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International Conference on

Sexually Transmitted Diseases, AIDS and Parasitic Infections

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Parasitology, Infectious Diseases, STDs and STIs

September 21-22, 2017 San Antonio, TX, USA

Special Session

Day 1

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Maurice Y Mongkuo

Fayetteville State University, USA

Dimensions of comprehensive integrated HIV prevention program for at risk young adult minorities

Aim: The comprehensive integrated HIV prevention program (CIHPP) is an evidenced-based approach for providing effective HIV program to at risk young adults along the seven dimensions of care. The aim of CIHPP is to provide appropriate prevention services to prevention the spread of HIV infection at each dimension of care including, social marketing, HIV testing, evidenced-based intervention for HIV positive persons, evidenced-based intervention for HIV negative persons, and evidenced-based intervention for HIV positive and IV negative persons.

Method: The CIHPP begins with conducting a need assessment of the target population, developing a strategic plan; preparing a logic model; developing an infrastructure to include, training of program staff, setting up a secure encrypted electronic system for program data and records, setting up a quality assurance system, and collaboration with qualified community based organizations for effective implementation of the program; establishment of an advisory council, preparing a program implementation progress monitoring system; and a program evaluation and reporting plan for assessment program objectives and goals. Implementation phase of the program involve collection of survey data from program participation on alcohol consumption use and risk awareness, substance use and risk awareness, knowledge of HIV, motivation to prevention HIV infection, and HIV prevention behavioral skills. Data is also collected on direct, indirect, and environment intervention services. The data are recorded on individual and group dosage forms, and entered into secure computers for analysis and reporting. A navigation system is set-up to link identified HIV positive persons to appropriate medical care and EBIs and adherence to the care and EBIs, and well as provide partners services. A telemedicine system is set-up to reduce barriers associated with poor retention in HIV care, increase service delivery accessibility and efficiency, and improve service delivery and retention in care for clinics serving predominantly minority people living with HIV (PLWH) in areas with increased HIV burden.

Results: During two years of implementation of the CIHPP program significant improvement outcomes was found in protective and risk factors including, substance abuse risks awareness, especially in tobacco and alcohol use awareness; knowledge of HIV prevention; and HIV prevention motivation. The result of the other key outcome indications is still pending.

Conclusion: The CIHPP shows significant promise in preventing the spread of HIV among at-risk minority young adult. However, maintenance of the program in the long term is strongly recommended until the spread of HIV infection is brought under control among the target at-risk young adult populations.

Biography

Maurice Y Mongkuo is a Professor of Public Administration at Fayetteville State University (FSU) and PI/Project Director of FSU MSI CBO HIV Prevention Project. He has a BA degree from Kenyon College; and MPIA and PhD in Public Policy Research and Analysis from the University of Pittsburgh. He has authored two books and over 30 peer-reviewed articles, monographs, technical reports, and policy briefings on HIV prevention behavior and socio-economic problems of at-risk minority youths and adults. He is currently the PI/Project Director of FSU Comprehensive Integrated Substance Abuse and HIV Prevention Program, and was a Co-PI of FSU Multi-Level Integrated HIV Prevention Program. For over 20 years, he has been the Principal Investigator, Methodologist and Project Director of several government-funded policy research projects and community prevention projects involving at-risk minority populations and communities.

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Wei Huang

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CD4 counts in capillary and venous blood samples

The CD4 cell count is a significant indicator of immune function and remains an important tool to monitor disease progression and predict overall survival in HIV-infected individuals. The gold-standard technology for determining a CD4 cell count is flow cytometry using whole blood collected by venipuncture. Technological advances now allow for the accurate measurement of CD4 cell counts in near-patient platforms, using small sample volumes such as capillary blood from fingerstick samples. To determine whether capillary samples are suitable alternatives to venipuncture samples for CD4 cell count assays, results from paired venous and capillary samples need to be carefully compared. Literature reports were examined in the context of the physiological differences in sample types, as well as the potential clinical impact of the sampling methods and testing technologies. A trend of approximately 5% positive bias was revealed in CD4 counts from capillary samples compared to venous samples when using the same cell counting technology in adult HIV patients. In practice, this small difference in CD4 cell count is insignificant in most circumstances, and CD4 cell counts obtained from capillary blood samples are equivalent to results from venous blood samples if the proper sampling method is followed. Clinicians can now focus on factors related to patient health rather than sample type and testing platform as they use the CD4 cell count to make patient management decisions.

