

LUMA AKIL, PhD, MS, CPH

Associate Professor
Jackson State University
Department of Behavioral and Environmental Health

Phone: (601) 979-3105

Email: Lumaakil@hotmail.com / Luma.akil@jsums.edu

EDUCATION

- PhD** Jackson State University, Jackson, MS August 2013
Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Environmental Sciences.
Dissertation: Effects of Environmental Changes on Foodborne Illnesses and Associated Risk Assessment
- MS** Jackson State University, Jackson, MS August 2009
Masters in Science Degree in Environmental Sciences.
Thesis: Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) Mediate Diesel Exhaust Particles (DEP) Toxicity in the Alveolar Macrophage
- BS** The University of Memphis, Memphis, TN May 2001
Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology

CERTIFICATION

- ACUE** Certificate in Effective Teaching Practice Framework September 2024
- CPH** Certified in Public Health, May 2022
National Board of Public Health Examiner
- FEMA** Certified Emergency Response Team 2009- Present

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Jackson State University**, Jackson, MS. August 2023- present
Associate Professor of Environmental and Occupational Health
Department of Behavioral and Environmental Health; College of Health Sciences
- Jackson State University**, Jackson, MS. Jan 2017- July 2023
Assistant Professor: Environmental and Occupational Health
Department of Behavioral and Environmental Health
School of Public Health
- Jackson State University**, Jackson, MS Jan 2016- Dec 2016
Adjunct Professor

Department of Biology/ Environmental Science

Jackson State University, Jackson, MS.
Scientific Technician,
Bioinformatics and Biostatistics Core
RCMI-Center for Environmental Health.

Aug 2010-Dec 2016

Jackson State University, Jackson, MS.
Teaching assistant
Cell Biology lab, Department of Biology

Aug 2008- Aug 2009

RESEARCH INTEREST

Environmental and climatic changes
Food-safety
Global infectious diseases
Nutrition
Obesity and health disparities
Asthma and respiratory illnesses
Artificial Neural Networks and Predictive models
Geographical Information System
Risk Assessment

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Jackson State University Jan 2017 to present
School of Public Health
Assistant Professor, Department of Behavioral and Environmental Health

Courses taught

- PHS 706, Principles of Environmental & Occupational Health.
- PHS 541: Environmental Management and Industrial Hygiene
- PHS 542: Environmental & Occupational Risk Assessment
- PHS 544: Environmental & Occupational Toxicology
- PHS 587: Special Topics in Public Health: Global Health and Water Quality.
- PHS 507: Applied Master's Project/Capstone Course
- PHS 601: Advanced Biostatistics and Computer Science Applications
- PHS 599: Independent Studies: Food Safety and the Public Health.
- HCA 470: Health care Research and Evaluation
- HCA 480: Applied Research/ Management project

Courses Developed and Taught

- Food Safety and Public Health, new course developed; taught Summer 2021 and Fall 2021
- Global Health, new course developed; taught Spring 2018.

- BIO 101: Introduction to Biological Science.
- BIOL 101: Introduction to Biological Science laboratory.
- BIO 201: Introduction to Environmental science
- BIO 423: Ecology-Undergraduates
- BIOL 423: Ecology Lab undergraduates
- BIO 523: Ecology-Graduates
- BIOL 523: Ecology Lab - Graduates
- BIO 511: Biostatistics (Co-teaching/ software instructor)-2010 -2016
- ENV 711: Applied Environmental Biostatistics (Co-teaching/ software instructor)-2010-2016.

Doctoral Dissertation Committee

- Dissertation Committee Member: Association Between Metabolic Syndrome, Smoking Status, And Cardiovascular Events In U.S. Adults: A Cross-Sectional Analysis Using NHANES, 2017-2020. Lynsey M. McQueen. Defended February 29, 2024.
- Dissertation Committee Member: Attitudes Toward Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) among College Students in Intimate Relationships who Attend a Historically Black College in Mississippi. Temiloluwa Ogundeyi. Defended September 26, 2023.
- Dissertation Committee Member: Nutrition and Physical Activity Knowledge, Attitudes, And Behaviors Among African American Parents Of Preschoolers Living In Vicksburg, Mississippi: A Pilot Study. (Vera Igbokwe). Defended October 2022.
- Dissertation Committee Member, Trends in HIV/Aids Incidence, Prevalence, and Death Rate in Mississippi, 2008-2019. (Adetoun Faith Asala). Defended June 2022.
- Dissertation Committee Member: Prevention of Preterm Birth with the Use of Progesterone Supplementation Provider Practice in Mississippi (Wengora E. Thompson). Defended March 4, 2021.
- Dissertation Committee Member: Belief, Knowledge, and Behaviors towards Breast Cancer Screening among the Women in Southern Iran (Shahzad Aseel). Defended October 23, 2020.
- Dissertation Committee Member: “Using Multi Theory Model (MTM) Of Health Behavior Change To Explain Fruits And Vegetables Consumption Among African American Men In Barbershops In Mississippi”. (Jaelrbreiret L. Williams. Defended February 11, 2020).

