College of Public Health News

April 13, 2018

Georgia Southern University

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Georgia Southern Examines Water Quality and Perception of Risk

April 13, 2018

Under the BEACH ACT, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandates that states routinely monitor and promptly notify the public and local governments when beach water quality exceeds acceptable values (National Science Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP), 2016). This study focuses on the perception of risk among Georgia (US state) beach visitors related to polluted water. Funded by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, this research examines what conditions define coastal waters as being polluted for these visitors. Even though recreational beaches are potent tourism-driven economic engines, there is a paucity of data within the United States on beachgoers’ risk perception and definition of a polluted beach. This study seeks to address the gap between routine beach water quality notifications and public awareness in coastal Georgia, USA.

“Water Quality and the Perception of Risk: A Study of Georgia, USA, Beachgoers,” was recently published in Ocean & Coastal Management.

Dr. Jeff Jones, Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Georgia Southern University (JPHCOPH) was the lead author. Dr. Asli Aslan (JPHCOPH) and JPHCOPH students Ms. Rakhi Trivedi, Ms. Maria Olivas, and Ms. Mikayla Hoffman were co-authors.

Georgia Southern Wins Best Presentation Award

April 13, 2018

The ICOHS 2018: 20th International Conference on Occupational Health and Safety was held on March 11-14, 2018 in Miami, which brought together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars from different countries of the world to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Occupational Health and Safety. An e-poster presentation from the research team of Dr. Atin Adhikari (Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Sciences, JPHCOPH) received the best presentation award in this international conference (title: Nanoparticle exposure levels in indoor and outdoor demolition sites; authored by: Mitra A, Rashidi A, Lewis S, Doehling J, Pawlak A, Schwartz J, Ekpo I, Adhikari A). The preliminary data collected by the authors indicated that concentrations of nanoparticles have wider dispersion in indoor demolition sites in comparison to outdoor demolition sites. In all the cases a bell shaped trend was observed in dispersed nanoparticles and ultrafine particles with highest airborne concentrations at 60 to 150 nm size range. This work has been supported by the CPWR (The Center for Construction Research and Training) through CDC/NIOSH cooperative agreement OH009762 (PI: Dr. Atin Adhikari). Dr. Adhikari’s travel was supported by the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Professional Travel Grant Award.