Project Number: SCS15006

Client: Dr. Amy Mobley

Affiliation: Nutritional Sciences

Consultant: Dooti Roy

Attendees: Dr. Amy Mobley, Dr. Ming Hui Chen and Dooti Roy

Location: CLAS 335

Time and Date: 4:00-5:00 p.m., 02/16/2015

Meeting Summary:

In the initial meeting Amy explained the background of her project to us. The source and nature of the data and the subjects were discussed. The project goals were defined.

Main Points Discussed:

The data has been collected from Connecticut and from three other states, where approximately 432 mothers with pre-school children were interviewed. The interviewees were asked to fill out two questionnaires the health of themselves and their children and the meal time routines. The questionnaires also included questions on their child’s body weight, height, facts about child’s nutrition and obesity related questions.

* It has been shown in past research that children from families who have meals together tend to have better diets, secure better grades in schools and also are less likely to get in trouble. This project intends to link meal time routines with healthy behavior of the child, and then to investigate if this healthy behavior effect can be quantified further to imply better BMI of the particular child.
* In past studies family sense of coherence has emerged as a mediator variable in between meal time routines and healthy behavior. This project aims to discover the existence of any such other mediator variables on top of verifying past research.
* Amy has provided us with a model which involves certain derived variables such as: meal time routines, family sense of coherence, healthy behavior, parental feeding style, economic strain on the family, child eating behaviors. All the derived variables are expressed as average score over 15 questions which can be rated from 1-5, 1 being low and 5 being high. There are also several other covariates included in the data. Amy wishes to evaluate the accuracy of the model she has considered.

Action:

1. Amy will send us the data, the reference model and the codebook.
2. Dooti will provide initial analysis.