



CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

June 2016 Volume 2, Issue 6

NEWS

NCATS Introduces Plans for New Single IRB Reliance Platform

On May 2, 2016, NCATS held a workshop for Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Program representatives and other innovators in clinical research management to educate them about using its new single institutional review board (IRB) reliance platform for multisite clinical studies. The NCATS **Streamlined, Multisite, Accelerated Resources for Trials (SMART) IRB Reliance Platform** is based on the successful experiences of NIH single IRB initiatives and on CTSA Program demonstration projects using a model called **IRBrely**. Designed to be a flexible platform that will enable harmonization and streamlining of processes, the NCATS SMART IRB Reliance Platform will be a key component of NCATS' Trial Innovation Network. In addition, NCATS intends for the platform to serve as a roadmap for the nation to help implement NIH's policy on single IRB use in multisite studies and as a resource for clinical researchers who conduct these studies.



[Read More](#)

Academic Job Search Series

Provided by the [UMMS Center for Biomedical Career Development](#)

Part 2: *Writing Your Statement of Teaching Philosophy*

Monday, July 18, 2016

12:00 - 2:00 pm

S2-310, 2nd floor conference room, UMMS

Part 3: *Preparing for the Interview Visit*

Part 4: *Negotiating Your Startup Package*

Wednesday, August 10, 2016

Part 3, 10:00 - 11:30 am

Part 4, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

S2-310, 2nd floor conference room, UMMS



Questions or Comments? Please email GSBScareer@umassmed.edu



Teaching of Tomorrow (TOT) *Enhancing Clinical Teaching Skills through Discourse and Practice*

Sponsored by the Clinical Faculty Development Center,
UMass Medical School

4-Day Course to be held on:
November 18-19, 2016 AND March 10-11, 2017

Teaching of Tomorrow (TOT) is a nationally recognized and highly acclaimed Faculty Development Program for preceptors of medical students and residents. First offered in 1994, this program is presented

by UMass faculty from the departments of Family Medicine, Internal Medicine and Pediatrics; over 1,500 clinical faculty and preceptors throughout the Northeast and beyond have participated. The course is designed for clinicians from any specialty--*anyone who is interested in refining their clinical teaching skills and networking with other clinician educators.*

[Read More](#)

Sharing Our Stories - Just Like NIH

*Sally Gore, MS, MSLIS
Research Evaluation Analyst, UMCCTS*

Carrie Wolinetz, Ph.D., Associate Director for Science Policy at NIH begins her [June 1 blog post](#) with the following:

Let me pose a simple question - how do we know if NIH is achieving its mission? It's tricky enough to assess how effective we are at generating fundamental scientific knowledge, though we have a decent grasp on that side of the equation. We can link tens of thousands of biomedical research articles published each year to the NIH grants that supported them. But can we take it a few sizeable steps further and systematically connect our research efforts to advances in human health? And how can we use what we learn to design policies and strategies to speed innovation and biomedical progress?

Here at the UMCCTS, we ask ourselves the same questions and we grapple with the same trickiness of the situation to find the right answers. One thing that NIH has done to address the issue is launch a website, [Impact of NIH Research](#), and more recently, added the "[Our Stories](#)" section to it. The section debuted this month with 3 case studies:

[Read More](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

PubMed Health



*Sally Gore, MS, MSLIS
Research Evaluation Analyst, UMCCTS*

It's hard to imagine that there are many readers of this newsletter who don't know about PubMed, but do you know [PubMed Health](#)? PubMed Health (PMH) is another resource from the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), a division of the National Library of Medicine (NLM). Its goal is to provide clinicians and patients with fast, easy access to credible health information on the prevention and treatment of diseases and conditions. Focusing on clinical effectiveness research, it specializes in collecting and indexing systematic reviews of clinical trials - both the full versions, as well as summaries that are easier for the public to understand. A number of authoritative sources provide the reviews to PMH including the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the National Cancer Institute, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and Cochrane, the latter being the gold standard of systematic reviews. The database goes back to approximately 2003 and is updated daily with new reviews and articles. If you're looking for a quick way to locate reviews of clinical trials, next time remember to try PubMed Health.

EVENTS



June 2016 Events

Alex K. Shalek, PhD

Hermann L.F. Von Helmholtz Career Development Professor, HST
Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, MIT (<http://shalek.wpengine.com/>)

"Immunology from the 'Bottom-Up' with Single-Cell Genomics"

Thursday, June 16, 2016

11:00 am

Albert Sherman Center, 6th Floor Conference Room AS6-2072

University of Massachusetts Medical School

Host: Manuel Garber, PhD, Associate Professor Bioinformatics and Integrative Biology; Director, Bioinformatics Core, UMMS

This MassTERi event is sponsored by the UMMS Office of Innovation and Business Development and the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science.



