A variety of opportunities exist for undergraduates to become involved in research in the Division of Nutritional Sciences.

**OPTION 1: NS 4010, Empirical Research:**
Students identify the kind of research they are interested in pursuing and contact faculty members with relevant types of research to see if and how they may become involved in a project. The student and faculty member complete a special studies form (obtained in either B21 Savage Hall or the registrar of the College of Human Ecology) that outlines the agreement between the faculty member and the student. The form is signed by the student, the faculty member and the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies in DNS. 3 credit maximum per semester. NS 4010 must be taken as S/U only for the first 2 credits. After completing this step, students can take it with two grading options—either letter or S/U.

**OPTION 2: NS 4990 Honors Research Program:**
Students with very strong academic records are invited to apply to the honors program the fall of the junior year. This structured research experience is for students who are highly interested in research and willing to commit substantial time and intellectual energy to a project that will span semesters.
For more information see the detailed information sheet, Honors Research Program (gold pages).

**OPTION 3: Student Employment:**
A few opportunities may exist for students to assist with a research project as an employee during the academic year and/or summer. The number and nature of the opportunities vary. To identify such opportunities, students contact faculty members directly.

**Process for Exploring Research Opportunities:**

- **Find out about the types of research being conducted in the Division.**
  Beginning on the next page is a list of names of faculty members in DNS whom students may contact regarding research opportunities. Review the list and identify those faculties with whom you wish to speak. Your method of selecting faculty members may include the type of research methods you wish to learn about (e.g., social science methods or lab methods) or the problem you wish to investigate (e.g., infant nutrition or lipid metabolism). Your faculty advisor will help you identify appropriate people to contact.

- **Suggestions for contacting faculty members.**
  Speak to faculty members at least a semester in advance of the time when you would like to get a research experience. Make an appointment to see a faculty member by speaking with his/her secretary, signing up for office hours, sending an e-mail message, or another method. Before meeting, prepare a copy of the application for undergraduate research (available in B21 Savage) or bring a copy of your resume to give the faculty member. Be prepared to discuss why you are interested in research, how much time per semester and/or how many semesters you wish to be involved in research, and previous work and research-related experiences. Ask the faculty member about their current/future research projects and their expectations for undergraduates who work with them in research. The extent to which a faculty member can involve students in his/her research program will vary according to the size and scope of various projects, the faculty member’s other commitments, and the skills/abilities of individual students.

- **Remember:**
  Be prepared, but do not be scared to ask faculty members about research. All faculty members were undergraduates at some time, and many of them arranged their first research experience through this process. Faculty members like to talk about their research!

- **Assistance with Statistics:**
  One of the many things that students learn when they are involved in research is how to apply the knowledge acquired in statistics classes to real data. The Cornell Statistical Consulting Unit (CSCU) is here to help you with this. Students involved in research projects are encouraged to seek assistance from CSCU for the design of experiments and surveys, the write-up of the statistical method section of proposals, the planning and implementation of statistical analysis, the interpretation of output and, the write-up of the results for reports.
or publications. To set up an appointment go to http://www.cscu.cornell.edu/about/appointment.php or contact one of the statistical consulting staff. For short questions, you may also take advantage of the walk-in consulting hours Monday-Friday from 11:00–11:30AM in B11/B13 Savage Hall and 1:30-2:00PM in B07/B-18 Savage Hall. For more information consult CSCU's webpage at http://www.cscu.cornell.edu/ or contact either Francoise Vermeylen (B-07 Savage Hall, 5-8211, fmv1@cornell.edu).

**Brief Description of DNS Faculty Research Interests**

For more information, check faculty websites at: http://www.human.cornell.edu/dns/academic/facultyconcen.cfm

**DALE BAUMAN**, Ph.D., Professor and L. H. Bailey Professor in Animal Science, Jointly appointed in animal Science and Nutritional Sciences (262 Morrison Hall, 5-2262, deb6@cornell.edu). Nutritional biochemistry, metabolic regulation, lactation, pregnancy, growth, functional foods.

**CAROLE BISOGNI**, Ph.D., Professor. (183 MVR Hall, 5-1127, cab20@cornell.edu). Social, cultural, and environmental influences on food choice; how individuals construct personal systems for food choice; applications of food choice research to nutrition practice.

**PATSY BRANNON**, Ph.D. Professor (225 Savage Hall, 5-3770, pmb22@cornell.edu). Maternal nutrition, placental regulation and developmental programming.

**J THOMAS BRENNA**, Ph.D., Professor (B38 Savage Hall, 5-9182, jtb4@cornell.edu). Fatty acid nutrition during perinatal development; steroid and other sports doping methods development; development of biomedical mass spectrometry for lipid analysis, including high precision isotope ratio and molecular mass spectrometry.