- External Dissertation Committee member: Assessment Of The Role Receptor Tyrosine Kinase-Axl On Aspartame-Induced Toxicity in Glioblastoma Cells (Tomeka Nailer, Defended- Graduated Spring 2019).
- External Dissertation Committee member: Membrane-Bound Complement Regulatory Proteins Modulate Monosodium Glutamate (Msg) Toxicity and Enhance the Mitogenic and Tumorigenic Potential of Glioblastoma Cells. (Rachael Curtis: Defended- Graduated Fall 2018).

Mentoring Experience

- **Mentor for graduate assistants- GEER Assistantship:** Impacts of Covid-19 Pandemic on Foodborne Illnesses in Mississippi. Ashley Luethje-Bennett, MPH, DrPH candidate. September 2022- Current.
- **The Jackson Heart Study Graduate Training and Education Center** at Jackson State University. Faculty mentor for, Michael-Ryan Lowe, MS Student 2021-Current.
- **Mentor for graduate assistants:** Trends of COVID 19 in the Southern States. Anamika Bisht, DrPh student, 2021-2022.
- **Mentor for graduate assistants.** Mental Health and Nutrition. Chizoba Anyimukwu, DrPh student, 2018-2019.
- **Mentor for graduate assistants,** Climate change and food safety, Ariana Cargin, MPH student 2017-2018.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Academic Faculty grant recipient for SESUG 2018 Travel award	Oct 2018
Second place winner of poster presentation 11th Annual Conference on Eliminating Health Disparities– Healthy Eating II: Winning the War against Obesity	2011
Best of the show vote poster 12th RCMI International Symposium on Health Disparities Relationships between Obesity and Cardiovascular Diseases in Four Southern States and Colorado	2010

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Workshops

- **NEHA and Climate Health Ambassador Training Workshop.** NEHA AEC Conference July , 2019 and July 2022.
- RCMI Center for Health Disparities Research: **Biomedical Data Science Training Program 2nd Session,** June- July 2022.
- RCMI Center for Health Disparities Research: **Biomedical Data Science Training Program 1st Session.** October 2021- December 2021.

- **SESUG Workshop, St Pete Beach, FL:** "Fifty-Five Functions to Supercharge your SAS Code". October 14, 2018.
- **Jackson State University,** JSU ADVANCE Implicit Bias Think Tank. March 22-23, 2017.
- **Jackson State University.** Human Resources: Team Building Training. September 2017.
- **Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Grants Writing Workshop.** March, 2010

Courses and Trainings:

- ACUE's Micro credential in **Promoting Active Learning Online.**
- ACUE's Micro credential in **Inspiring Inquiry and Lifelong Learning in Your Online Course.**
- ACUE's Micro credential in **Creating an Inclusive and Supportive Online Learning Environment.**
- ACUE's Micro credential in **Designing Learner-Centered and Equitable Courses.**
- **UAB Minority Health & Health Equity Research Center (MHERC), Health Disparities Research Education Certificate Program (HDREP).** October 2022-September 2023.
- **Foundations of Public Health Certificate Program,** The New York State Department of Health Learning Management System. February- March 2022.
- **UNCF: Professional Development Training, FAC201: Advanced Student Engagement Techniques.** June 29, 2021 – July 22, 2021.
- **CDC's Office of the Associate Director for Policy and Strategy training courses,** Summer 2019.
- **JSU Junior Faculty Mentoring Program.** Academic Year 2018- 2019.
- **JSU Online: JSU Online Teaching Orientation Course,** Summer 2019
- **JSU-Distance Learning Teaching Online DL 502-503: Course Design and Delivery in Canvas.** Spring 2019.
- **Coursera Online course:** Stanford Introduction to Food and Health. Fall 2018.
- **Coursera Online course:** Global Health: An Interdisciplinary Overview. The University of Geneva. January, 2018.
- **Coursera Online course:** Epidemiology: The Basic Science of Public Health. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. July, 2015.
- **Coursera Online course:** Epidemics - the Dynamics of Infectious Diseases. The Pennsylvania State University. July, 2015.
- **Coursera Online course:** Pathways to Climate Change Adaptation: the case of Small Island Developing States. The University of Geneva. January, 2015.
- **Coursera Online course:** R Programming. Johns Hopkins University. January, 2015.
- **SAS Live Web; SAS training class:** Determining Power and Sample Size Using SAS/STAT® Software. June, 2012.
- **Jackson State University,** National Library of Medicine Web Resources for Environmental Health and Biomedical Research Training Course. September, 2011.
- **SAS Live Web; SAS training class:** Statistics 2: ANOVA and Regression. April, 2011.

