

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Newsletter

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UMCCTS Newsletter, September 2013

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

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News and Events

September 2013

University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical & Translational Science

UMCCTS Seminar Series

“UMCCTS PILOT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2013/2014”

Nate Hafer, PhD

Director of Operations, UMCCTS

Thursday, September 26, 2013

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Faculty Conference Room S1-342

University of MA Medical School – Worcester Campus

Please join us to learn about UMCCTS pilot funding opportunities that will be offered during the 2013/2014 academic year.

Faculty, staff, and students from across all 5-UMass campuses are welcome to attend.

UMCCTS and MassBiologics of UMMS

“Next Hundred Million” Pilot Projects (NHMPP) 2013 Funding Award

The University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical & Translational Science (UMCCTS) and MassBiologics of UMMS are pleased to announce a funding opportunity for “The Next Hundred Million” Pilot Projects (NHMPP) 2013 Award. The NHMPP will serve as a dedicated pool of funding to spur innovative collaborations between UMMS, MassBiologics of UMMS and investigators across the UMass System with the goal of enhancing the translation of discoveries for clinical use.

Projects must include at least one investigator from MassBiologics of UMMS and a faculty investigator from at least one UMass campus (Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell, Worcester). Individual project awards (**up to \$75,000 for 1 year; up to \$125,000 for two years**) will be made on a competitive basis to enable investigators to accelerate the translation of innovative cutting-edge research.

Deadline for submission of **Letter of Intent** will be: **Monday, October 14, 2013 by 5:00 pm (EST)** to Wanda.DePasquale@umassmed.edu

Full funding announcement, instructions, and eligibility can be found at the UMCCTS website: <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/research/grantopps.aspx>

UMCCTS Small Conference Grants Funding Opportunity

Introduction

The University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical & Translational Science (UMCCTS) is pleased to announce a funding call for small conference grants (SCG). This funding opportunity is designed to leverage the convening capacity of the UMCCTS to create new, multidisciplinary teams to address a pressing health need. For the purpose of this award, a conference is defined as a symposium, educational program, seminar, workshop, or any other organized and formal meeting.

Purpose

The UMCCTS supports projects that are inter-campus in orientation and directed toward life sciences projects related to clinical and translational research. This fund serves to spur inter-disciplinary collaboration and strengthen the University's research portfolio in clinical and translational research. By providing seed funding to outstanding faculty members, this fund facilitates the development of faculty-to-faculty networks within the University system, thereby leveraging the considerable expertise and resources that exist on the individual campuses. It is assumed that successful conferences will serve as a springboard to attract additional funding from extramural sources.

All UMass faculty (Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell, Worcester) with an interest in clinical and translational science may apply. **Project awards of up to \$1,000 can be requested.**

Proposals will be accepted on a "rolling basis" (no due date). Investigators will be notified of award approximately 2-3 weeks post submission.

Complete details, criteria to apply, and the application process are available at the UMCCTS website: <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/research/grantopps.aspx>

You're invited...

3rd Annual UMCCTS Community Engagement and Research Symposium

"COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH: EXPLORING THE REACH, IMPACT AND VALUE"

Friday, November 8, 2013

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Albert Sherman Center, UMMS Worcester Campus

The Symposium features a keynote address by Linda Silka, PhD, Director, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and Professor, School of Economics at the University of Maine; posters, networking for researchers and community partners, a panel discussion, and breakout sessions.

Go to: http://escholarship.umassmed.edu/chr_symposium/2013/ to register and for poster abstract information.

Questions? communityengagement@umassmed.edu

**UMass Lowell ~ Department of Clinical Laboratory & Nutritional Sciences
Fall 2013 Colloquium**

“GENETICS AND GENOMICS OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE”

Christopher J. O'Donnell, MD, MPH

Chief, Cardiovascular Epidemiology and Human Genomics (CVEHG) Branch
NHLBI's Framingham Heart Study, NIH

Thursday, September 12, 2013

12:30 – 1:30 pm

O'Leary Library Room 222
South Campus, **UMass Lowell**
61 Wilder Street, Lowell, MA 01854

Faculty, staff, and students from across all 5-UMass campuses are welcome to attend. Coordinated by Mahdi Garelnabi, PhD (mahdi_garelnabi@uml.edu).