Biography

Wei Huang has completed his PhD in Chemistry from University of Kentucky and Post-doctoral studies from University of California, Davis. He is currently a staff Research Scientist at BD Biosciences at San Jose, California. He has spent many years in the drug discovery industry and worked on antiretroviral drug development at Gilead Sciences, one of the leading pharmaceutical companies for HIV drugs. At BD Biosciences, he has worked on the development of the FACSPresto™ near-patient CD4 counter, which received CE-IVD and 510(k) clearances.

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None of us will get out of here alive: The intersections of HIV awareness, risk perceptions and behavior risk

Lorece V Edwards
Morgan State University, USA

The Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) significantly impacts minority emerging adults, among whom the rate of new diagnoses is high and health disparities are more pronounced. Unfortunately, the new emerging adults of today have limited knowledge of the earlier toll of the HIV when it was identified as a killer sexually transmitted disease. Among this population, perceptions of risk for HIV are low and sexual risk taking behaviors are high. HIV risk perception has been shown to be significantly related to prior HIV testing behavior; however, current knowledge of determinants related to HIV risk perceptions among college students has been limited. The Get SMART Project is a behavioral HIV intervention aimed to increase the awareness of HIV, provide re-purposed HIV and substance abuse prevention education as well as HIV testing to African American emerging adults ages 18-24. The project was guided by the Transtheoretical and socio-ecological models as well as a creative blend social networking, social media, social marketing, Fine Arts and community-based theater. 365 emerging adults participated in population-based surveys and eight focus groups were conducted with approximately 57 participants. Findings revealed that HIV testing is low and behavioral health risks are escalated. Gaps in knowledge were reveals, especially regarding sex and gender differences in HIV acquisition. Emerging adults did not see themselves at risk for HIV. Specific risk priorities were identified and survival expectations influence risk behaviors.

Biography

Lorece V Edwards is currently the Director of the Center for Sexual Health Advancement and Prevention Education (SHAPE) and Associate Professor in the Department of Behavioral Health Sciences at Morgan State University, School of Community Health and Policy, USA. She has published several papers on HIV primary prevention and prevention interventions.

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Eradication of HIV-1 by genome editing

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Current combination antiretroviral therapies (cART) efficiently suppress HIV1 reproduction in infected humans. However, cART does not eradicate HIV-1 from the body, necessitating lifelong medication. Therefore, intervention at additional critical steps of the virus life cycle might be indispensable to ultimately achieve an HIV cure. Clearly, the most direct approach to eradicating HIV-1 is the physical removal of the integrated provirus from infected cells. The recent development of technologies for genome editing may possibly soon allow therapeutic targeting of HIV proviral genomes. Designer-nucleases (e.g. CRISPR/Cas9) or engineered recombinases (e.g. tyrosine-type site-specific recombinases) have been shown to efficiently inhibit HIV-1 in tissue culture or in animal models (e.g. humanized mice). However, detailed investigation of these different antiviral genome editing approaches also revealed various undesired effects, in particular the problem of frequent and accelerated viral escape. In this work we have briefly discuss the pros and cons of current antiviral genome editing approaches and present experimental data in inactivation/excision of HIV proviral DNA in various model systems, including primary HIV patient-derived CD4+ T lymphocytes.

Biography

Niklas Beschorner has studied Biotechnology at University of Applied Science OOW in Emden. He finished his PhD at the University of Hamburg in the group of Professor Hauber at the Heinrich Pette Institute – Leibniz Institute for Experimental Virology, where he is currently perusing his Post-doctoral studies.