- **SAS Live Web**; SAS training class: Predictive Modeling using Logistic Regression. Feb, 2011.
- **Jackson State University**, National Library of Medicine Web Resources for Environmental Health and Biomedical Research Training Course. September, 2009.
- **Jackson State University**, Mississippi Office of Homeland Security: Emergency Response Team Course. February, 2009.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University Service

Committee Member

- Committee Member: The University Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2023-2024.
- Committee Chair: Department of Behavioral and Environmental Health Search Committee, Spring 2024
- Committee Member: Department of Health Policy and Management Search Committee 2022-2023.
- Committee Member: The University Grievance Committee 2022-2023.
- Committee member, Jackson State University College of health Sciences, Dean Search Committee, 2022-2023.
- Committee member, Jackson State University School of Public Health Curriculum committee, 2017- Present.
- Committee Member: University Assessment Committee. Jan 2021- Present.
- Committee member: Department of Behavioral and Environmental Health Search Committee, 2021.
- College of Health Sciences Representative for the Jackson State University Sexual Harassment Grievance Panel for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.
- Committee member, Jackson State University sexual harassment grievance Committee. Aug 2018- July 2019.
- CEPH Accreditation committee member for: Assessment of DrPH Student Achievement of Foundational Competencies.
- CEPH Accreditation committee member for MPH Environmental and Occupational Concentration Specific Competencies and Assessments.
- CEPH Accreditation committee member for Guiding Statements, Evaluation and Quality Improvement, Graduation Rates, Post-Graduation Outcomes and Alumni Perceptions of Curricular Effectiveness

Training/ Students Activities/ Invited Lectures

- Invited lecturer: Influence of Environmental Justice on the Health and Wellness of Women, Infants, and Communities in Mississippi. October 28, 2021.
- Invited lecturer: Disease Outbreaks and Investigations; Risk Assessment of Salmonella, hands on @Risk software training for the students. March 1, 2019.
- Planned the students' activities during National Public Health Week. April 2018.
- Organizer of "Crack da Stats with SAS" workshop, Jackson State University, Department of Behavioral and Environmental Health. March, 2018

- Co-Organizer for Workshop for Developing Excel Based Meta-Analysis Models, Jackson State University, Jackson, MS RCMI. October 2016
- Organizer of SAS procedures and data analysis workshop, Jackson State University RCMI, Jackson, MS. June 2016
- Organizer of Biostatistics Data Analysis workshop, Jackson State University, Jackson, MS RCMI. November 2015
- Co- Organizer of Data Analysis Workshop Using SAS, Jackson State University, Jackson, MS RCMI. June 2015
- Co- Organizer of Data Analysis Workshop Using SPSS, Jackson State University RCMI, Jackson, MS. Feb 2015
- Co- Organizer of Workshop on Statistical Software: SAS, SPSS, Minitab. Jackson State University RCMI, Jackson, MS. April 2014
- Lecturer during CESTEME Summer Research Institute lectures series on research design and data analysis, Jackson State University. June 2013
- Lecturer at the CESTEME Summer Research Institute Lectures series on Research Design and Displaying Data with Graphs. Jackson State University, Jackson, M. June 2012.
- Co- organizer of Workshop: ANOVA using SAS and SPSS, Jackson State University RCMI, Jackson, MS. Feb 2012.

