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Three Professors Gain National Attention for Childhood Obesity Research

September 8, 2014



Andrew Hansen

Three faculty members in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health were recently featured in *Pediatrics*, the official journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, for their research titled, “Generational Shift in Parental Perceptions of Overweight Among School-Aged Children.”

Andrew Hansen, DrPH, professor of community health behavior and education, Yelena Tarasenko, DrPH, professor of health policy and management and epidemiology and Jian Zhang, DrPh, M.D., professor of epidemiology, conducted the collaborative study, which examines the generational shifting of parental perceptions about children’s weight. Hansen was the first author of the study.



Jian Zhang

“Having the opportunity to be part of a research team like this is a privilege,” he said. “When Dr. Zhang invited me to assist on this project, I immediately saw the value in the concept and it was clear that we had a common research interest. I am thankful Dr. Zhang recognized my skills, but for him to do so was only possible with me being a faculty member here at the College of Public Health. In the field of public health, collaborative work is the norm and essential to be successful. My individual work can only get me so far. JPHCOPH and the University provide the ideal environment for collaboration, and working together on this research has been tremendous.”



Yelena Tarasenko

The study gained national attention from [Fox News](#), [U.S. News & World Report HealthDay](#), ABC News Radio and [TIME magazine](#). Learn more about the research by viewing the article in [Pediatrics](#).

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