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Civic engagement learning model to educate on HIV/AIDS at an HBCU/HSI College

Solomon Nfor
St. Philip's College, USA

Jessica's project is a non-profit organization affiliated with the St. Philip's College in San Antonio, Texas. It is a civic engagement project that brings faculty, staff and students together to impact change on various topics including education about diseases associated with diet, teenage and unplanned pregnancy, the operation of community gardens and hunger banquets. I will like to present at this conference, high impact practices in teaching and learning using civic engagement, how to develop research interest in science students on the topic of HIV/AIDS and getting students involved in demystifying notions about HIV/AIDS patients or the disease. Because of their low-income status, many east side citizens resigned on healthy lifestyle as it being associated with the rich and affluent; a notion we are intent to erase by the special collaborative program engineered by our team at St. Philip's College, encourage healthy eating habits through lunch and learn workshops at the garden or various nutrition programs hosted by the churches, educate the community on HIV/AIDS and related diseases through active research by students and poster presentation, encourage a culture of health in HIV/AIDS population and increase routine medical checkups for adult and teenagers by hosting wellness week on campus with free medical checkup. This training presentation will give the participant an opportunity to design a community-based project.

Biography

Solomon Nfor has completed his PhD in Higher Education and Administration from University of the Incarnate Word and two Master's degrees in Biotechnology from University of Texas at San Antonio and in Zoology from University of Buea. He is also a Nurse and a Medical Laboratory Technologist. He is the Founder and Coordinator of St. Philip's College Jessica's Project, a civic engagement organization geared at educating students on current diseases.

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Nutrition during HIV infection: Nutritional status and food profile of adults living with HIV followed in Do's hospital district from Burkina Faso

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Centre Muraz, Burkina Faso

Nutritional problems among people living with HIV are common in developing countries. They are current in more of those countries yet, however, nutritional deficits exacerbate the immunosuppression that accentuates the under-nutrition, then accelerating the evolution of the infection. And this needs scientists' attention. In Sub-Saharan Africa, people living with HIV and their feeding habits are little described. Our study aimed to assess food consumption among people living with HIV in a district hospital of Burkina Faso. A cross sectional quantitative study was conducted in Bobo-Dioulasso in the district hospital of Do, during June and July 2014. It concerned infected adults, aged 18 and above. Clinical state of HIV infection with digestives symptoms existing, nutritional status based on body mass index (BMI) by using the WHO classification and consumption by food frequency questionnaire were assessed. We added questions about information and knowledge on feeding. The different food group distribution was classified following common groups. A sample of 124 subjects was interviewed. Most them were women (75.8% being female). The average age of participants was 39.0±8.7 years. These patients lived in urban areas (77.4% of cases) and 23.4% had no level in education. About the infection, it was noted HIV-1 in 89.5% of cases, HIV-2 in 4.8% of cases and HIV-1 and 2 in 5.7% of cases. They took ARV treatment in 96.8% of the cases. The most found clinical symptoms are oral lesions (12.9%), anorexia (12.1%) and stomach-ache (11.3%). About 18.5% of the participants were underweighted and 77.4% could have three daily meals. Current food consumption consisted of cereals flour pasta 40.3%, bread 33.9% and rice 33.1%, vegetables prepared in a sauce and a few fruits then the most consumed daily are mangoes, lemon and oranges, 74.2% of oils and fats, sugars 61.3%, meat 33.1%, fish 19.4%, and 13.7% of milk. Running water was used as a drink at 80.7% of the individuals. Uninformed respondents on food importance reached 35.5%. In the studied population, the food energy sources consumption is usual, while those food sources of micronutrients are low. The main likely causes of this imbalance are difficulty to access certain foods and lack of information. Nutritional educational programs should be developed to control HIV.

