

Natalie.Valpiani@tufts.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Nutrition 2013
Tufts University, Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Boston, MA

M.S. in Nutrition 2010
Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Boston, MA

M.P.H. 2010
Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, MA

B.A., International Studies and French 2003
University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & CONSULTING

Consultant, Nutrition November 2014 – December 2015

WorldFish Egypt

Analyzed household survey data, including indicators on household demographics, food expenditures and intake, and household preferences and decision-making; particular focus on preferences for and consumption of large and small fish. Co-authored resulting project report and two articles for submission to peer-reviewed journals.

Doctoral Student and Research Team Leader

February 2010 – April 2013

North Carolina Fruit and Vegetable Price Study, Goldsboro, NC

Designed study comparing the prices of 29 fruits and vegetables across seasons at farmers' markets, roadside stands and supermarkets in North Carolina. Created and implemented interactive training for data collectors. Conducted and managed year-long survey-based data collection. Created a database, analyzed data from 296 outlets, and authored resulting papers.

Visiting Researcher

August-December 2009

Wayne County Health Department, Goldsboro, NC

Designed study of student breakfast and lunch selections and implementation of the *North Carolina Healthy Active Children Policy* in six Wayne County Schools. Conducted eighteen key-informant interviews; collected and analyzed data on 1,500 student meals.

Intern, Nutrition Division

May 2008- July 2008

United Nations World Food Programme, Rome, Italy

Analyzed food consumption and socioeconomic data in SPSS; co-authored resulting paper on dietary diversity and food spending in Bangladesh. Co-authored a second paper on social safety nets and food price hikes in Latin America.

TEACHING

- Adjunct Instructor* September 2014 – Present
Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition, Boston, MA
Instructor, Course: Monitoring and Evaluation Summer 2016
Co-Instructor, Course: Monitoring and Evaluation Summer 2015
- Course Manager*, Monitoring and Evaluation April 2014 – September 2014
Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition, Boston, MA
 Online Certificate Program
 Lead virtual individual and group tutorial sessions to ensure mastery of M&E skills; facilitated effective use of online discussion boards; managed courseware.
- Invited Lecturer*, Course: Honors 352, an Honors Seminar on Food and Culture August 2004- Present
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
 Conduct seminars on food marketing to children and the affordability of healthy diet
- Teaching Assistant*, Course: Public Health Theory to Practice August 2008- December 2008
Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, MA
- Teaching Assistant*, Course: Honors 352, an Honors Seminar on Food and Culture Spring 2007
University of North Carolina Seminar Abroad, Dijon, France
- English Instructor* October 2003-June 2004
French primary schools, Chalon-Sur-Saône, France

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Social Policy Associate* March 2006 – August 2006
Catholic Charities USA, Alexandria VA
 Designed and facilitated Webinar trainings on rural hunger and immigration; conducted key-informant interviews with staff at fifteen Catholic Charities agencies to strengthen immigration advocacy; wrote eight social policy position statements.
- Community Organizer* September 2005 – February 2006
Community Farm Alliance, Louisville KY
 Created tool kit to educate legislators/media and empower advocates for federal Farmers' Market Nutrition Program; authored companion "Building Health and Wealth" report hosted online by the National Association of Farmers' Market Nutrition Programs.
- Development Worker* January-August 2005
Students Partnership Worldwide, Lyasa, Tanzania
 Taught HIV prevention in primary school and village seminars; initiated youth development group and income generation projects; trained groups to teach reproductive health topics.

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow** 2009-2012
 Three-year fellowship for Fellows pursuing a research-based graduate degree in a scientific field.

Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellow
Congressional Hunger Center, Washington D.C.

August 2005- August 2006

NCAA Walter Byers Scholar

2003

Two-year post-graduate scholarship awarded annually to one male and female undergraduate athlete based on academic, service, and athletic excellence.

RESEARCH SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Develop and lead interactive trainings for field data collection staff; supervise data collection effort.

Statistical analysis using STATA.

Professional proficiency in spoken and written French.

AWARDS & HONORS

Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health, Inductee
Tufts University 2010

MPH Academic Achievement Award
Tufts University 2010

Gershoff-Simonian Prize for Research Excellence in Nutrition Science and Policy
Tufts University 2009

Phi Beta Kappa 2003

LEADERSHIP

Chair, *Future of Food and Nutrition Graduate Research Conference* December 2007- May 2008
Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy

Lead meetings to coordinate the work of five committees planning day-long graduate research conference. Secured sponsorship totaling \$7,000; collaborating with committees, expanded reach of conference from 12 to 19 universities represented.

PUBLICATIONS

a) Refereed papers

Valpiani N, Wilde P, Rogers B, Stewart H. Patterns of fruit and vegetable availability and price competitiveness across four seasons are different in local food outlets and supermarkets. *Public Health Nutrition*. 2015; 18(15): 2846-2854.

Valpiani N, Wilde P, Rogers B, Stewart H. Price differences across farmers' markets, roadside stands, and supermarkets in North Carolina. *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*. First published online June 30, 2015.

Wilde P, Llobrera J, Valpiani N. Household food expenditures and obesity risk. *Current Obesity Reports*. 2012; 1(3): 123-133.

Thorne-Lyman AL, Valpiani N, Sun K, Semba R, Klotz C, Kraemer K, Akhter N, de Pee S, Moench-Pfanner R, Sari M, Bloem M. Household dietary diversity and food expenditures are closely linked in rural Bangladesh, increasing the risk of malnutrition due to the financial crisis. *Journal of Nutrition*. 2010; 14(1S-2): 182S-188S.

Valpiani N, Thorne-Lyman AL, dePee S, Godfrey S, Gentillini U, Bloem M. Proposed strategies for mitigating the impact of high food prices on nutrition and health in Latin America and the Caribbean. *CAB Reviews: Perspectives in Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Nutrition and Natural Resources*. 2008; 3 (081): 1-12.

b) Dissertation

Valpiani N. Price competitiveness of fruits and vegetables at local food retail outlets in all seasons of the year. Boston (MA): Tufts University, Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy; 2013. 262 p.

c) Reports

Printed for use by sponsoring organizations:

El Mahdi, A., Krstic, J., Abdallah, A., Abdullah, H., Kantor, P., Valpiani, N. The role of farmed fish in the diets of the resource-poor in Egypt. WorldFish. Penang, Malaysia. Program Report: 2015-05.

Valpiani N. Wayne County Student Wellness: Health and wellness policy implementation and child food choices in selected Wayne County Public Schools. Goldsboro (NC): Wayne County Health Department; Dec 2009.

Valpiani N. Childhood Obesity Policy Brief. Global Policy Solutions. Washington, D.C., 2007.

Halbach N. Taking Action: Catholic Charities USA's Guide to Effective Advocacy. Catholic Charities USA. Washington, D.C., 2006.

Halbach N. Building Health and Wealth: Assessing potential benefits and raising awareness of the WIC FMNP in Louisville Metro, KY. Louisville (KY): Community Farm Alliance; Feb 2006.

d) Conferences

Halbach N. Quit Playing, You'll Spoil Your Dinner! The Impact of Youth Sports on Childhood Eating Behaviors. In: Hosking R, Editor. Nurture: Proceedings of the Oxford Symposium on Food and Cookery; 2003 Sep 12-14; Oxford, England. Bristol: Footwork; 2004. P. 98-111.