



December 7, 2010

Jerri Edwards Receives 2010 Outstanding Research Achievement Award

Jerri Edwards, assistant professor in USF's College of Behavioral & Community Sciences' School of Aging Studies received the 2010 Outstanding Research Award in recognition for her research and publications on cognitive intervention and training and winning an R21 grant from the National Institute on Aging, titled: Cognitive Speed of Processing Training Among Persons with Parkinson's Disease.



The USF Office of Research & Innovation each year recognizes 10 USF faculty members on the first day of ResearchOne 2010 for excellence in research and innovation with Outstanding Research Achievement Awards. The Outstanding Research Achievement Award rewards faculty who have received truly exceptional recognition of their research with preeminent awards, grants or publications in top journals during the 2009 calendar year. The awards were presented on Monday Oct. 11, during the Research Exhibition & Faculty Awards Reception in the Interdisciplinary Research Building (IDRB) Galleria.

Edwards' research is aimed toward discovering how cognitive abilities can be maintained and even enhanced with advancing age. Ultimately, the goals of Dr. Edwards' research are to extend the mobility and independence of older adults thereby improving their quality of life. She is particularly interested in how cognitive interventions (often referred to as brain fitness programs or brain games) help older adults to avoid or at least delay functional difficulties and thereby maintain independence. Much of her work has focused upon the functional ability of driving including assessing driving fitness among older adults and cognitive training strategies to remediate cognitive decline that results in driving difficulties.