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One Health in the real world: Zoonotic parasites important to veterinarians and pet owners

Jay Tischendorf
Merck Animal Health, USA

Parasites commonly infect and can debilitate or kill animals, including our pets. Many common parasites are also zoonotic, exemplifying the One Health concept. Parasite prevention is thus critical in pets, as is awareness of the risks these organisms pose to individuals and public health. This presentation will highlight several especially important zoonotic pet parasites and provide information on preventative strategies to minimize exposure and risk.

Biography

Dr. Tischendorf holds a BS degree in Zoology from Ohio University and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences(DVM) degree from Colorado State University. He serves as a regional veterinarian with Merck and is based in the Houston area. His special interests include emerging and zoonotic diseases, anesthesiology, dermatology and animal creulty forensics and investigations. Prior to becoming a DVM he worked as an endangered species biologist and widland firefighter. In his free time he trains natural resource professionals on wildlife tracking and immobilization. He is former Marine and has lived in roughly 15 states over the course of his carrers..

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Direct testing for *Acanthamoeba* in UAE water

Amna Al Otaiba and **Selwa Alsam**
University of Essex, UK

Acanthamoeba is a microscopic free-living ameba characterized as single-celled living organism that can cause rare but severe infections of the eye, skin, and central nervous system. *Acanthamoeba* is found worldwide in the environment in water and soil. *Acanthamoeba* can be spread to the eyes through contact lens use, cuts, or skin wounds or by being inhaled into the lungs. The double-layered coat of *Acanthamoeba* cyst enables it to survive in the presence of disinfectants. It can also tolerate wide range of temperature from −2°C to 45°C. A variety of microorganism, such as *Escherichia coli (E.coli)* nest inside *Acanthamoeba* in the form of endosymbiont as amoeba-associated bacteria. In the United Arab Emirates (UAE) *Acanthamoeba* and associated endosymbiont bacteria are not yet studied, hence this study in which variety of water samples were tested for the presence of *Acanthamoeba*. 55 water samples were tested for *Acanthamoeba* presence. Water samples were filtered through 0.25 micrometer nitrocellulose membranes. Filters were incubated for 2 to three weeks at 30°C using non-nutrient agar petri plates enriched with heat killed *E. coli*. Plates were examined microscopically for existence of *Acanthamoeba* tracks. *Acanthamoeba* were removed from the surface and propagated axenically using Peptone Yeast Glucose (PYG) medium. Cysts and trophozoites were characterized by morphology, PCR, Nested PCR, and ELISA techniques. In PCR and Nested PCR, DNA was extracted and amplified using the primers JDP1 and JDP2. Results from traditional PCR requires prolonged period of time. Nested PCR was used in which the primers JDP1 and P3rev were used and the product of this amplification was amplified once again using the P2fw and JDP2. Results indicated existence of *Acanthamoeba*. For further identification ELISA technics was utilized in which a flat bottom 96 wells polystyrene plates was incubated with (rat anti *Acanthamoeba* polyclonal antibodies) for 1 hour at room temperature using carbonate/bicarbonate buffer. Followed by washing with PBS buffer and incubating with *Acanthamoeba* PBS suspension of 1000 cells/ml followed by another washing and incubation with the second antibody anti-mouse IGG peroxidase for one hour at room temperature. Peroxidase substrate with colorimetric chromagen were added and incubated for 30 minutes. Reaction was stopped by adding 3N HCl and read by ELISA reader. ELISA results confirmed with great confidence the presence of *Acanthamoeba* in water. Results indicated that ELISA technic can be utilized with great accuracy to detect directly the presence of *Acanthamoeba* in water samples.

Biography

Amna Al Otaiba is a PhD student under supervision of Selwa Alsam at the School of Biological Sciences, University of Essex. She has published about 8 articles in refereed journals serving as Director of Environment Department at Al Ain Wildlife Park and Resort in UAE. She has 17 years of experience in the field of Environment and attended many international scientific conferences.