**RICHARD CANFIELD**, Ph.D., Senior Research Assoc. (302 MVR Hall, 5-9575, rlc5@cornell.edu). Intellectual development during infancy and early childhood, including cognitive development, and the effects of low-level lead (Pb) exposure on intellectual development.

**PATRICIA A. CASSANO**, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. (209 Savage Hall, 5-7551, pac6@cornell.edu). Research: Nutritional and genetic epidemiology, nutrients with antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties and lung disease risk, role of folate-dependent one carbon metabolism in cardiovascular disease risk, interaction of nutrition and the genome in chronic diseases. (On sabbatic leave: 7/1/12-12/31/12)

**MARIE CAUDILL**, Ph.D., R.D. Professor (228 Savage Hall, 4-7456, mac379@cornell.edu). Optimizing dietary recommendations (e.g., choline and folate) during pregnancy and lactation to improve maternal and child health.

**CAROL DEVINE**, Ph.D., Professor. (405 Savage Hall, 5-2633, cmd10@cornell.edu). Work-family integration, food choice coping strategies, and weight gain prevention; increasing access to healthy meals for working families.

**KATE DICKIN**, Ph.D., Research Associate (348 MVR Hall, 5-7297, kld12@cornell.edu) Program design, implementation and evaluation; maternal and child nutrition; parenting practices; influences on behavioral and environmental change to prevent childhood obesity and reduce nutrition disparities.

**JAMIE DOLLAHITE**, Ph.D., R.D, Assoc. Prof. (408 Savage Hall, 5-7715, jsd13@cornell.edu). Nutrition education for low-income audiences, including methods of program evaluation; barriers to changes in dietary behavior among low-income populations; nutrition education for individuals with chronic diseases including diabetes and heart disease.


**ZHENGLONG GU**, Ph.D. Assoc. Professor (312 Savage Hall, 4-5144, zg27@cornell.edu). Evolution of metabolism in human and model organisms; Evolution of duplicate genes; Network biology; Regional dietary adaptation during human evolution and its medical significance in current society. (On sabbatic leave: 1/1/13-6/30/13)
JERE HAAS, Ph.D., Nancy Schlegel Meinig Professor of Maternal and Child Nutrition. (220 Savage Hall, 5-2665, jdh12@cornell.edu). Functional consequences of undernutrition; nutrition effects on fetal and postnatal growth, work capacity, physical activity and reproduction; iron deficiency; international nutrition, particularly in Latin America and India.

DAVID LEVITSKY, Ph.D., Professor. (112 Savage Hall, 5-3263, dal4@cornell.edu). Eating behavior and the control of body weight.

MARLA LUJAN, Ph.D. Assist. Professor (216 Savage Hall, 5-3153, mel245@cornell.edu). Nutritional regulation of the menstrual cycle; ultrasonographic evaluation of ovarian function; endocrinology of obesity and reproduction.

CHARLES MCCORMICK, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. (223 Savage Hall, 5-2063, ccm3@cornell.edu). Nutritional control of gene expression.

JOANN McDERMID, Ph.D. Assistant Professor (310 Savage Hall, 5-2490, jmm585@cornell.edu). Nutritional immunology and infectious diseases, specializing in host pathogen interactions in HIV, TB and parasitic infections that coexist in a global context; clinical dietetics; nutritional epidemiology.

SAURABH MEHTA, M.B.B.S., Sc.D., Assistant Professor of Global Health, Epidemiology, and Nutrition, (314 Savage Hall, 5-2640, smeha@cornell.edu). Maternal and Child Nutrition; Global Health; Nutritional Modulation of the Immune Response; Epidemiology; Tuberculosis; HIV; Role of Vitamin D in human health.

KIMBERLY O’BRIEN, Ph.D., Professor (230 Savage, 5-3743, koo4@cornell.edu). Research: Mineral metabolism during pregnancy, adolescent pregnancy, placental transport of nutrients, maternal/fetal nutrient partitioning using stable isotopes and mass spectrometry, calcium, iron and vitamin D metabolism. (On sabbatical leave: 7/1/12-12/31/12)

CHRISTINE OLSON, Ph.D., Professor. (406 Savage Hall, 5-2634, cmo3@cornell.edu). Childbearing and the development of obesity in women; risk factors for and consequences of food insecurity for women and children; professional development and continuing education for nutrition practitioners.

ROBERT PARKER, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. (226 Savage Hall, 5-2661, rsp3@cornell.edu). Carotenoid and vitamin E metabolism; bioavailability of provitamin A carotenoids from foods.

PILAR A. PARRA, Ph.D. Research Associate and Senior Lecturer (309 Savage Hall, 5-0063, pap2@cornell.edu) Immigration, acculturation and poverty in the health status of minority populations; applied research to design and test interventions to achieve long-term health behavior change; Home food safety among Mexican Americans, prevention through education.

