

The University of Tennessee Obesity Research Center

Naima Moustaid-Moussa and David Bassett

UTORC Workshop
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Acknowledgements

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- Office of Research
- College of Education, Health & Human Sciences (Dr. Bob Rider)
- TN Agricultural Experiment Station (Dr. Thomas Klindt)
- UT Extension (Drs. Shirley Hastings and Charles Goan)

UTORC Structure



About UTORC

Co-Directors:

Naima Moustaid-Moussa, Nutrition & TN Ag. Exp Sta
David Bassett, Exercise Sports and Leisure Studies

Steering Committee:

Dixie Thompson & Eugene Fitzhugh (ESLS); Shirley Hastings (Extension); Betsy Haughton & Hollie Raynor (PHN); Jane White & Ken Bielak (UTMCK); Karen Sowers (SW); Bonnie Callen (Nursing); Gina Pighetti & Arnold Saxton (AS); Nicholas Frank (Vet Med); Vincent Pantalone (PS); Mary Evans (Econ); Brynn Voy (ORNL) and Timothy Forde (ORAU).

About UTORC

Mission:

Develop interdisciplinary approaches for the prevention and treatment of overweight and obesity that will decrease obesity-related complications, and help people achieve long-term maintenance of a healthy weight.

About UTORC

✓Rationale:

- Obesity Epidemic & Tennessee fifth most obese state.
- Local expertise in obesity research
- NIH and USDA obesity research funding: High priority.

✓Goals:

- Facilitate collaborative interdisciplinary efforts in obesity research.
- position UT/ORNL researcher to attract external funding
- Provide a forum for discussing obesity-related topics
- Provide training for students & postdocs in obesity research.
- Long-term: Seek support for centralized core facilities and resources to support obesity initiatives on campus.

Current Initiatives

- Regular Workshops
- Provide seed funds for proposal development (forthcoming).
- Offer an inter-disciplinary graduate research seminar (AS/ES 623) planned for Spring 2008 and featuring internal and external obesity experts.
- Serve as a resource for community members and organizations seeking expertise in this area.
- Web site under development.