community College.* Taught HEALTH 100: Nutrition Today - Introductory Nutrition Course in both online and classroom setting teaching formats.

Research Scientist (3/05 – 6/06) *Maternal Child Health Initiative and Graduate School of Public Health, San Diego State University,* Assisting with research and development of the Maternal Child Health Initiative within the Graduate School of Public Health, including the development of innovative methods to expand opportunities to address child obesity in pediatric clinics serving lower resource families.

Research Scientist (5/02 – 4/04) *Family and Child Weight Control Program, San Diego State University Foundation, San Diego, California.* Over the two year funding period, worked with three NIH-funded research teams: 1) Addressed data quality issues and provided nutritional counseling to parent-child pairs in longitudinal study addressing the efficacy of weight loss maintenance of parent-child pairs following participation in intensive family based cognitive behavioral therapy program; 2) Analyzed reporting bias among participants of a study examining the efficacy of an internet based intervention designed to prevent development of eating disorders among college age women; and 3) Designed and adapted a child feeding and eating behavior measurement instrument for a study of obesity prevention in Latino home and community environments. Responsibilities included supervision of research interns in clinic and coordinating research seminar series for staff and interns.

Visiting Assistant Professor (1/01 - 5/01) *Women's Studies Program, College of Liberal Arts, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.* Full-time faculty position with research, teaching and service responsibilities. Research issues: women's health issues, obesity, reproductive stress, maternal/child nutrition, child development, and dynamics of community participation in health programming, with emphasis on their interrelationships in the context of poverty and across cultures. Taught: Race, Class, and Gender; Women's Health Issues; Global Perspective on Women's Health Issues.

Area Extension Specialist (9/99 - 6/00) *25% time faculty position. University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Las Vegas, Nevada.* Conducted a program evaluation for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) a community nutrition education program for women with limited resources. Designed food safety exhibits for use in community.

Visiting Assistant Professor (8/95-6/98) *Department of Kinesiology, College of Health Sciences, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.* Taught undergraduate and graduate courses: Human Nutrition; Exercise, Nutrition and Weight Control; Advanced Human Nutrition; Human Energy Metabolism; Vitamins, Minerals, and Ergogenic Aids; in Kinesiology, Health Education, Nursing Departments; Women's health issues in the Women's Studies Program.

Technical Officer (1/93 - 4/94) *Project Concern International, San Diego, California* Provided technical input for PCI country programs in Latin America. Contributed to design and evaluated PCI's applied health education programs in U.S., Mexico, Guatemala, and Bolivia. Participated in community-level assessments of health and nutritional needs of with community groups served by PCI projects and identified methods to address these needs more effectively. Wrote proposals to obtain funding for programs from private foundation and U.S. government sources. **Short-term Consultant** (2/95) Conducted program evaluation for The San Diego Birthing Project.

Project Coordinator (10/91 -6/92) *Stanford Center for Research in Disease Prevention, Stanford University School of Medicine.* Directed curriculum development process, formative evaluation phases of NHLBI-funded research project for developing specialized community nutrition education curriculum and materials for low-income, low-literate, urban adults of diverse ethnic backgrounds.

Visiting Lecturer (1/91-6/91) *Colgate University, Hamilton, New York.* Taught upper division "Medical Geography" covering introduction to scientific method, epidemiology, biology of infectious disease, biomedical models, health care systems, public health and environmental hazards.

Research Associate II (2/90-12/90) *Division of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.* Conducted statistical analyses for research addressing effects of early nutritional supplementation and growth on later growth during adolescence and physical work capacity, using data from the Guatemalan INCAP Follow-up Study of the Four Village Nutritional Supplementation Trial.

Research Associate (7/89-12/89) **Research Assistant** (1/88-6/89) *Food Research Institute, Stanford University, Stanford, California.* Designed and conducted research investigating the relationship of fetal growth to maternal nutritional status, with particular emphasis on maternal and fetal responses to frequent reproductive cycling. Lectured in undergraduate course "Nutritional Problems of Developing Countries".

CONSULTANCIES:

World Health Organization (WHO). Sub-contracted as Consultant (11/04 – 4/05) Researched and co-authored background paper on Assessment of childhood and adolescent obesity for Expert Consultation on Child and Adolescent Obesity in Tokyo, Japan, June 21-25, 2005.

United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), Jakarta, Indonesia. Special Advisor (11/97-1/98) Assisted in formulation of a rights-based framework for the development of the Maternal Child Survival Development and Protection Integrated Training Package for Village Kaders (health workers), including strategies for change and an analysis of advantages of rights-based framework relative to the current prevailing epidemiological framework.