Raj Kalkeri, PhD

Project Leader, In Vitro Antiviral Drug Development, Department of Infectious Disease Research, Southern Research Institute

Pharma experience includes Vertex Pharmaceuticals

Pharmacological Studies: Not Just a "Furry Test Tube"

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Albert Sherman Center

Multi-Purpose Room EAST, 1st floor
University of Massachusetts Medical School

4:00 - 5:00 pm - Lecture and Case Study

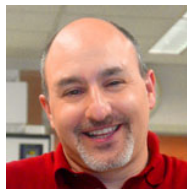
5:00 - 5:30 pm - Networking (refreshments served)

Lecture and Case Study: This lecture will discuss why the FDA requires animal models for most therapeutic indications and what we hope to learn from animal studies that we can't learn from in vitro experiments in a test tube. The speaker will discuss the limitations of animal models and ethical considerations in the use of animals, from zebra fish to non-human primates. The speaker will also describe the development of an animal model for drug discovery, how it was used and what was learned.

Registration is still open. [Register today](#) or walk-in. You're welcome to join.

This event will be a great opportunity for networking and collaboration too!

Molecular Medicine Distinguished Lecture



Evan Rosen, MD, PhD

Professor of Medicine
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Harvard Medical School
[Evan Rosen Laboratory](#)

"Epigenomic Approaches to Adipose Tissue Biology"

Thursday, June 30, 2016

12:00 pm

Molecular Medicine Seminar Room, 3rd Floor
Biotech II, 373 Plantation Street, UMMS, Worcester, MA

Host: Michael Czech, PhD, Chair and Professor, Program in Molecular Medicine, UMMS

Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) Upcoming Educational Opportunities

Clinical Research Professionals Group (CRPG) Meetings:

Thursday, July 14, 2016

1:00 - 2:00 pm

Hiatt Auditorium, S1-608, UMMS, Worcester

Friday, August 12, 2016

10:00 - 11:00 am

Hiatt Auditorium, S1-608, UMMS, Worcester



[Learn More](#)

FUNDING and TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Pipeline to Proposals Awards Initiative Call for Letters of Intent

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) is seeking Letters of Intent for **Independent Tier III projects** through their **Pipeline to Proposals Awards Initiative**. This program supports the development of research proposals designed by research partnerships of researchers, patients, caregivers, and other healthcare stakeholders.

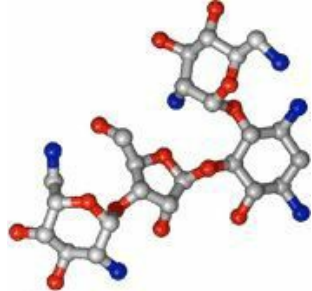


The purpose of the Pipeline to Proposals Initiative is to cultivate the development of proposals with sound scientific rigor and **robust patient engagement**. PCORI expects the Pipeline to Proposals project will help individuals strengthen collaborations that can produce meaningful research proposals. Applicants must be research partnerships including at least one patient and at least one researcher. **Up to \$50,000 for up to a Nine-Month Project Term.**

Deadline for submitting a letter of intent is Thursday, June 30, 2016

[Learn More](#)

UMASS-Chemical Screening Initiative



The UMASS-Chemical Screening Initiative (UMASS-CSI) provides investigators access to experienced professional and state-of-the-art technological resources at the [Small Molecule Screening Facility](#) (SMSF) for the discovery of exceptional chemical probes, potential diagnostic and therapeutic candidates of high impact, as well as research tools. The program is funded by the UMass Office of the President's Science and Technology Fund.

The objective of this solicitation is to invite applicants with a well-developed assay used in basic research and therapeutic development programs suitable for HTS to submit the assay for consideration by the UMASS-CSI to identify hits and probes from the SMSF compound library.

Tier 1 projects encompassing pilot experiments would be **awarded \$7,250 each** for screening any library of choice, up to a total of 5,000 compounds (e.g., a partial Diversity set and/or a combination of the LOPAC and international drug collection to name a few)

Tier 2 projects would involve comprehensive screening of the entire 58,000 compound library. Tier 2 projects would be **awarded \$22,500 each**.

Proposal Deadline: July 1, 2016

[Learn More](#)

Do you have a transformational advancement in diabetes research?

The Diabetes Innovation Challenge is now seeking qualified applicants for an exciting competition!



[T1D Exchange](#) and [M2D2](#) are pleased to announce an open competition to identify and accelerate transformational advancements in diabetes research and care.

The Diabetes Innovation Challenge will provide up to **two awards of up to \$150,000 in cash or in-kind services** provided by T1D Exchange, M2D2, and Challenge sponsors, including JDRF, the leading global organization funding type 1 diabetes research.

