

# Professional Development Grant 2015-2016

## Final Report

### A. Title Page

Attending the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting 2016

March 29 – April 2, 2016

San Francisco, California

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## **B. Restatement of the professional enhancement opportunity**

Presentation: Do poor neighborhoods have limited temporal access to healthy foods? Case of Franklin County, Ohio.

Conference: Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting 2016. San Francisco, CA.

Dates: March 29 – April 2, 2016

Conference Website: <http://www.aag.org/cs/annualmeeting>

## **C. Brief review of the professional enhancement opportunity**

The presentation at the conference stems from my dissertation research and several recent publications, focused on geographic food access in urban areas. This question has raised a broad interest and feedback from the research community. This thread of research was awarded the Jacques May Thesis Prize by the Association of American Geographers (AAG). This presentation was also a keynote speech at the award session of the AAG Health and Medical Geography Specialty Group (HMGSG).

## **D. Summary of findings and experiences**

Presenting at the conference benefited my personal career development and also served to extend the scholarship of ATU. More importantly, the research was a collaborative project with Dr. Jill Clark (The Ohio State University). With the support of the grant, I was able to network with professionals in the field.

In addition, attending the conference provided a valuable opportunity for one of my undergraduate advisees, John Pryor. Mr. Pryor was the recipient of the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURF) from Arkansas Higher Ed, a prestigious honor an ATU undergraduate can possibly get. Sponsored by the SURF, Mr. Pryor attended the AAG

conference and presented his research along with me. The ATU professional development grant allowed me to introduce my professional network to Mr. Pryor and fostered an engagement of research inquisitiveness among students and faculty.

## **E. Conclusions and recommendations**

This research is recently published in a peer-review journal

Chen, X., & Clark, J. (2016). Measuring space–time access to food retailers: a case of temporal access disparity in Franklin County, Ohio. *The Professional Geographer*, 68(2), 175-188.

Also, part of the research results has been incorporated as a pilot study in a recent NSF submission. The NSF proposal is led by Dr. Xinyue Ye (Kent State University). I am the Co-PI in this NSF project.

2016. Geographic food access measures: Integrating scale, space, and time. NSF Geography and Spatial Sciences 14-537. 2017–2020. **Co-PI** (\$400,000, ATU portion: \$119,333).