DAVID PELLETIER, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. (212 Savage Hall, 5-1086, dlp5@cornell.edu). Improved methods for the development, implementation and evaluation of nutrition policies and interventions in developing countries and the U.S. Includes a focus on chronic malnutrition, micronutrient malnutrition, childhood obesity, delivery science and nutrition governance.

PER PINSTRUP-ANDERSEN, Ph.D., H. E. Babcock Professor of Food, Nutrition and Public Policy. (305 Savage Hall, 5-9429, pp94@cornell.edu). Food and nutrition policy for developing countries; globalization and food security; economic development.

LING QI, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in Molecular and Biochemical Nutrition, (307 Biotech, 5-6169, lq35@cornell.edu). Nutritional biochemistry, ER stress, inflammation, metabolic regulation, transcription regulation, obesity, diabetes and metabolic syndrome.

SHU-BING QIAN, Ph.D., Assistant Professor (301 Biotech, 4-3397, sq38@cornell.edu). Nutrient signaling in mammalian cells, stress response and protein quality control, protein synthesis and cell growth, nutritional biochemistry in human diseases.
KATHLEEN RASMUSSEN, Sc.D., Professor. (111 Savage Hall, 5-2290, kmr5@cornell.edu). Role of nutrition in reproduction, particularly the effects of malnutrition on pregnancy outcome and lactational performance; maternal and infant nutrition.

DAVID SAHN, Ph.D., Prof. and Director of Cornell Food and Nutrition Policy Program (CFNPP) (414 Savage Hall, 5-8931, David.Sahn@cornell.edu). The determinants of, and solutions to poverty, inequality, poor health and malnutrition; and exploring the role of policies and programs to raise living standards, and improve skills, ability and health and nutrition outcomes.

JEFFERY SOBAL, M.P.H., Ph.D., Professor. (407 Savage Hall, 5-6015, js57@cornell.edu). Sociological aspects of food and nutrition; social patterns of obesity; food choice; family meals and commensality, food systems.

PAUL SOLOWAY, Ph.D., Professor. (108 Savage Hall/211 Weill Hall, 4-6444, Soloway@cornell.edu). Regulation of epigenetic phenomena and immune response mechanisms through studies involving genetically modified mice.

CHRISTINA STARK, M.S., R.D., C.D.N. Senior Extension Associate, (409 Savage Hall, 5-2141, cms11@cornell.edu). Nutrition education for professionals. Distance learning.

MARTHA STIPANUK, Ph.D., Professor. (227 Savage Hall, 5-2683, mhs6@cornell.edu). Sulfur amino acid metabolism, role of cysteine dioxygenase in sulfur metabolism; H2S signaling and sulfhydration of target proteins; amino acid deprivation response pathways.

REBECCA STOLTZFUS, M.S, Ph.D., Professor. (120 Savage Hall, 5-7671, ris62@cornell.edu). Improving the health and well being of women and children in resource-poor environments by improving their nutritional status. Major research themes: Nutrition interventions for mothers and infants; Infections and malnutrition; and micronutrients and anemia.

PATRICK STOVER, Ph.D., Professor. (127 Savage Hall, 5-8001, pjs13@cornell.edu). Regulation of Folate mediated-metabolism one carbon metabolism; metabolic regulation of cellular methylation reactions; mechanisms of folate-related pathologies; interaction of metabolism with genome stability and gene expression.

BARBARA STRUPP, Ph.D., Professor. (also Adjunct Prof., Dept. of Psychology) (109 Savage Hall/217 Weill Hall, 5-2694, bjs13@cornell.edu). Lifelong cognitive effects of biological influences during early development (e.g., maternal nutrient intake, exposure to toxins). Ongoing studies focus on the effects of maternal choline supplementation on offspring cognition, affect, and epigenetics, in normal individuals as well as individuals with Down syndrome and Alzheimer’s Disease. Studies include rodent models and human subjects.

JENNIFER WILKINS, Ph.D., R.D., Lecturer and Senior Ext. Assoc. (415 Savage Hall, 5-2730, jlw15@cornell.edu). Dietetic Internship Community Nutrition; Community food systems; Regional dietary guidance; Food systems and Health.

SEERA YOUNG, Ph.D., Research Scientists (113 Savage Hall, 5-4647, sly3@cornell.edu, http://www.serayoung.org) Maternal and child health, HIV, anemia, non-food cravings, infant feeding, food insecurity, sub-Saharan Africa.

Note: NS-CHE, NS-CALS and HBHS majors may also find research experiences with faculty members in other departments. To find research experiences in other departments:

1. speak with instructors of courses that interest you, and with your faculty advisor
2. speak with undergraduate students in other majors,
3. contact the department offices for lists of faculty research areas, and
4. explore the faculty pages of department web sites.