



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HERO SELECTS LAURA LINNAN AS RECIPIENT OF MARK DUNDON RESEARCH AWARD

EDINA, Minn. (September 27, 2016) — HERO (the [Health Enhancement Research Organization](#)) announced today that Laura Linnan, professor in the Department of Health Behavior at the University of North Carolina (UNC) Gillings School of Global Public Health, and founding director of the Carolina Collaborative for Research on Work and Health, has been chosen as the recipient of the [HERO Mark Dundon Research Award](#) for 2016.

The HERO Mark Dundon Research Award recognizes Linnan's efforts to enhance and promote research that advances the science of employee health management, and is one of four HERO Workplace Health and Well-Being Awards given annually to honor dedication and commitment to the field, and to acknowledge outstanding achievements.

During her research career, Linnan has led more than 35 successful intervention or evaluation trials in the field, funded by organizations such as the National Cancer Institute; National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and the American Cancer Society.

"This award recognizes the impact that applied research experts like Laura Linnan have in our evolving workplace health and well-being industry," said [Paul Terry, president and CEO of HERO](#). "Laura's rigorous and comprehensive approach to evaluating workplace interventions is impressive. Her interest in translating public health research results for improvements in workplaces and communities is the type of real-world practice and policy change we need to advance our field."

With years of public health practice experience at the county, state and national levels, Linnan's academic research work has focused on developing and testing innovative, multi-level interventions designed to prevent chronic diseases such as cancer, heart disease, stroke, arthritis, and diabetes, and their related behavioral risks. Linnan has worked collaboratively with partners to design effective interventions that improve physical activity, promote healthy eating, smoking cessation and weight loss; and, that create healthier work environments. She led the team that published the results of the 2004 national survey of worksite health promotion and is currently leading the team of experts developing the Workplace Health in America national survey of employers.

More than 100 peer-reviewed journal articles have been published on her research on worksite health promotion and other community intervention trials. Linnan is also principal investigator of the CDC-funded Coordinating Center of the Workplace Health Research Network and was recently named associate dean for Academic and Student Affairs at UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health.

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About HERO – About HERO – Based in Edina, Minn., the Health Enhancement Research Organization (HERO) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)3 corporation that was established in 1996. HERO is dedicated to identifying and sharing best practices that improve the health and well-being of workers, their spouses, dependents and retirees. To learn more, visit www.hero-health.org. Follow us on [Twitter](#) @heroehm or [LinkedIn](#).

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