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Women suffering from HIV in Ghana, Africa

Issah Abdulai
University of Ghana, Ghana

HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) is a sexually transmitted infection which interferes with one's body's ability to fight the organisms that cause disease. HIV has been named global epidemic with its toll being felt significantly in Africa. It has been a major cause of death in the world. It also continues to be a public health concern. It poses a risk to future generations with villages being wiped out due to its impacts. The most effected generation being the most active age group leaving the elderly and aged to look after the young. Widows and orphans have been a major occurrence in many villages and they struggle to survive the impacts of HIV. Statistics have proved that Africa has been the most affected with the situation being aggravated by the poverty levels in the continent. Symptoms that are common among women are yeast infections, pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), menstrual changes, genital ulcers, warts or herpes and psychological symptoms. Evidence available suggests that HIV treatment works well for women unless they are pregnant. In this presentation, I will share the knowledge and ideas with other students and scholars around the world in order to help reduce HIV to undetectable and harmless levels permanently and provide cure for the deadly disease.

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New directions for Leishmania therapy; How about electromagnetic radiation

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Since *Leishmania* diseases are becoming more wide spread and there are few good drug therapies, new directions of treatments should be explored. With this in mind, we engaged in evaluating the effects of Pulsed Radio Frequency (PRF) on L. tarentolae, as a model system (Taylor et al. 2010) for cell viability, ability to secrete acid phosphatase, as well as motility (as evaluated by microscopy). Vannier-Santos et al. (1995) had reported that Leishmania secreted acid phosphatase (SAP) which has an important role in the infectivity by Leishmania. We were especially interested in the potential effect of electric fields on *Leishmania tarentolae* in culture and some clinical implications due to the induced release of secreted acid phosphatase from *Leishmania*. Our data have implications for clinical treatments of cutaneous Leishmania infections.

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To grow up with an innate or early acquired HIV infection

Lise-Lott Rydström
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Aim: The aim is to describe how children growing up with an early acquired HIV and their legal guardian's experiences the life of these children.

Today, more than 2.6 million children aged 0-15 years are living with an HIV infection in the world. The majority of these children are infected by mother to child transmission and have a perinatally acquired HIV. As a result of better and more accessible treatment children are expected to become adults and live a long life. Data concerning living with perinatally acquired HIV or being a legal guardian of a child with perinatally acquired HIV is scarce. A nationwide study on children growing up with an early acquired HIV and their legal guardian's in Sweden indicates that these children do well related to health related quality of life and HIV related stigma. Studies have also shown that legal guardians rate their children's health related quality of life and HIV related stigma relatively consistent. However, disclosure is one issue where children's and legal guardian's expectations are diverge.

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Impact of tungiasis on acquisition of basic education among children aged 5-14 years in Murang'a County, Kenya

Josephine Ngunjiri, Walter Mwanda and **Peter N Keiyoro**
University of Nairobi, Kenya

Background: Millions of school age children all over the world are out of school due to various reasons which range from disabilities caused by diseases, natural calamities, insecurity, and poor infrastructure to lack of basic amenities. Tungiasis is a neglected disease that is caused by female Tungiasis flea, Tunga penetrans that embeds on the hosts, epidermis. This study was carried out to determine Tungiasis prevalence among school age children 5-14 years and to relate the disease status to acquisition of basic education.

Methodology: A cross-sectional descriptive research design in which 200 households were systematically randomly selected from which a maximum of two children aged 5-14 years were recruited adding to a total of 384 children. Questionnaires, interview guide, observation check list and physical examination guide were used to collect data. Data analysis was carried out using SPSS version 21 software. Correlations and regression tests, Wald chi square test were carried out in addition to descriptive statistics.

Results: A total of 347 children aged between 5-14 years participated in the study from a sample of 384 children drawn from 200 households. Prevalence of Tungiasis at household level was at 37% (74 households) while among children the prevalence was at 44% (153), out of whom 63% (97) were male and 37% (56) were female. It was shown that children who were younger aged below 11 years were vulnerable to tungiasis at p- value 0.048. Family size and tungiasis status have a negative Pearson relationship -0.01. However the relationship is not statistically significant (p–value 0.979). This study found that, children suffering from tungiasis were likely to repeat same class even more than one time (p-value 0.007). Tungiasis status was found to influence the ability of children to attend school at p-value 0.001.