If you are unable to attend in person, a Webinar is available, but you must register early as space is limited: <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/611256183>

Surgical Technology Innovations and Commercialization at UMass (STIC-UM)

University of Massachusetts Medical School, Department of Surgery

“FORUM IN SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY: BARIATRIC SURGERY AND NOVEL WEIGHT LOSS DEVICES”

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

5:00-7:00 pm

UMass Medical School, Worcester Campus
Amphitheater III (6th or 7th floors)

The topic of this event will be current surgical techniques for weight loss and metabolic surgery, the science and physiology of weight loss, and novel weight loss devices.

Complete information available at: <https://umasssurgicaltechforumbariatrics.eventbrite.com/>

UMass Boston Venture Development Center (VDC)

“UMASS BIG DATA WORKSHOP 2013”

Sponsored by UMass President's S&T Fund

Friday, October 4, 2013

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

UMass Boston VDC
Wheatley Hall, Third Floor
100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125-3393

There has been significant interest in big data techniques and applications in recent years. The goal of this day-long workshop is to bring together UMass researchers from all five campuses with an interest in “big data”, together with select industry experts, to discuss our collective research strengths in this area and look for opportunities for cross-campus collaborations. Attendees will hear from local industry about their needs and also learn about resources at the newly established MGHPCC for big data research.

Who should attend: Faculty and researchers at any UMass campus with interests in big data techniques as well as applications of big data in various domains. Participation from graduate students and research staff are welcome also.

Due to space constraints at the VDC facility, the workshop will be limited to 40 attendees. Prior registration (free of charge) is necessary to attend this event and to ensure an accurate head-count.

To register: Please send an email by ** September 30 ** to Yanlei Diao (yanlei@cs.umass.edu) with your name, affiliation (department/UMass campus) and dietary needs (if any).

Complete information at: <http://avid.cs.umass.edu/conferences/bigdata2013/program.htm>

NIH Funds Research to Explore Cell-to-Cell Communication 2013 Extracellular RNA Communication Project Awards

On August 13, 2013, NIH announced that it was funding \$17 million for 24 research projects designed to explore and enhance our understanding of a recently discovered cell-to-cell messaging process called extracellular RNA (exRNA) communication.

Congratulations to the 2 UMass Medical School awardees for this prestigious award!

- **Jane E. Freedman, MD**, Professor, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, Department of Medicine
“Extracellular RNAs: Biomarkers for Cardiovascular Risk and Disease”
- **Neil Aronin, MD**, Professor, Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism, Department of Medicine
“Exosome Based Therapeutics in Huntington’s Disease”

Article in umassmedNOW newsletter: <http://www.umassmed.edu/news/2013/research/umms-researchers-launch-cell-to-cell-communication-studies.aspx>

Research Career & Writing Group (“K-Award” writing group) 2013-2014 Schedule

The Research Career Award Writing Group (“K-Award” writing group), established in 2007, is co-lead by Drs. Doug Ziedonis and Sherry Pagoto. Most faculty who participate and apply for a research career award have been very successful in getting funded (>80% success rate). The group meets monthly to provide information and feedback on academic career development and on preparing a Research Career Award application (NIH K Awards, VA Research Career Awards, CTSA K12 grants, etc.).

Interested in joining? To become a member, please contact Ms. Denise Barrett, Executive Assistant to Dr. Ziedonis, at denise.barrett@umassmemorial.org

The 2013-2014 schedule is now posted at the **K-Award website**, <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/K-Club/index.aspx>

National Institutes of Health Funding Announcements

NOT-TR-13-007 - *Opportunity to Submit Proposals for the Therapeutics for Rare and Neglected Diseases (TRND) Program* <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-TR-13-007.html>

RFA-RM-13-008 - *NIH Transformative Research Awards (R01)*
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-13-008.html>

Please remember to cite the CTSA Grant # UL1TR000161 in all supported journal publications.

Visit our website for all the latest news, funding announcements, seminars, educational training, membership sign-up, etc., <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts>