Obesity

**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.

**Peter Bordi**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Hospitality Management**  
**Email Address:** PLBJR@PSU.EDU  
**Research Interests**  
USDA "Farm to School", cancer (prostate) study with Nutritional Sciences Department, product development - Franco Harris.

**Linda Caldwell**  
**Professor**  
**Recreation, Park and Tourism**  
**Email Address:** LLC7@PSU.EDU  
**Research Interests**  
Leisure education & developmental affordances of leisure, leisure time use in middle school youth, development of youth competencies, healthy lifestyle & democratic behavior through leisure.

**Mihai Covasa**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**Nutritional Sciences**  
**Email Address:** MZC13@PSU.EDU  
**Research Interests**  
Reduced sensitivity to satiation signals in control of obesity; neural substrates of peptides- and nutrients-induced satiety; the role of glutamate in control food intake.

**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.

**Lori Francis**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**Biobehavioral Health**  
**Email Address:** LAF169@PSU.EDU  
**Research Interests**  
Sociocultural factors influencing the development of obesity in low-income and minority children, including family environment, neighborhood characteristics and socioeconomic status; family-based interventions to reduce and prevent obesity and related morbidities in children; understanding biobehavioral, family environmental and cultural factors that influence self-regulation of energy intake and body weight in young children.

**George Graham**  
**Professor**  
**Kinesiology**  
**Email Address:** GMG17@PSU.EDU  
**Research Interests**  
Physical education pedagogy.

**Marianne Hillemeier**  
**Assistance Professor**  
**Health Policy & Administration**  
**Email Address:** MMH18@PSU.EDU  
**Research Interests**  
Disparities in child and adolescent health; effects of context on health and health-related behavior; disparities in children's health care access and utilization; provider-family interaction in health care encounters; chronic conditions among children and adolescents including asthma and

**Sibylle Kranz**  
**Assistant Professor**  
**Nutritional Sciences**  
**Email Address:** SXK72@PSU.EDU  
**Research Interests**  
Dietary intake patterns and diet quality in American children using large, nationally representative data sets; the effect of dietary intake factors on the development of childhood

**Sharon Nickols-Richardson**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Nutritional Sciences**  
**Email Address:** smn13@psu.edu  
**Research Interests**  
| **Claudia Probart** | Associate Professor  
Nutritional Sciences | Email Address: CKP1@PSU.EDU |
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<td><strong>Research Interests</strong></td>
<td>Psychosocial aspects of food decision making behavior; nutrition and health marketing theory and practice; gender issues in consumer nutrition behavior; nutrition and health communication for special population groups, including the aged, athletes, children, adolescents; worksite nutrition intervention for cancer risk reduction.</td>
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**Barbara Rolls** | Professor; Helen A. Guthrie Chair  
Nutritional Sciences | Email Address: BJR4@PSU.EDU |
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<td><strong>Research Interests</strong></td>
<td>Psychological and physiological controls of food intake and selection in normal weight and obese humans across the life span; nutritional strategies for weight management.</td>
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