



Q&A with Abiodun Atoloye

What is the basic premise of your research?

The unifying theme underlying my research is the contribution of socio-ecological factors to address disparities in food access, behaviors, and health outcomes. Using both qualitative and quantitative research approaches, I formulate a research agenda with two main foci: multi-dimensional impact of health-promoting opportunities (such as nutrition-related programs and policies) and epidemiological investigation of health disparities. Specifically, my research explores the utilization and impacts of behavior change interventions including nutrition education, environmental nudges, and incentives.

What are your future directions for your research and what do you hope to accomplish while at the Rudd Center?

My research findings acknowledged that population-based nutrition interventions like those at points of food acquisition can influence a positive change in nutrition behaviors or practices but the change does not often spread to all segments of the target population. Moving forward, my research goal will include identifying better designed point-of-food-acquisition interventions to reach more people (specifically at-risk subgroups within any target low-income groups e.g. individuals with diet-related diseases and lower-income earners). Further, given that we cannot make changes to all environments people spend time in, I want to explore how the impact of a behavior change intervention in a particular setting can translate to positive changes in another setting.

Where are you from?

I am originally from Nigeria. I had my first and second degrees in Nigeria and moved to the United States in 2015 for my Ph.D. program.

What is your favorite food?

My favorite food is a mixed dish of rice and beans with dodo (fried plantain).

What is your favorite movie?

I do not have a specific favorite movie but I love mystery and thriller movies. I recently watched one titled “The Hunters” and the storyline was captivating.