International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, D.C. Research Consultant (5/94-1/96) Analyzed factors influencing intra-household distribution of particular foods and the micronutrients in them, using the IFPRI-ICRISAT Indian household survey data. Required extensive programming capabilities to conduct consistency checks of the complex data set.

The World Bank, Population and Human Resources Department, Washington, D.C. Short-term Consultant (6/92 - 12/92) Conducted background research for a "Best Practices" paper on Women's Health and Nutrition, describing successful approaches used in programs designed to improve women's nutrition and health status throughout the life cycle.

International Nutrition Foundation for Developing Countries, Cambridge, MA. Research Consultant (7/91-1/92) , Assisted Dr. Fernando Viteri of UC Berkeley with preparation of a Global Plan of Action for the Control of Iron Deficiency and the Nutritional Anemias. Funded by the United Nations ACC/SCN, World Health Organization Nutrition Unit, and the World Bank.

International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), Washington, D.C. Short-term Consultant (2/90) , Wrote chapter of synthesis paper for the "Maternal Nutrition and Health Care (MNHC) Program", addressing better health for women by summarizing the key results of the ten nutrition research projects of the MNHC Program.

World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland. Short-term Consultant (12/89-1/90) Wrote background paper on nutritional problems facing women through the life cycle as well as intergenerationally, extent regionally, and consequences, for meeting (2/90) of the Advisory Group of Nutritionists (AGN) of the United Nations ACC/SCN.

WIC PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS:

Merchant, KM. "Innovative Strategies Final Workshop: Establishing & Strengthening Participant Relationships to WIC: from pregnancy through a child's 5th year", CDPH/WIC Innovative Strategies Outreach Mini-Grant Meeting, July 31, 2019, Sacramento, CA.

Merchant, KM. Invited Participant for "Helping Families Navigate WIC Appointments: Responsive Appointment Scheduling", *Creating the Wave: WIC Innovations and Streamlining Workshop; California WIC Association Pre-Conference*, Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Merchant, KM. Invited Participant for "Viewing Documents Electronically to Streamline Certifications: Engaging Participants", *Creating the Wave: WIC Innovations and Streamlining Workshop; California WIC Association Pre-Conference*, Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Merchant, KM. Panel Participant for "Streamlining WIC: Opportunities and Lessons Learned from State and Local Agencies", *National WIC Association Annual Nutrition Education & Breastfeeding Promotion Conference*, September 25, 2018.

Merchant, KM. Poster Presentation. "Streamlining WIC: From screening to full enrollment and re-certification, making it easy!", *Nutrition Education & Breastfeeding Promotion Conference*, National WIC Association Conference, September 25-27, 2018, NWA New Orleans, LA.

- Merchant, KM. “Establishing & Strengthening Participant Relationships to WIC: from pregnancy through a child’s 5th year”, CDPH/WIC Innovative Strategies Outreach Mini-Grant Meeting, August 16, 2018, Sacramento, CA.
- Merchant, KM. Panel Participant for “Using Data Resources to Help Retain, Re-Engage, and Recruit WIC Participants”, *Innovate and Collaborate to Advance WIC Track*, California WIC Association Annual Conference, Bridge to Health: Advancing WIC to Support Today’s Families, May 1, 2018.
- Merchant, KM. Local Agency Sharing Exhibit, “Stick with WIC: Sharing Innovative Strategies”, California WIC Association Annual Conference, Bridge to Health: Advancing WIC to Support Today’s Families, May 2018.
- Merchant, KM. Invited Contributor “Local Agency Sharing” portion of Webinar: *Using Data Resources to Address the WIC RRR (Retention, Re-Engagement, and Recruitment) Initiative Webinar*, Women, Infants and Children Division and Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Division, 12/7/2017.
- Merchant, KM. Invited Speaker: Streamlining WIC Clinic Flow with Electronic Check-Ins, Women Infants and Children Program 2017 Local Agency Directors’ Meeting, Sacramento, October 3, 2017.
- Merchant, KM. “Innovative Strategies Research Project– Year One Updates”, Women Infants and Children Program 2017 Local Agency Directors’ Meeting, Sacramento, October 3, 2017.
- Merchant, KM. Contributor. “Examining a Special Population: Children Enrolled in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)” pp. 19-21 and pp. 62-63. State of Childhood Obesity in San Diego County 2016.
- Merchant, KM. “Continuous Quality Improvement: Planning and Piloting an Electronic Check-In System at our WIC Sites”, National WIC Association, Reach Them, Teach Them, Keep Them, 2015.
- Merchant, KM. “Continuous Quality Improvement: Reflect, Act, Evaluate!”, California WIC Association, WIC Plugged in: Harnessing the Power of Collaboration 2015.
- Merchant, KM, Tayag-Cruz, N, and K Taylor. “Shine a Light: Making hemoglobin screening --and compliance-- easy!”, National WIC Association, Looking Back; Moving Forward! WIC: Strengthening Families for 40 Years! 2014.
- Merchant, KM, Tayag-Cruz, N, and K Taylor. “California WIC: New Classification Criteria and WHO Growth References Alter Anthropometric Risk Estimates”, The FASEB Journal, 27:841.16. 2013.
- Merchant, KM, Tayag-Cruz, N, and K Taylor. “Participant-Centered Education: Cultural and Geographical Patterns of Participants’ Choices”, National WIC Association, Discovering the Treasures of WIC 2013.