July 8, 2016 - Deadline to submit initial application

[Learn More](#)

World Without Disease QuickFire Challenges



Johnson & Johnson Innovation and Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. are looking for the best idea, technology or solution to **award \$500,000**. The **JLABS QuickFire Challenges** are competitions designed to attract game-changing, early-stage innovation in the Therapeutics, Consumer, Health Technologies and Med Device sectors. Winners will be awarded a variety of prizes (including cash and/or lab space), benefit from world-class lab facilities, be supported by an onsite team and have access to a global network of industry experts and programming.

Deadline to apply is August 31, 2016

[Learn More](#)

**University of Massachusetts Medical School
Transdisciplinary Training in
Cardiovascular Research (T32)**

UMass has a cardiovascular T32 training grant entitled **"Transdisciplinary Training in Cardiovascular Research"** under the direction and senior leadership of Drs. Catarina Kiefe and John Keaney. The program represents a wonderful opportunity for the institution to promote the entire spectrum (T0-T2+) of cardiovascular research on our campus. We seek to request applications from trainees who wish to become part of this exciting program at the postdoctoral level. New trainees will join 4 other current trainees in the program.



Eligibility: Please see <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-015.html>

Duration of support: Funding for two years of support provided. Trainees may apply for an additional year.

Amount of support: Based upon the NIH stipend schedule as outlined in the link below. Faculty sponsors may, at their discretion and with department and institutional approval supplement the NIH stipend, but only from a non-federal, non-sponsored funding source.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-15-048.html>

Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis.

[Learn More](#)



Bristol-Myers Squibb

Allied Minds and Bristol-Myers Squibb announce...

CATALYST

CATALYST is an exciting new program launched by Allied-Bristol Life Sciences (ABLS), a joint venture of global pharmaceutical company Bristol-Myers Squibb and venture builder Allied Minds, to identify and develop commercially-promising biopharmaceutical innovations from leading universities and research institutions. Launched in 2014, ABLS provides world-class expertise in drug development, access to a fully integrated drug discovery and development center (with medicinal chemistry, biological assays, animal models, pharmacology, toxicology capabilities, etc.) as well as seasoned management and the necessary financial backing to bring transformational academic discoveries to patients.

ELIGIBILITY

The Principal Investigator of a CATALYST proposal must be available to collaborate with ABLS in the translation of their discovery.

SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

- Successful proposals will have elucidated novel and differentiated mechanisms, supported by strong scientific validation, underlying disease states of strategic interest (see below). Priority will be given to those projects where initial lead molecules have already been identified and possess the potential to deliver first-in class drug candidates.
- **Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis.** Proposals submitted by the 1st of each month are reviewed on or before the 28th of the same month. PIs of selected proposals will be invited to present their projects to the CATALYST Steering Committee. If your project is selected, we will work efficiently with you to finalize the research plan, budget, and necessary agreements.

[Learn More](#)

Cont...Sharing Our Stories - Just Like NIH

- [Childhood Hib Vaccines: Nearly Eliminating the Threat of Bacterial Meningitis](#)
- [Neurostimulation Technologies: Harnessing Electricity To Treat Lost Neural Function](#)
- [Fighting Cancer: Ushering in a New Era of Molecular Medicine](#)

Each of these resources provides a concise overview and informative graphic that tells the story of when and how the particular research achieved its goal(s). As a package, they can be used to inform NIH's stakeholders of the concrete impact that its research had on human health.

The UMCCTS also seeks to collect and track the information needed to tell our own stories of success. The

[Performance Metrics page](#) on our website summarizes and complements the many progress reports we receive from the cores and programs we sponsor, helping us to better show the impact of the clinical and translational science being done across the 5 UMass campuses. They can be downloaded and shared with stakeholders when needed, to show how our programs advance scientific and clinical knowledge, and make a difference in improving health.

We're always looking for stories to tell and are happy to help you come up with your own. Please explore what's been accomplished to date and consider adding your stories to the big picture.

The UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS) was founded in 2006 to enhance clinical and translational research across the five University of Massachusetts campuses and our clinical partner, UMass Memorial Health Care. With the receipt of an NIH Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) in 2010, and its successful renewal in 2015, the UMCCTS joined a network of 62 NIH-funded centers collaborating to transform the conduct of clinical and translational research across the U.S. Other key partners include our patients and communities, foundations, biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, and members of the venture capital and philanthropic communities.

We encourage you to browse through our [website](#) to learn more about how the UMCCTS catalyzes clinical and translational research through education and training, pilot funding programs, cores, and services.

Please remember to cite the CTSA Grant # UL1-TR001453 in all [supported journal publications](#).