

# Mitchell Roberts

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## Education

Doctor of Philosophy Aging Studies  
University of South Florida School of Aging Studies  
August 2017-Present

Master of Arts Gerontology Program  
University of South Florida School of Aging Studies  
August 2015-May 2017

Bachelor of Science Major: Cell and Molecular Biology Minor: Gerontology  
University of South Florida Honors College  
Honors Thesis title: Characterizing Dendritic Spine Morphology Changes in a New Alzheimer's Disease Rat Model  
Supervised by: Dr. Mervis  
August 2011-May 2015

USF Senior Leaders Academy

A one-day intensive leadership experience for 50 of USF's brightest leaders. Explored higher-level leadership philosophies and gained practical knowledge to be used immediately upon graduation.

March 2015

## Professional Experience

### USF Industrial & Management Systems Engineering

Graduate Research Assistant

December 2015-December 2016

- Managing database of 1,000+ electronic health care records and assisting in monthly reports
- Self-directed work on multiple projects requiring superior time management
- Working with an interdisciplinary team
- Participant recruitment via phone calls, information booths, and presentations
- Acquiring informed consent and administering research with human subjects
- Creating informative material for research studies such as flyers, posters, and brochures

Clinical Research Team Leader and Site Supervisor

January 2017- Present

- Mentoring and training of 16 research assistants
- Developing quality assurance protocols that meet FDA clinical trial guidelines
- Troubleshooting and resolving technical issues related to software and EEG technology
- Preparation of weekly reports to track progress towards study goals using SPSS and Excel
- Community presentations in The Villages to audiences ranging from 5-250 regarding information about participant in the FDA Clinical Trial we are conducting
- Daily supervision of research staff to ensure adherence to study protocol
- Delegation of project tasks in an organized fashion to ensure reporting, recruitment, and internal-auditing is completed accurately and in advance of deadlines

## **Florida Policy Exchange Center on Aging (FPECA)**

Research Assistant

August 2015-Present

- Analyzed trends in quality in Florida Assisted living facilities using citation data from state of Florida
- Created a ranking mechanism to assess the accessibility and accuracy of assisted living information for consumers across the United States
- Conducting literature reviews on assisted living quality measurements and policies

## **Mind and Body Initiative for Diverse Communities (MBIDC)**

Research Assistant

August 2015-January 2015

- Administered health assessments in participants' homes to determine health, memory, and thinking
- Worked with an ethnic minority population in lower socioeconomic areas
- Completed data entry and analysis using SPSS and Microsoft Excel

## **NeuroStructural Research Labs**

Research Assistant

August 2014-April 2015

- Conducted a research study on an Alzheimer's disease Rat Model being tested at the University of Southern California.
- Met with local corporations, non-profits, and other organizations in the community that were willing to support neuroscience research and raised over \$1,000 dollars towards lab expenses

## **USF Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement**

Site Leader

September 2014-April 2015

- Held weekly meetings to raise awareness of social issues and injustices through education and intensive service learning experiences
- Budgeting and planning weeklong service trip to The Florida Everglades while leading a group of 9 students

## **Current Research Funding**

2016-2019

Role: Mulberry Site Supervisor/Program Coordinator.

Using Sensor Data to Increase Understanding of Aging Brains ~ Reference Database & Longitudinal Registry of the Normal and Pathological Aging Brain: Brain Network Activation Analysis for the Adult and Elderly Population Using Evoked Potentials.

Total Project Support: \$995,701, Clinical Trials.gov identifier [NCT02875496](#)

Principal Investigators: C. VandeWeerd, J. Lowenkron, & A Yalcin

2015-2018

Role: Research Assistant and Community Outreach Lead.

Sensor-Based, Response-Oriented Technology for In-Home Monitoring of Senior Health & Well Being.

Total Project Support: \$449,997. Principal Investigators: C. VandeWeerd & A. Yalcin

2015-2019

Role: Research Assistant.

Using Technology to Improve Service Delivery and Health Outcomes for Older Adults: Assessing a Comprehensive, Integrated Healthcare Delivery Platform.

Total Project Support: \$1,012,807. Principal Investigators: C. VandeWeerd & A. Yalcin

## **Additional Skills**

- Data analysis using research related software (SPSS, Endnote, Qualtrics, Microsoft Office Suite)
- Dissemination activities (manuscripts, conference abstracts, presentations)
- Brain Network Activation (BNA) technologist
- Quality control of data and adherence to clinical trial regulatory protocols

## **Professional Organizations/Memberships**

Gerontological Society of America	2015-Present
Society for Neuroscience	2014-2015
Florida Council on Aging	2015-Present
Reviewer in Training- Journal of Gerontology	2016-Present
American Public Health Association	2018-Present
International Society for Gerontechnology	2018-Present

## **Publications**

C., VandeWeerd, **M. Roberts**, E. Sappington, A. Fiscella, A. Yalcin, J. Lowenkron, J. Castaldo; O. Kehat, G. Issachar, Z. Peremen, & A. Geva. Evaluating Brain Health: Early Findings on the Utility of a Novel Technology to Assess Brain Health in Late Life. In Press. \*Winner of the 2018 Erickson Foundation Award for Excellence in Aging Research, American Public Health Association. San Diego, California, September 2018.