PUBLICATIONS and ABSTRACTS:

- Merchant, KM, Marian, M, Mendez, I, Schmitz, K, et al. Case Study: San Diego State University Research Foundation, California, Streamlining and Modernizing WIC Enrollment, Center for Budget and Policy Priorities. August 30, 2019. <https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/8-30-19fa-casestudies-san-diego.pdf>
- Soto, SH, Sanz, S, Merchant, KM, Nichols, JF, and EM Arredondo. “Lessons Learned from a feasibility study delivered in two WIC sites to promote physical activity among pregnant Latinas,” Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior, 50(10):1026-1031. 2018.
- Merchant, K. Anthropometric indicators of childhood risk for obesity leading to chronic disease. In: Expert Consultation on Childhood Obesity: Assessment of Obesity for School-age Children and Adolescents. Geneva: World Health Organization. 2005.

- Merchant, KM. "The Performance of California Public School Students on the Body Composition Portion of the Fitnessgram: Comparing Two Consecutive years", Obesity Research 2004.
- Merchant, KM. "Evaluating body composition of California school children: Comparing the standards used to a United States reference population", The FASEB Journal, 18(4):A901. 2004.
- Merchant, KM. "Comparison of methods to characterize the growth of overweight children: BMI percentile and percent overweight", The FASEB Journal, 18(4):A178. 2004.
- Merchant, KM, Taylor, CB, Winzelberg, A, Luce, K, and DE Wilfley. "Self-Report Body Size Among College-age Women Relative to Measured Size and Weight Concerns", Annals of Behavioral Medicine, 27(Suppl):S084. 2004.
- Merchant, K, Villar, J and E Kestler. Maternal height and newborn size relative to risk of intrapartum cesarean and perinatal distress. British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 108(7):689-696. 2001.
- Merchant, KM. "Women's Nutrition Through the Life Cycle: The impact of social and reproductive roles on nutritional status in a context of poverty", Chapter In: Encyclopedia of Third World Women, (ed.) N.P. Stromquist. New York: Garland Publishing, 1998.
- Merchant, KM. "Women's Health and Development: Inequities across gender, age and economic status", Chapter 11, pp. 177-194. In: The Gendered New World Order: Militarism, Development and the Environment (eds.) J. Turpin and L.A. Lorentzen. New York: Routledge, 1996.
- Merchant, KM. "Maternal Nutritional Depletion" SCN News: periodic review of developments in international nutrition. United Nations: Administrative Committee on Coordination - Subcommittee on Nutrition. No. 11, p 30-2, 1994.
- Merchant, KM and J Villar. Effect of Maternal Supplementation on Risk of Perinatal Distress and Intrapartum Cesarean Delivery. Abstract. The FASEB Journal, 7(3):A282. 1993.
- Merchant, KM. "New Directions in Policies to Improve the Nutritional Status of Women." Women's Health and Nutrition Work Program Working Paper Series. World Bank, Population, Health and Nutrition Department, Washington, D.C. 1993.
- Martorell, R and K Merchant. "Reproductive Stress and Women's Nutrition", Chapter 3, In: Nutrition and Population Links: Breastfeeding, Family Planning and Child Health. United Nations - Administrative Committee on Coordination/Subcommittee on Nutrition, Symposium Report, Nutrition Policy Discuss. 1992.
- Merchant, KM and KM Kurz. "Women's Nutrition Through the Life Cycle: Social and Biological Vulnerabilities", Chapter 3, In: Women's Health: A Global Perspective, (eds.) M. A. Koblinsky, J. Timyan and J. Gay. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1992.
- Merchant K. Nutritional Adjustments in Response to Reproductive Stresses within Guatemalan Women. Journal of Tropical Pediatrics, 37(Suppl):15-18. 1991.
- Parker, LN, Gupta, GR, Kurz, KM and KM Merchant. "Better Health for Women: Research Results from the Maternal Nutrition and Health Care Program." Research Report Series, International Center for Research on Women. 1990.
- Merchant, KM, Martorell, R, Gonzalez-Cossio, T, Rivera, J and JD Haas. Maternal Nutritional Depletion: Evidence of Responses to Frequent Reproductive Cycling. International Center for Research on Women, Research Report Series, Report No. 3. 1990.
- Merchant K, Martorell R and JD Haas. Consequences for Maternal Nutrition of Reproductive Stresses across Consecutive Pregnancies. American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, 52:616-620. 1990.

