Survey Says...Another Successful Retreat!

Sally Gore, MS, MS LIS
Research Evaluation Analyst, UMCCTS

The UMCCTS hosted another successful research retreat last month. More than 250 people attended the 7th annual event, representing all 5 UMass campuses as well as several outside institutions and businesses. Peter Hotez, MD, PhD, FASTMH, FAAP delivered an inspiring keynote address focusing on poverty-related neglected diseases. Additionally, attendees were able to choose from six concurrent break-out sessions, take part in networking tables during lunch, and view close to 100 posters featuring a wide range of clinical and translational research. Materials from the retreat, including posters, will soon be available to view and download in the UMCCTS collection in eScholarship@UMMS, the digital archive of UMMS research and scholarly work.

Some comments below from the evaluation:

Both the mini-symposia were rewarding and well worth the trip.

Hotez gave a remarkable and impactful presentation that continues to influence my thoughts today.

The retreat had a lot of value for me as I am interested in applying to medical school and it offered a chance to experience some lectures and interactions with a type of medicine I am not too familiar with. I was able to learn a lot about a subject that now, since I have a better understanding of the scope of the field, is very interesting.

(The retreat provides) a fundamental moment for ‘cross-contamination’ and ‘cross-fertilization’!

Innovations in Patient Recruitment Program

Request for Applications

The goal of the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science is to support UMass researchers’ human subjects research through technological innovations. In collaboration with the UMCCTS Informatics Core and the Science Participation Resource Center, this opportunity seeks proposals for leveraging UMMS data-lake driven innovation techniques to identify and engage research participants, particularly among historically hard-to-reach patient populations.

Applications due June 30, 2017

Learn More

Pre- and Post-Doctoral Fellowship (TL1)
Training Program in Clinical and Translational Science

Request for Trainee Applications

The Pre- and Post-Doctoral Fellowship (TL1) Training Program is requesting applications from trainees who wish to become part of this exciting program at either the post-doctoral or pre-doctoral (graduate student) levels.

The TL1 Program will engage pre- and post-doctoral fellows in training across the entire translational spectrum to participate in a common clinical and translational science program on our University of Massachusetts Medical School campus.

Deadline for applications: September 15, 2017

Learn More
SAVE-THE-DATE

7th Annual Community Engagement and Research Symposium

The 7th Annual Community Engagement and Research Symposium is part of the five-campus clinical and translational science movement across the University of Massachusetts. It is sponsored by the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Community Engagement and Research component.

March 9, 2018
8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Albert Sherman Center
University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester

The goal of the symposium is to build our shared capacity to address health issues in communities throughout Massachusetts by creating opportunities for people to meet each other, learn more about each other's work and interests, and make connections and plan for future collaborative work.

Audience: Community leaders, faculty and staff from all 5 UMass campuses and other organizations and institutions interested in partnered research.

EVENTS

June 2017 Events

Human Research Protection Program (HRPP)
Upcoming Educational Opportunities

Clinical Research Professionals Group (CRPG) Meetings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Date</th>
<th>Event Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed. July 12, 2017</td>
<td>1:00-2:00 pm</td>
<td>Lazare Auditorium, S1-607</td>
<td>UMass Medical School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. August 16, 2017</td>
<td>1:00-2:00 pm</td>
<td>Lazare Auditorium, S1-607</td>
<td>UMass Medical School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th. September 14, 2017</td>
<td>2:00-3:00 pm</td>
<td>Hiatt Auditorium, S1-608</td>
<td>UMass Medical School</td>
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Learn More
The Rays of Hope Center for Breast Cancer Research at the Baystate Medical Center is partnering with the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences to invite research proposals addressing the diverse needs facing patients and clinicians.

Environmental factors are responsible for more than 70% of breast cancer risk. These include lifestyle and reproductive factors (pregnancy, obesity, shift-work) as well as exposure to environmental chemicals. Although inherited risk alleles contribute a smaller proportion of overall risk, these define pathways that render the breast epithelium vulnerable to carcinogenesis. Mechanistic studies designed to understand the complex interactions between genetic and environmental risk factors are crucial for the development of new prevention and treatment strategies.
interactions that alter risk of breast cancer or regulate progression to invasive and metastatic disease are needed to develop approaches to limit the burden of breast cancer. This includes more precise diagnostic tools and therapies as well as interventions designed to improve the lives of breast cancer survivors. Faculty at Baystate Medical Ctr, UMass Amherst and UMass Medical School are eligible to apply.

**Deadline for Application Submission: August 4, 2017**

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**UMCCTS SPARK Program**

The UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS) offers SPARK (Small Pilot and Research Knowledge) Program providing pilot funding for hypothesis-driven clinical and translational research, as well as access to the Clinical Research Center and other UMCCTS cores. The UMCCTS's priorities are to support studies that impact clinical care and research methodologies, support students and trainees, and provide access to funds to generate pilot and preliminary data for external grant submissions.

**UMass Medical School investigators, including students, fellows, and staff are eligible for funding.** Collaborations with external collaborators, including those from other UMass campuses is encouraged. Students and fellows may be designated as the PI on UMCCTS resource requests and should list the mentor on the application and upload a letter of support. Only one PI may be designated on a request.

**No Deadline Date – Rolling Basis**

Questions? Contact Nate Hafer, PhD

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**Small Conference Grants are Available!**

The UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science offers Small Conference Grants (SCG) designed to leverage the convening capacity of the UMCCTS to create new, multidisciplinary teams to address a pressing health need. The meeting can be a symposium, educational program, seminar, workshop or any other organized and formal meeting. The goal of the SCG is to facilitate networking opportunities between faculty that focus on clinical and translational research.

**No Deadline Date – Rolling Basis**

If you have an idea for an event that a SCG could help fund, visit the UMCCTS website for more information and RFA or contact Nate Hafer, PhD, Director of Operations, UMCCTS.

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

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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, services and collaboration.