VandeWeerd, C., Yalcin, A., Aden-Buie, G., Wang, Y., **Roberts, M.**, Mahser, N., Fnu, C., Fabiano, D., HomeSense: Design of an Ambient Home Health and Wellness Monitoring Platform for Older Adults. \*In review, submitted to *Health and Technology* July 2019

**Roberts, M.**, Peterson, L., Hyer, K., The State of States' Assisted Living Websites: Information Available to Consumers \*In review with *The Gerontologist*, October 2019

## **Presentations**

Salmons, C., Sappington, E., **Roberts, M.**, Gross, M., VandeWeerd, C., Innovative Behavioral Health Programs for Older Women: Findings from Body Movement Therapy in Older Women Experiencing Anxiety and Depression. Poster to be presented at the American Public Health Conference, Philadelphia, PA, November 2019

**Roberts, M.**, Kehat, O., Gross, M., Lasri, N., Issachar, G., Sappington, E., VandeWeerd, C., Peremen, Z., Geva, A., Translating the Relationship Between Quality of Life and Memory Using a Novel EEG Technology To be presented at The Gerontological Society of America's Meeting Austin, Texas, November, 2019.

**M. Roberts**, E. Sappington, J. Lowenkron C. VandeWeerd, A. Yalcin, D. L. Roth Understanding Advance Care Planning in an Active Lifestyle Retirement Community. Poster presented at the 71st Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of American, Boston, MA, November, 2018.

**M. Roberts**, C. VandeWeerd, D. L. Roth, E. Sappington, S. Alluri, , A. Yalcin, J. Lowenkron Insights on Caregiving in The Villages, FL: Findings from Caregivers Participating in a Brain Health Clinical Trial. Presented at the 71st Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of American, Boston, MA, November, 2018.

C., VandeWeerd, **M. Roberts**, E. Sappington, A. Fiscella, A. Yalcin, J. Lowenkron, J. Castaldo; O. Kehat, G. Issachar, Z. Peremen, & A. Geva. Evaluating Brain Health: Early Findings on the Utility of a Novel Technology to Assess Brain Health in Late Life. Presented at the American Public Health Association conference San Diego, California, September 2018

**M. Roberts**, C. VandeWeerd, J. Lowenkron, A. Yalcin, E. Sappington. Evaluating Older Adults Brain Health: Preliminary Results from a Clinical Trial Using Novel EEG Gerontechnology. Paper presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Gerontechnology, St. Petersburg, Florida. May 2018

VandeWeerd, C., Agu, N., Aden-Buie, G., Yetisener, E., Radwan, C., Lent, K., Watkins, C., **Roberts, M.**, Behzadnia, P., & Yalcin, A. Ambient Sensor Monitoring: Detecting Loneliness and Depression in Older Adults via Passive Home Sensing. Poster presented at the 144th Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Public Health Association, Denver, CO, November 2016.

VandeWeerd, C., Lent, K., Agu, N., Sappington, E., **Roberts, M.**, Behzadnia, P., & Yalcin, A. Assessing Older Adults' Socio Behavioral Health Using Electronic Health Record Data. Poster presented at the 69Th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of American, New Orleans, LA, November, 2016.

VandeWeerd, C., Agu, N., Aden-Buie, G., Yetisener, E., Radwan, C., Lent, K., Watkins, C., **Roberts, M.**, Behzadnia, P., & Yalcin, A. Detecting Mental Health Changes in Seniors via Ambient Sensor Monitoring. Poster presented at the 69Th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of American, New Orleans, LA, November, 2016.

Dobbs, D., Meng, H., Hyer, K., **Roberts, M.** Consumers Have Spoken: Quality as Measured by Complaint Data in Florida Assisted Living Communities. Poster presented at the 69Th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of American, New Orleans, LA, November, 2016.

## **Awards**

### **University of South Florida Advanced Training Travel Grant**

August 2018, August 2019

Visited with 1 potential research partner (The Sagol Center for Hyperbaric Medicine) and 1 current research partner (ElMinda) to explore avenues for expanding brain health research for older adults. Participated in hands on analytic training, using advanced techniques with clinical and health outcomes data. Developed field appropriate communication skills with leading industry experts.

### **Erickson Foundation Research Award in Positive Aging**

November 2018

This American Public Health Association (APHA) award recognizes high-caliber research that significantly advances our understanding of physical, social, psychological, financial, and/or civic dimensions of positive aging on either the individual or community level.

### **Florida High Tech Corridor Excellence in Graduate Research Award**

May 2018

Recognized for excellence in a student leadership role within partnership with the USF College of Engineering and The Villages Health. The winning project is titled; "Using Technology to Improve Service Delivery and Health Outcomes for Older Adults" and it includes three sub-projects-a study using the Brain Network Activation program to create a big data brain mapping repository using EEG signals, a project using HomeSense, a wireless sensor system, to collect data on activities of daily living, sleep/wake patterns and lifestyle of The Villages residents, and finally the Hospitalist Evaluation sub-project, where data are collected on discharged patients to track post-discharge health outcomes.

### **Harold L. Sheppard Endowed Memorial Scholarship**

April 2016, April 2017

The scholarship is to be presented each year to the student in the M.A. program in Gerontology who has demonstrated the highest level of academic performance and promise as a gerontologist.

## **Research Interests**

- Integrating technology into healthcare delivery for older adults
- Translational research with community and industry partners