- Merchant K, Martorell R and JD Haas. Maternal and Fetal Responses to the Stresses of Lactation Concurrent with Pregnancy and of Short Recuperative Intervals. American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, 52:280-288. 1990.
- Martorell, R and K Merchant. The Effect of Lactation During Pregnancy on Subsequent Child Growth. Abstracts of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, 4(3):A362. 1990.
- Merchant, K and R Martorell. The Use of Maternal Anthropometry in Pregnant Guatemalan Women to Predict Birthweight. Abstracts of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, 4(3):A363. 1990.
- Merchant, K, Martorell, R and J Haas. Effects of Overlap of Lactation with Pregnancy, Recuperative Intervals on Mother and Fetus. *The 14th International Congress of Nutrition*, Seoul, Korea. Abstracts of the 14th International Congress of Nutrition, P2-89, p.604. 1989.
- Merchant, KM, Haas JD, Dickin, KL and L Feck. The use of maternal upper-arm anthropometry to predict fetal growth in Bolivian women. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, 78(2):272. 1989.
- Merchant, K and R Martorell. The Effect of Lactation Concurrent with Pregnancy on Fetal Growth, Maternal Nutritional Status, and Dietary Intake in Supplemented Guatemalan Women. Abstracts of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, 3(3):A768. 1989.
- Merchant, K and R Martorell. Frequent Reproductive Cycling: Does it Lead to Nutritional Depletion of Mothers? Progress in Food and Nutrition Science, 12:339-369. 1988.

PRESENTATIONS:

- Merchant, KM, "Obesity as Epidemic", Continuing Medical Education Seminar Series, *Student Health Services, San Diego State University*, San Diego, California, February 6, 2003.
- Merchant, KM. "Obesity Prevalence Continues to Increase", Behavioral Medicine Seminar Series of UCSD/SDSU Joint Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology, *Veteran's Administration Hospital*, La Jolla, California, January 23, 2003.
- Merchant, KM. "Maternal Stunting and Delivery Complications in Guatemalan Women", International Nutrition Seminar Series, *Division of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University*, Ithaca, New York, February 13, 1997.
- Merchant, KM. "Maternal Stunting and Delivery Complications in Guatemalan Women", *The Center for Health Services Research and The College of Health Sciences Brown Bag Seminars*, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, January 24, 1997.
- Merchant, KM. "Maternal Stunting and Delivery Complications in Guatemalan Women", *The Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University*, Atlanta, Georgia, September 13, 1996.
- Merchant, KM. "Dietary Acculturation Among Latinos of Mexican Descent", University Seminar for Feminist Inquiry, Women's Studies Program, *University of Nevada, Las Vegas*, Las Vegas, Nevada, April 26, 1996.
- Merchant, KM. "Role of Health Workers in Non Governmental Organizations Working Internationally to Improve Health" Guest lecturer for Maternal/Child Health Graduate Seminar course. *Loma Linda University*, Loma Linda, California, April 1994.
- Merchant, KM. Nutritional Antecedents to the Major Causes of Maternal Mortality. *The 18th National Council for International Health Conference*; Washington, D.C., June 23-26, 1991.
- Merchant, KM, Villar, J and E Kestler. Maternal Stature Relative to Fetal Size and Risk of Delivery Complications. *The 39th Annual Clinical Meeting of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists*, New Orleans, Louisiana, May 6-9, 1991.