Conclusion: Tungiasis is prevalent among the children aged between 5-14 years in endemic areas. Chronic tungiasis that had lasted for more than 1 year was common among children. Severe tungiasis caused morbidity among children, low rate of school attendance and caused high drop-out rates. Acquisition of basic education can be improved by addressing and managing tungiasis which would improve school attendance, retention and dropout rates.

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Hepatoprotective effects of vinpocetine and isosorbide-5-mononitrate in experimental *Schistosoma mansoni* infection

El-Beshbishi, Samar M Alhusseiny, Maha M Abu Hashim, Hosam El-dein E El-nemr and **Aya E Handoussa**
Mansoura University, Egypt

Schistosoma mansoni chronically infects million people globally, causing liver fibrosis. Praziquantel (PZQ) is the drug of choice for all human schistosome, yet the drug cannot prevent the advancement of liver fibrosis. So, there is a pressing necessity to develop substitutes/and or adjuvants targeting the scarring process, aiming to prevent the progression to fatal fibrosis. Our study aimed to investigate the hepatoprotective efficacy of the anti-inflammatory drug; vinpocetine, and the vasodilator agent; isosorbide-5-mononitrate (IS-5-MN) in *Schistosoma mansoni*-infected mice using some parasitological and histopathological parameters. PZQ-treated mice revealed significant reductions in hepatic egg load and granuloma count, with non-significant reduction in granuloma diameter and expressed the highest scores of hepatic inflammation and necrosis. While either vinpocetine or IS-5-MN significantly reduced granuloma count and diameter. Moreover, IS-5-MN monotherapy significantly reduced hepatic inflammation and necrosis. The best significant reductions in hydroxyproline and collagen contents were obtained in the mice groups treated with IS-5-MN combined with PZQ or vinpocetine. In conclusion, our results point to vinpocetine and IS-5-MN as a convenient and promising adjuvant agents to PZQ to ameliorate schistosomal liver pathology. Future studies are recommended to reveal the efficacy of vinpocetine, IS-5-MN and PZQ co-administration in schistosomiasis advanced liver fibrosis.

Biography

El-Beshbishi has completed her PhD-research and Post-doctoral studies from University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas-USA. She is Professor of Medical Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, and Mansoura University, Egypt. She has her expertise in schistosomal therapeutic and immunological studies. She has published more than 30 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member and reviewer of repute.

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Psychosocial and emotional effects of HIV/AIDS

Rex Stockton
Indiana University, USA

Much progress has been made in the research and development of vaccines and treatment for HIV/AIDS. Less attention has been given to the importance of social and emotional aspects of having a chronic disease such as AIDS. Based on a programmatic research program in Botswana, this presentation highlights some of the social emotional components of dealing with HIV as perceived by clients and counselors. The presentation is based on a research program that has studied client satisfaction with counseling and counselors' perception of their training, supervision, self-perceived effectiveness, professional identity, and practice and training issues. This was followed that with a study of clients' satisfaction with counseling, interpersonal and intrapersonal aspects of being HIV positive, prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV along with various social components such as stigma and effects of disclosure.

Biography

Rex Stockton has had a long career as a counseling psychologist and counselor educator, and has held a wide variety of academic, administrative, and professional responsibilities. He has directed and/or participated at a senior level in a series of research and development studies designed to investigate various aspects of counseling, with a particular emphasis on group work. Dr. Stockton has provided training and consultation at the state, national, and international level, which has led to his most current interest in the research and training activities of the I-CARE project, which he co-founded. The recipient of several major research and teaching awards for his activities, he been awarded fellow status in the American Counseling Association and the American Psychological Association. Dr. Stockton has also been president of divisions of each organization, and has held other high-level offices in several organizations.

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