2012

UMCCTS Newsletter, November 2012

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

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UMass CCTS 2012/2013 Pilot Project Program (PPP) ~ FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT
REQUEST FOR LETTERS of INTENT

Dr. Katherine Luzuriaga, Director, UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS), announces the UMCCTS 2012/2013 Pilot Project Program (PPP) request for Letters of Intent.

Please go to the UMCCTS website, http://www.umassmed.edu/uploadedFiles/CTS/Research/PPP_RFA_2012_2013.pdf to review the full RFA solicitation with submission details and eligibility.

Tentative Timeline:

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Request for Letters of Intent</td>
<td>Thursday, November 1, 2012</td>
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<td>Letters of Intent Due</td>
<td>Friday, December 14, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Proposals Due</td>
<td>Friday, February 8, 2013</td>
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<td>Project Start Date</td>
<td>Monday, April 1, 2013</td>
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The Principal Investigator must be a UMMS faculty member, but collaborations with faculty on any UMass campus are encouraged. You must also be a member of UMCCTS – membership is free and easy to apply online at: http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/signup.aspx

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Nate Hafer, UMCCTS Director of Operations at nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu

~NEW~
GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP SERIES

Sponsored by the UMass Center for Clinical & Translational Science, Office of Faculty Affairs and the Department of Quantitative Health Sciences

In today’s competitive funding environment, quality grant writing and experimental design skills are more important than ever. Please join us for an interactive, three-part series taught by distinguished UMMS faculty.

Session #1 – Writing a Pre-Proposal
Thursday, November 15, 2012
12:00 -1:00 PM
Presentation by Dr. Rob Milner, Associate Vice Provost for Professional Development and Professor of Neurology. Please RSVP to Wanda.DePasquale@umassmed.edu by November 8th.

Session #2 – Successful Study Design
Thursday, November 29, 2012
2:00 – 3:00 PM
Presentation by Dr. Rob Goldberg, Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology. Please RSVP to Wanda.DePasquale@umassmed.edu by November 20th.

Session #3 – Writing a Full Proposal
Tuesday, December 11, 2012
12:00 – 1:00 PM
Presentation by Dr. Rob Milner, Associate Vice Provost for Professional Development and Professor of Neurology. Please RSVP to Wanda.DePasquale@umassmed.edu by December 5.

All sessions will take place in the UMMS Campus Conference Room, S7-436 (School-side, 7th floor).

~ November is Diabetes Awareness Month ~

Conquering Diseases Programs – Clinical Research, “Ask the Experts” Brown Bag Lunch Series

“What we know and don’t know about the worldwide diabetes epidemic”
David M. Harlan, M.D.
Chief, Diabetes, UMass Memorial Medical Center; Co-Director, UMass Memorial Diabetes Center of Excellence; Professor of Medicine, UMass Medical School

Wednesday, November 7, 2012
12:00 – 12:30 PM
Conquering Diseases Community Resource Center
1st Floor Ambulatory Care Center
University Campus, Worcester

RSVP to Marybeth.Curnen@umassmed.edu or call 508-856-2557

Patients and families welcome

M2D2 & UMass Lowell CVIP presents:
Intellectual Property Licensing 101: Entrepreneur and University Perspectives

Jill S. Murthi, MBA
UMass Lowell CVIP

Robert Benson, PhD
South Shaker Associates

Wednesday, November 7, 2012
5:00 – 7:00 PM
Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center (M2D2)
Wannalancit Mills Office & Technical Center
600 Suffolk Street, 2nd Floor
Lowell, MA 01854

This presentation will focus on the following topic: Finding and evaluating intellectual property to license from universities, negotiating licenses with universities, and what terms universities can and cannot compromise on.
To REGISTER: http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e6fmzzfd1b9c23d2&llr=9q7bghcab

Sponsored by:
The Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health  
University of Massachusetts at Lowell, Center for Promotion of Health in the New England Workplace  
Boston Worker’s Alliance

Co-sponsored by: 
Massachusetts Public Health Association  
Public Health Programs, School of Medicine, Tufts University  
Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service, Tufts University

Support for this research was made possible with funding from the University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical & Translational Science

“The Link Between Obesity and Work in the Low Wage Workforce” 
A groundbreaking study, a dynamic convening

Tuesday, November 13, 2012 
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM 
52 Roland Street, Boston, MA

Please join us for a morning of inquiry and exploration as:
• Academic and community-based researchers present the findings from a landmark study of low wage workers and their perceptions of the impact of work on weight gain.
• Public policymakers, academic researchers, employers and employees discuss their own research, programs, and experiences – and explore ways to incorporate the lessons from the study into initiatives, interventions and public policy.

8:30   Breakfast 
9:00 – 10:30  Presentations / Report Release and Panel  
10:45 – 12:00  Small group discussions and report back

For more information or to RSVP contact Marcy Goldstein-Gelb at 617-825-7233 X15 or by email: marcy.gelb@masscosh.org

2nd Annual UMass CCTS Community Engagement and Research Section’s Symposium
“Challenging Issues in Community Health: The Role of Research”

Friday, November 30, 2012 
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM 
Hoagland-Pincus Conference Center, Shrewsbury, MA

To REGISTER, click on the registration button found on website: www.umassmed.edu/ccts/Community.
There is no charge for this event, but registration is required.
Registration DEADLINE: November 1, 2012

The Research Symposium features:
• A Keynote Address by Elmer Freeman, MSW, Executive Director, Center for Community Health Education Research & Service, Inc.
• Posters and networking for researchers and community partners
• Four Breakout Sessions

Contact Phil Merriam or Amy Borg for more information c/o: Communityengagement@umassmed.edu

M2D2 and Massachusetts Medical Device Industry Council (MassMEDIC) presents:
Medical Device Design and Business Development for Entrepreneurs Course

January 29, 2013 to March 19, 2013
6:00 – 8:30 PM
This class will be held every Tuesday night of each week for 8 weeks.

Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center
600 Suffolk Street
Wannalancit Mills Business Center, 2nd Floor
Lowell, MA 01854

Course Purpose:
• To provide aspiring entrepreneurs with a valuable toolbox of concepts, and networks for advancing their medical device design and development processes.
• This course will be taught by distinguished faculty and staff of M2D2 and the University of Massachusetts Lowell and Worcester Campuses.

To REGISTER:
http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e6ee2opn49282cd8&llr=9q7bghcab

For questions contact:
Stephen P. McCarthy, M2D2
m2d2@uml.edu
978-934-3499

~MiCARD Upgrade Announcement~

We are pleased to announce the release of a major upgrade of the MiCARD (Massachusetts integrated Clinical Academic Research Database) application. MiCARD is the UMMS implementation of the i2b2 (Informatics for Integrating Bench to Bedside) informatics platform used for cohort discovery and hypothesis generation. For upgrade details (website available November 2), see http://micard.umassmed.edu/pdf/Micard_V1.6.02_Announcement_Latest.pdf. For general information about MiCARD, please see http://micard.umassmed.edu.

CTSA CC-CHOC PEDIATRIC POINT PERSON PROJECT (P4)
The Point Person Project is an initiative of the CTSA Consortium Child Health Oversight Committee (CC-CHOC) to assemble a framework that will enable rapid response to multi-site child health clinical trial opportunities. The cornerstone of this proposal will be the Point Person, designated by the CTSA institution to review and respond to child health collaborative opportunities brought to the attention of the CTSA Consortium and communicated through the CTSA Consortium Coordinating Center (C4). The UMass Center for Clinical & Translational Science Point Person is Mary Lee, MD. The designated Point Person at each CTSA site will review and respond to child health collaborative opportunities and function as a navigator, directing trial opportunities to investigators with appropriate expertise and interest. This allows
Investigators or industry to quickly and efficiently recruit experts for protocol development and site participation. Potential participants can then participate in a teleconference to learn and contribute to the project. This is a very effective project in assisting investigators in identifying clinical sites for their studies, improving protocol design, streamlining processes through the use of standardized CDAs and contract template and utilizing single IRB models.

To download a PDF copy of the entire CTSA CC-CHOC Pediatric Point Person announcement, go to: http://www.umassmed.edu/Research/Pediatrics_CC-CHOC.aspx

For more information please contact Mary.Lee@umassmed.edu or visit:
CTSA Pediatric Point Person Project (P4) home page:

CTSA Pediatric Clinical Trials Protocol:

Congratulations to our UMCCTS Clinical Research (K12) Scholar!

2007 Scholar – Olga Hardy, MD - Pediatric Obesity article

2007 UMCCTS Clinical Research Scholar graduate, Dr. Olga Hardy, has recently published an article in Pediatric Obesity, "Increased Toll-like receptor (TLR) mRNA expression in monocytes is a feature of metabolic syndrome in adolescents".

To view the entire article, please go to: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.2047-6310.2012.00098.x/pdf

Massachusetts Life Sciences Center
Massachusetts Neuroscience Consortium Now Accepting Applications

The Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (MLSC) is pleased to announce the launch of the first Request for Proposals (RFP) funded by seven global biopharmaceutical companies that comprise the Massachusetts Neuroscience Consortium (the “Consortium”). The Consortium will fund pre-clinical neuroscience research at Massachusetts academic and research institutions. The total available project funding is $1,750,000.

Proposals are being solicited within the primary focus areas of Alzheimer’s Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Neuropathic Pain, and Parkinson’s Disease. All proposals must be anchored in recognizing human disease genetics and pathophysiology, or within pathways of known relevance to human disease, and should be translational, rather than exploratory.

The MLSC will administer the program. Interested applicants must apply via the MLSC’s website: www.masslifesciences.com/neuroscience.html
The deadline for 2-page Pre-Proposal applications is November 16, 2012 at noon (EST).

If you have questions about the program after you have reviewed the materials on the website, please send an email to: neuroscience@masslifesciences.com or call Beth Nicklas at 781-373-7715.

CVIP UMass Startup Initiative
The Office of Commercial Ventures and Intellectual Property (CVIP) in the President’s Office has instituted the UMass Startup Initiative (UMSI) to foster the creation of startups at UMass. This program augments other funding initiatives which currently include the CVIP Technology Development Award and
the UMass Co-Investment Equity Fund. The UMSI will make five thousand dollar ($5,000) grants available to the UMass campuses to prepare business plans that address the commercial potential of inventions disclosed to CVIP. The business plan will be prepared by an external consultant with relevant commercial experience working closely with the key investigator of the disclosed invention. CVIP will assist with the selection of the consultant. The business plans will be used by CVIP to determine the feasibility of a startup and after that determination CVIP will assist in seeking management and then investment for the new companies. Initially the awards will be available on a request basis. All applicants will be asked to submit a brief application describing the technology, its commercial application and the rationale for creating a startup. Selection of the awardees will be made by CVIP with the assistance of an external advisory group. For full details and application instructions please contact Dr. Bill Rosenberg, Executive Director CVIP at wrosenberg@umassp.edu or Nate Hafer at nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu

Please remember to cite the UMCCTS grant UL1RR031982 and UL1TR000161 in all journal publications.