Sanchez-Grinan, M, Dickin, KL, Merchant, K, Mayhew, T, Ybarnegarray, JU and JD Haas. Effect of Maternal Undernutrition on Placental Morphometry and Fetal Growth. *International Congress in Pediatrics and Nutrition*, Sao Paulo, Brazil, March 3-7, 1990.

Merchant, KM. Maternal Nutritional Depletion: Evidence of Responses to Frequent Reproductive Cycling. Maternal Nutrition and Health Care Program - *International Center for Research on Women Final Conference*, Washington, D.C., February, 28, 1990.

Haas, JD and KM Merchant. Physical Growth and Motor Development in Peruvian and Bolivian Infants at High and Low Altitude. *Symposium of the Society for Research in Child Development*, April 1987, Baltimore, MD.

INVITED PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES:

Invited Speaker for Program, "Childhood Obesity and Diabetes Prevention, Screening, Treatment, and Resources", addressed a) Psychosocial issues related to obesity prevention/treatment, b) Practical weight management, c) Community resources; Continuing Medical Education Symposium organized by Children's Hospital and held at City Height Wellness Center, San Diego, August 26, 2005.

Invited Speaker for Program, "Childhood Obesity and Diabetes Prevention, Screening, Treatment, and Resources", addressed a) Definitions, assessment and screening for pediatric obesity, b) Best practices in weight management for children and c) Community resources; Continuing Medical Education Symposium organized by Children's Hospital and held at Horton Elementary School, southeast San Diego, July 20, 2005.

Chaired Minisymposium "Ecology of Pediatric Obesity" for Community Nutrition Section of American Society of Nutrition at the Annual Experimental Biology Scientific Meeting, San Diego, California, April, 2004.

Invited Speaker and Participant for *National Academy of Sciences Workshop, The Consequences of High Parity and Maternal Morbidities and Mortality for Women, Children, the Family and Society*, presented, "Maternal Nutritional Depletion from Frequent Reproductive Cycling: Revisiting the Issues 10 years later", workshop held in Washington, DC, October 19 and 20, 1998.

Invited Speaker for Back to Basics, A Breastfeeding Conference, Sponsored by *The Breastfeeding Task Force of Nevada*, Presented "Nutritional Concerns of Mother and Baby During Breastfeeding", Henderson, Nevada, Oct. 3-4, 1997.

Invited Speaker for *The Thomas J. Watson Jr. Institute for International Studies of Brown University*, Seminar Series - Incorporating Gender Issues Into Development: Where Do We Go From Here? Presented "Nutritional Antecedents to Maternal Mortality", Providence, Rhode Island, February 10, 1997.

Invited Speaker for Davies Forum. Taught seminar class and gave public lecture, public lecture was taped for television production, with lecture manuscript to be published in Davies Forum Proceedings publication. *University of San Francisco*, San Francisco, March 1994.

Presenter in Plenary Session: Health Issues, "Challenges to Health and Nutrition of Women", at the Gender, Justice and Development: A Curriculum Development Institute, Sponsored by *Interfaith Hunger Appeal and The Five College Program in Peace and World Security Studies*, Amherst, February 1993.

Chaired Group Session addressing "Improving Women's Nutrition: a consensus for the action agenda" and drafted nutrition portion of the agenda, at the *18th National Council for International Health Conference (NCIH)*, "Women's Health: The Action Agenda for the 90's". Washington, D.C., June 23-26, 1991.

Co-presenter in Symposium on Nutrition and Population at United Nations, "Reproductive Stress and Women's Nutrition. Sponsored by the *United Nations Fund for Population (UNFPA) in conjunction with the United Nations Administrative Committee on Coordination-Subcommittee on Nutrition (ACC/SCN)*, New York, New York, February 25, 1991.

Participant and Presenter for Expert Meeting on Optimal Infant Feeding. Organized by Nutrition Communication Project of the Academy for Educational Development, Inc. (AED) and sponsored by the *Office of Nutrition, US Agency for International Development*. Washington, D.C., September, 1990.

Presenter in Special Session Panel, "Breastfeeding and Borderline Malnutrition in Women" Sponsored by the Institute for International Studies in Natural Family Planning (IISNFP). *The 17th National Council for International Health (NCIH) Conference*, Arlington, VA, June 17-20, 1990.

Participant in Workshop, "Maternal Anthropometry for Prediction of Pregnancy Outcomes." Chaired Working Group Session addressing Assessment of Thinness Sponsored by *US Agency for International Development/World Health Organization/PanAmerican Health Organization/ MotherCare*. Washington, D.C., April 23-25, 1990.