Additional Professional Service

- Session coordinator during SESUG 2018 conference: Hands on workshops: Hands-on SAS® Macro Programming Essentials for New Users and Working with the SAS® ODS EXCEL Destination to Send Graphs, and Use Cascading Style Sheets When Writing to EXCEL Workbooks.
- Co-Chair for technical Session: Production and Nutritional Factors affecting Meat Quality, ICPP. Lahore, Pakistan. November 2017
- Students' posters presentation Judge, 15th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research. February, 2019
- Students' posters presentation Judge, 14th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research. September, 2017
- Student's posters presentation Judge, 12th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research. September, 2015
- Student's posters presentation Judge, 11th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, September, 2014
- Students' projects judge during the Mississippi Science & Engineering Fair, Jackson State University. March, 2013

Peer-Reviewed Journal/ Abstracts Reviewer

- Reviewer American Journal of Public Health
- Reviewer The Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved
- Reviewer Foodborne Pathogens and Disease
- Reviewer BMJ Open
- Reviewer Reviews on Environmental Health
- Reviewer Diseases

- Reviewer Healthcare
- Reviewer IJERPH
- Reviewer Safety
- Reviewer PLOS
- Abstract Reviewer: American Public Health Association 2022 Annual Meeting and Expo.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- National Environmental Health Association, 2018- Present
- American Public Health Association, 2018- Present
- Mississippi Public Health Association, 2018- Present
- Jackson Area SAS User Group (JASUG), 2010- Present
- Phi Kappa Phi honor society, 2009- Present
- Alpha Epsilon Lambda honor society, 2009- Present
- Alpha Chi honor society honor society, 2009- Present

COMPUTER SKILLS

Professional experience in software packages including:

- SAS 9.4
- SPSS 27.0
- MINITAB
- ARC GIS
- MATLAB
- SYSTAT13
- STATVIEW
- R
- NEUROSHELL
- PALISADE DECISION TOOLS
- MS OFFICE
- ACROBAT ADOBE

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Publications

*Denotes Publication with students.

1. Ghosh S, Ahmad HA, **Akil L**, Tchounwou PB. COVID-19 Progression: A County-Level Analysis of Vaccination and Case Fatality in Mississippi, USA. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. 2022; 19(24):16552. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph192416552>
2. **Akil, L.**, and H. A. Ahmad. "Socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on foodborne illnesses in the United States. EUR J ENV PUBLIC HEALTH. 2023; 7 (2): em0128." (2023): 2. (Published online October 2022).

3. ***Akil, Luma**, Yalanda M. Barner, Anamika Bisht, Ebele Okoye, and Hafiz Anwar Ahmad. "COVID-19 Incidence and Death Rates in the Southern Region of the United States: A Racial and Ethnic Association." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 19, no. 21 (2022): 13990.
4. **Akil, L.** Trends of Foodborne Diseases in Mississippi: Association with Racial and Economic Disparities. *Diseases* 2021, 9, 83. <https://doi.org/10.3390/diseases9040083>.
a. PMID: 34842667 PMCID: PMC8628664 DOI: 10.3390/diseases9040083.
5. *Williams, J. L., Sharma, M., Mendy, V. L., Leggett, S., **Akil, L.**, & Perkins, S. (2020). Using multi theory model (MTM) of health behavior change to explain intention for initiation and sustenance of the consumption of fruits and vegetables among African American men from barbershops in Mississippi. *Health Promotion Perspectives*, 10(3), 200-206. doi: 10.34172/hpp.2020.33
6. *Barner, Y., Sung, J. H., **Akil, L.**, & Leggett, S. S. Association between Health Insurance and Obesity among Adolescents. *European Journal of Environment and Public Health* 2019, 3(2), em0031.
7. *Oluwabunmi Ogungbe, **Luma Akil** and Hafiz A. Ahmad "Exploring unconventional risk-factors for cardiovascular diseases: Has opioid therapy been overlooked?" *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2019, 16(14), 2564.
8. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A. Quantitative Risk Assessment Model for *Salmonella* Infections in Human Resulting From Broiler Chicken Consumption. *Infectious Diseases, Diseases* 2019, 7(1), 19.
9. Ahmad, HA, Aslam S, **Akil L.**, Hussain J and Rabbani I. Determining the True Prevalence Rate of Hepatitis-C in Pakistan. *AMJ* 2017,10(4):352–360.
10. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A. (2016). The Recent Outbreaks and Reemergence of Polio-Virus in War and Conflict Affected Areas. . *International Journal of Infectious Diseases* 49(8): 40-46. PubMed ID 27237735.
11. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A., 2015. *Salmonella* Infections Modelling in Mississippi using Neural Network and Geographical Information System (GIS). *BMJ Open* 2016;6:e009255. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2015-009255. PMID: 26940103 PMCID: PMC4785344
12. He, X., **Akil, L.**, Aker, W.G., Hwang, H-m., and Ahmad, H.A. (2015). Trends in Infant Mortality in United States: A Thorough Investigation of Southeastern States from 2005-2009. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2015, 12(5), 4908-4920. PMID: 25955527 PMCID: PMC4454945
13. **Akil, L.** Reddy R.S and Ahmad, H.A., 2014. Effects of Climate Change on *Salmonella* Infections. *Foodborne Pathogens and Disease*. December 2014, 11(12):

974-980. doi:10.1089/fpd.2014.1802. doi:10.1089/fpd.2014.1802. PubMed PMID: 25496072.

14. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A., 2011. Relationships between Obesity and Cardiovascular Diseases in Four Southern States and Colorado. *JHCPU*, volume 22(4): 61-72. . PMID: PMC3250069, NIHMS342422
15. Mahmud, O., Dates, C., **Akil, L.**, and Ahmad, H. A., 2011. Recent Trends in HIV and Tuberculosis in the United States and Sub-Saharan Africa. *IJERPH* Volume 8 (6): 2524-2532. PMID: PMC3138039
16. **Akil, L.**, H.A. Ahmad, 2011. Effects of Socioeconomic Factors on Obesity Rates in Four Southern States and Colorado. *Ethnicity and Disease*, Volume 21, Winter 2011. PMID: PMC3101796 NIHMSID: NIHMS285430.

Book Chapters

- 1- H. Anwar Ahmad and **Luma Akil**. *Environmental and Socioeconomic Effects on Salmonella Infection Rates*. Current Topics in *Salmonella* and Salmonellosis. INTECH Publications. ISBN 978-953-51-3066-6, Published: April 5, 2017

GRANTS AWARDED

1. **Luma Akil, Project Partner**, Subject-Matter Expert. Resource for Assistance and Community Training – Region 4 (REACT4EJ). EPA Region 4.
2. **Akil, Luma (PI)**. Predicting and Modeling the COVID-19 Pandemic Impact on Food Safety in Minority Populations. RCMI Pilot Project Program, NIHMD. Submitted November 1, 2020. Awarded (\$75,000/ June 1, 2021- May 31, 2023).
3. Sophia Leggett (PI) and **Luma Akil (Co-PI)**. Lead Poisoning Knowledge Assessment Tool for Providers, Mississippi State Department of Health (Awarded \$33, 634). October 1, 2018- September 30, 2019.

GRANT WRITING EXPERIENCE (SUBMITTED)

1. Robertson, M.N., Conrad, A.G., Madkin, J., Komakech, J.K., Buys, D., Davis, G., Mills, D., Morgan, M., Ravola, M., Chukwuma, F., Azevedo, M., **Akil, L (co PI, JSU)**., Scott, P. Education for Nutrition and Resilient Community Health (ENRICH), USDA. Submitted July 2023.
2. **Akil, Luma (PI)** and H Anwar Ahmad (CO-PI). Identification of Foodborne Illnesses Risk Factors Associated With Retail Food Establishments in Mississippi. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Submitted March 2020.

3. **Akil, L. PI.** Food safety educational resources at Jackson State University. The Center for Advancing Opportunity. Submitted May, 2018
4. **Akil, L, PI.** Introduction to Food Safety Course development. MS INBRE, Science Curriculum Funding. Submitted June 2017.
5. **Akil, L (US PI), and Dr. Jibrán Hussain (Pakistan PI).** 2017. Uplifting the socio-economic status of Pakistani rural women through hands on training on organic chicken farming, budgeting, and basic health management by establishing Rural Poultry Studies Center. National Academy of Science. Submitted on Jan 13, 2017.
6. **Akil, L, and Ahmad, H.A.** 2014. Modeling Ebola virus using classical and other approaches. NSF- Rapid Response Mechanism Proposal submitted on Nov 2014.
7. **Akil, L, PI, Ahmad, H.A. Mentor,** 2013. Effects of Climate Change and Extreme Events on Food Safety. NSF- Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. Proposal submitted on Oct 24, 2013: 1401706.
8. **Akil, L, PI, Ahmad, H.A. Mentor,** 2013. Effects of Climate Change and Extreme Events on Food Safety. Submitted to USDA-AFRI NIFA (GRANT 11347212) on March 7, 2013 for 2013-15 with total funding request of \$150,000.00.
9. **Akil, L, PI, Ahmad, H.A. Mentor,** 2012. Effects of Environmental Changes and Agriculture Practices on Foodborne Illnesses and Associated Risk Assessment. Submitted to USDA-AFRI NIFA (GRANT 11036958) on January 18, 2012 for 2012-14 with total funding request of \$75,000.00.

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Invited Speaker Oral Presentation:

1. **Luma Akil** and H Anwar Ahmad. Quantitative Risk Assessment Model for *Salmonella* Infections in Broiler Chicken. International Conference on Poultry Processing: Farm to Fork Management. UVAS, Lahore Pakistani, November 1-2, 2017. **(Invited Speaker)**

Peer Reviewed Oral Presentation

1. **Luma Akil.** Examining the Outcomes of Recent Climatic Events on Foodborne Diseases. NEHA 2023 Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition, New Orleans, LA, July 31 – August 3, 2023.
2. **Luma Akil.** Predicting the COVID-19 Pandemic's Impact on Food Safety. NEHA 2022 Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition, Spokane Convention Center, Spokane, Washington June 28- July 1, 2022.

3. **Luma Akil**. Analysis of Foodborne Diseases Trends in Mississippi. NEHA 2019 Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition. Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville, Tennessee. July 9–12, 2019.
4. H Anwar Ahmad and **Luma Akil**. Modeling approaches to understand and reduce *Salmonella* infections in egg- laying hens and humans. International Conference on Poultry Processing: Farm to Fork Management. UVAS, Lahore Pakistani, November 1-2, 2017.
5. H Anwar Ahmad and **Luma Akil**. Modeling approaches to understand and reduce *Salmonella* infections in egg- laying hens and humans. 14th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, Jackson Convention Complex, Jackson, MS, USA. September 10-13th, 2017.
6. H. Anwar Ahmad and **Luma Akil**. Developing Excel Based Meta-Analysis Models for the Hepatitis-C Studies. 13th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health. Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 11-14, 2016.
7. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad H.A. Effects of Climate Changes on Foodborne Infections in Mississippi (O46). 12th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health. Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 13-16th, 2015.
8. **Akil, L** and Ahmad, H.A. Recent Polio Outbreaks and Movement in War Conflict Zones (O58). 11th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, Jackson Convention Complex, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 14-18th, 2014.
9. Ahmad, H.A., S. Aslam, **L. Akil**, J. Hussain, and I. Rabbani. True Prevalence Rate of Hepatitis-C in Pakistan: A Meta-Analysis (O53). 11th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, Jackson Convention Complex, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 14-18, 2014.
10. Ahmad, H.A. and **L. Akil**. Effects of Environmental Changes on Foodborne Illnesses and Associated Risk Assessment. 10th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, Jackson Convention Complex, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 15-18, 2013.
11. H. A. Ahmad and **L. Akil**. Neural Network Modeling: An Efficient Tool to Forecast Biological Variables (Invited presentation, O44). 9th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 16-19, 2012.

Peer Reviewed Poster Presentations

1. **Luma Akil** and HA Ahmad, Socioeconomic Impacts Of Covid-19 Pandemic On Foodborne Illnesses In The United States. 2023 Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Consortium National Conference. RCMI Coordinating Center (RCMI CC); Bethesda, MD - April 12-14, 2023
2. Hafiz Anwar Ahmad, **L Akil**, S Ghosh. Multi-Dimensions Effects Of Covid19 On Minority Populations And Food Safety In Southern. 2023 Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Consortium National Conference. RCMI Coordinating Center (RCMI CC); Bethesda, MD - April 12-14, 2023
3. RM Curtis; **L Akil**; PB Tchounwou; K Ndebele. Examining The Effect Of Monosodium Glutamate On Glioblastoma Cells. 2023 Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Consortium National Conference. RCMI Coordinating Center (RCMI CC); Bethesda, MD - April 12-14, 2023
4. **Luma Akil**, HA Ahmad and A Mitra. Effects of Covid-19 Pandemic on Foodborne Illnesses. 2022 Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Consortium National Conference. Virtual Conference March 16-18, 2022
5. **Luma Akil** and Hafiz Anwar Ahmad. Modelling the Salmonella Infections in Mississippi. 2021 RCMI Consortium National Conference. Virtual Conference, March 24-26, 2021.
6. **Luma Akil** and Hafiz Anwar Ahmad. Nutrition and Physical Activity in Individuals with Depression: Analysis of National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. Fifteenth International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, MS, USA. February 17-20, 2019.
7. Oluwabunmi V. Ogungbe, **Luma Akil**, and Hafiz A. Ahmad. Exploring Unconventional Risk-Factors for Cardiovascular Diseases: Has Long- Term Opioid Therapy Overlooked? Fifteenth International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, MS, USA. February 17-20, 2019.
8. Rachael M. Curtis, **Luma Akil**, Paul Tchounwou and Kenneth Ndebele. Monosodium Glutamate Enhances the Mitogenic and Tumorigenic Potential of Glioblastoma Cells through the Stimulation of Membrane-Bound Complement Regulatory Proteins. Fifteenth International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, MS, USA. February 17-20, 2019.

9. Zayas-Rios, J., Kanekar, A., Nahar, V. K., Sharma, M., & **Akil, L.** (2018, September). Measuring change in HIV screening behavior using multi-theory model of health behavior change. Paper presented at the Eighth International Conference on Health, Wellness and Society, London, UK.
10. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A. 2017. Quantitative Risk Assessment Model of *Salmonella* Infections. RCMI translational Science 2017. Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. October 28 – November 1, 2017.
11. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A. 2017. Quantitative Risk Assessment Model of *Salmonella* Infections. 14th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, MS, USA. September 10-13th, 2017.
12. Ariane Mbemi, **Luma Akil**, and H. Anwar Ahmad. Climate Change and Vibrio-Cholerae Incidence in the Lake Chad Basin. 13th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health. Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 11-14, 2016.
13. Rachael M. Curtis, **Luma Akil** and H. Anwar Ahmad. The Impact of Temperature and pH Change on Vibrio Infection in the State of Florida. 13th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health. Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 11-14, 2016.
14. Eric Gulledge, **Luma Akil** and H. Anwar Ahmad. The Impact of Meteorological and Oceanographic Factors on Sea Level Rise in the US-Gulf of Mexico. 13th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health. Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 11-14, 2016.
15. Taimei T. Harris, **Luma Akil** and H. Anwar Ahmad. Phosphate Spill Effects on Water Quality Parameters in the Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR). 13th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health. Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 11-14, 2016.
16. Tomeka S. Nailer, **Luma Akil** and H. Anwar Ahmad. The Impact of Benzene Emission on Human Health in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. 13th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health. Jackson Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 11-14, 2016.
17. H. Anwar Ahmad and **Luma Akil**, 2015. Developing a Complete Online Biostatistics Course using SPSS. 12th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health. Jackson Marriot Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September

13-16th, 2015.

18. **Akil, L** and Ahmad, H.A. 2014. Recent Polio Outbreaks and Movement in War Conflict Zones. Minority Health & Health Disparities Grantees' Conference, Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, Maryland, USA, December 1-3rd, 2014.
19. Ahmad, H.A., S. Aslam, **L. Akil**, J. Hussain, and I. Rabbani, 2014. True Prevalence Rate of Hepatitis-C in Pakistan: A Meta-Analysis (Abs. # 05.02.02.002). 2014. Minority Health & Health Disparities Grantees' Conference, Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, Maryland, USA, December 1-3rd, 2014.
20. Ahmad, H.A., S. Aslam, **L. Akil**, J. Hussain, and I. Rabbani, 2014. True Prevalence Rate of Hepatitis-C in Pakistan: A Meta-Analysis (O53). 11th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, Jackson Convention Complex, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 14-18th, 2014.
21. He, X., **L. Akil**, W. Aker, H-m, Hwang, and H. A. Ahmad, 2014. Trends in Infant Mortality in United States: a Thorough Investigation of Southern States from 2005-2009 (PA84). 11th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, Jackson Convention Complex, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 14-18.
22. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A. 2013. Quantitative Risk Assessment Model for *Salmonella* Infections in Broiler Chicken. Tenth International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, Jackson Convention Complex, Jackson, MS, USA. September 15-18th, 2013.
23. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A., 2013. Neural Network Modeling of *Salmonella* Infections in Mississippi. XULA-COP Sixth Health Disparities Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. March 7-9th, 2013.
24. **Akil, L.**, Reddy RS, and Ahmad, H.A., 2013. Effects of Temperature on *Salmonella* Infections in Mississippi. LSMAMP Symposium, JSU E-Center, Jackson, Mississippi, USA. Feb 7-8th, 2013.
25. **Akil, L.**, Reddy RS, and Ahmad, H.A., 2012. Effects of Temperature on *Salmonella* Infections in Mississippi. 13th RCMC International Symposium on Health Disparities, Convention Center, San Juan, Puerto Rico, USA. December 9-13th, 2012.
26. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A., 2012. Neural Network Modeling of *Salmonella* Infections

in Mississippi. 13th RCMI International Symposium on Health Disparities, Convention Center, San Juan, Puerto Rico, USA, December 9-13th, 2012.

27. **Akil, L.**, Reddy RS, and Ahmad, H.A., 2012. Effects of Temperature On *Salmonella* Infections In Mississippi. 9th International Symposium on Environmental Health, Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 16-19th, 2012.
28. Shavonda M. Morrow, **Luma Akil** and H. A. Ahmad, 2012. Socioeconomic factors affecting type II diabetes in Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Colorado (Abstract PA-23). 9th International Symposium on Environmental Health, Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 16-19.
29. Antia Cain, **L. Akil** and H. A. Ahmad, 2012. Effects of increased tobacco price on number of smokers in Mississippi from 2006-2010 (Abstract PA-25). 9th International Symposium on Environmental Health, Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 16-19.
30. Samuel Nittala, **L. Akil**, and H. A. Ahmad, 2012. Childhood obesity - persistent concern among young Mississippians (Abstract PA-26). 9th International Symposium on Environmental Health, Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 16-19.
31. **Luma Akil** and H. A. Ahmad, 2011. Artificial Neural Networks: Obesity Modeling. 11th Annual Conference on Eliminating Health Disparities–Healthy Eating II: Winning the War Against Obesity, Jackson Hilton Convention Center, Jackson, Mississippi USA, October 7th, 2011
32. **Luma Akil** and H. A. Ahmad, 2011. Analysis of Food-Borne Related Illness and Death from Exposure to *E. coli*. LSMAMP Research Conference Jackson State University, e-center, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, October 3rd, 2011
33. **Luma Akil** and H. A. Ahmad, 2011. Obesity Modeling using Artificial Neural Networks (Abstract PA-37). 8th International Symposium on Environmental Health, Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 18-21, 2011
34. **Luma Akil** and H. A. Ahmad, 2011. Analysis of Food-Borne Related Illness and Death from Exposure to *E. coli* (Abstract PA-38). 8th International Symposium on Environmental Health, Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 18-21
35. Stacey May, O. Moore, **L. Akil** and H. A. Ahmad, 2011. Assessment of Body Fat

Composition in an Obesity Study (Abstract PA-39). 8th International Symposium on Environmental Health, Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 18-21

36. Ahmad, H.A., and **Akil, L.**, 2010. Effects of Socioeconomic Factors on Obesity Rates in Four Southern States and Colorado (Abstract # 09.03.02). 12th RCMI International Symposium on Health Disparities, Nashville Convention Center, Nashville, Tennessee, USA, December 6-9
37. Ahmad, H.A., and **Akil, L.**, 2010. Relationships between Obesity and Cardiovascular Diseases in Four Southern States and Colorado (Abstract # 09.03.03). 12th RCMI International Symposium on Health Disparities, Nashville Convention Center, Nashville, Tennessee, USA, December 6-9
38. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A., 2010. Relationships between Obesity and Cardiovascular Diseases in Four Southern States and Colorado. Jackson Heart Study Scientific Conference, Jackson Convention Complex, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 23-24
39. Mahmud, O., Dates, C., **Akil, L.**, and Ahmad, H. A., 2010. Recent Trends in HIV and Tuberculosis in the United States and Sub-Saharan Africa. 7th International Symposium on Environmental Health, Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 12-15
40. **Akil, L.** and Ahmad, H.A., 2010. Effects of Socioeconomic Factors on Obesity Rates in Four Southern States and Colorado. 7th International Symposium on Environmental Health, Marriott Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi, USA, September 12-15