

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Newsletter

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UMCCTS Newsletter, January 2014

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January 2014 Newsletter

University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Science

NEWS:

***Foreign Policy* Names Luzuriaga a “Leading Global Thinker of 2013” for HIV Research**

Katherine Luzuriaga, MD, Director and PI, UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science; Vice Provost Clinical and Translational Research; Pediatric Immunologist and Professor, Molecular Medicine, Pediatrics, and Medicine, UMMS, has been named to the list of ***Foreign Policy’s* 100 Leading Global Thinkers of 2013** for “bringing the world closer to a cure for HIV”.

See full article in *UMassMed Now*: <http://www.umassmed.edu/news/2013/research/foreign-policy-names-luzuriaga-leading-global-thinker-of-2013.aspx>

Additional *UMassMed Now* article on Dr. Luzuriaga’s research:
<http://www.umassmed.edu/news/2013/UMMS-Magazine/functional-hiv-cure-offers-real-hope.aspx>

Telemedicine Study

A new study, led by **Craig M. Lilly, MD**, Professor, Department of Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, and Director, eICU Program at UMass Memorial Medical Center, has found that telemedicine can improve outcomes while saving money. This study recently was published in the journal *CHEST* with subsequent articles in *USA Today*, *Boston Business Journal*, and *Telegram & Gazette*.

Read the full article in *UMassMedNow* which includes a link to the published *CHEST* journal and news articles.

<http://www.umassmed.edu/news/2013/research/telemedicine-improves-outcomes-for-critically-ill-patients.aspx>

Research Career and Writing Group (“K-Club” writing group)

The **Research Career Writing Group (“K-Club”** writing group) is co-lead by Drs. Doug Ziedonis and Sherry Pagoto. 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 Awards, etc.). Most faculty who participate and apply for a research career award have been very successful in getting funded (>80% success rate).

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

K-Club website: <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/K-Club/index.aspx>

DID YOU KNOW?

The UMass CCTS Conquering Diseases program announces the unveiling of our new research volunteer and biorepository websites!

<https://www.umassmedresearchvolunteer.org/index.html>

<http://www.umassmed.edu/conqueringdiseases/index.aspx>

What will these websites do for you?

- Promote your studies
- Recruit participants for your studies
- Educate potential study volunteers about types of clinical trials
- Locate Biorepository specimens for your studies

Would you like help promoting your study? We can post your study description to the website!

<https://www.umassmedresearchvolunteer.org/find-studies.html>

Click on the link below to submit your study to our website:

https://www.umassmedresearchvolunteer.org/clinical_study_request_form.aspx

Do you need help recruiting study participants?

We invite you to take advantage of our clinical volunteer database filled with people who are eager to participate in UMass clinical trials.

<https://www.umassmedresearchvolunteer.org/for-researchers.html>

Do you need human samples (plasma, RNA or DNA) for your research?

We can provide you with blood specimens from our de-identified collection of samples from subjects with exact diagnosis and medical history.

<http://www.umassmed.edu/conqueringdiseases/researchers/samples/index.aspx>

Check it out and let us know how we can help!

The Conquering Diseases Team

Craig Lilly, MD – Director and PI

Michelle Maynard – Clinical Coordinator

Thomas Mayer, PhD – Biorepository Director

Sarah Rulnick, MPH – Project Manager

Conquering Diseases Program

University of Massachusetts Medical School

55 Lake Avenue North

Ambulatory Care Center, Room AC1-036B

Worcester, MA 01655

508-856-2557 (office)

Updates from the Office of Commercial Ventures and Intellectual Property (CVIP)

CVIP has also updated its website (<http://www.cvip-umass.org>). For the first time, the CVIP website provides a comprehensive list of resources on each campus as well as in the UMass President's

Office for use by faculty, staff, and students seeking to explore entrepreneurial opportunities based on UMass technology. It also identifies relevant external resources that are available (e.g., funding opportunities, contests, conferences, mentoring). The site also includes a tutorial on what inventors need to consider when they have an invention and a second tutorial on what's involved in developing a start-up company.



The UMass Commercial Ventures and Intellectual Properties (CVIP) is pleased to announce that Daniel Behr has been hired as a part-time entrepreneurial consultant to help create and mentor UMass start-up projects. Daniel Behr brings 25 years of experience in all aspects of innovation and commercialization as entrepreneur, venture investor, and technology development professional. He has been involved in launching and/or funding dozens of ventures in the life and physical sciences. Before starting his first company, Daniel was a business strategy consultant at Bain & Co., and an advanced materials research engineer at Albany International. He earned his MBA from the Harvard Business School and his BS in Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

UMMS Bioinformatics Core Facility Services

The UMass Medical School Bioinformatics Core Facility services are up and running and available for investigators/researchers to utilize.

Since accounts are not automatically created, you will need to send an email to help, Cc'ing biocore@umassmed.edu and alan.ritacco@umassmed.edu so the Bioinformatics Core can create your accounts in the HPCC and biocore servers.

You can access **Galaxy** from: <http://galaxyweb.umassmed.edu>

Right now the following genomes are installed:

Supported genomes:

Human: hg19, hg18

Mouse: mm10

Zebrafish: danrer7

D.melongaster: dm3

Macaque: rhemac3

C_elegans: ce10, ce6

S. cerevisiae: sacCer2

The Bioinformatics Core will install other versions upon request.

You can use **R**: to directly work on your files at your UNIX home directory from the web interface to R: <http://rstudio.umassmed.edu>

Assistance or Questions? Biocore@umassmed.edu

**National Institutes of Health
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS)
Gene-silencing data now publicly available to help scientists better understand disease**

In a December announcement from NCATS, “For the first time, large-scale information on the biochemical makeup of small interfering RNA (siRNA) molecules is available publicly. These molecules are used in research to help scientists better understand how genes function in disease. Making these data accessible to researchers worldwide increases the potential of finding new treatments for patients.”

Read the entire article in the link provided: http://www.nih.gov/news/health/dec2013/ncats-11.htm?utm_source=Announce&utm_campaign=1c3b9167f4-RNAi_Parkin_release11_22_2013&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_fc1085e209-1c3b9167f4-53466337

EVENTS:

Upcoming UMCCTS Seminar Series

Please mark your calendars in anticipation of attending the **UMCCTS Seminar Series**.

January 29, 2014	<u>2010 K12 Awardees:</u> Heena Santry, MD, MS Sarah Cutrona, MD, MPH	<i>Overview of research projects:</i> Acute care surgery practice patterns: impact on quality, accessibility, and the costs of care for surgical emergencies Electronic message transmission between members of a social network to improve screening for cancer: colorectal cancer screening as a model
February 13, 2014	Hong Yu, PhD	iSERF Technology
March 13, 2014	<u>2013 LSMF Awardee:</u> Paul D. Kaufman, PhD	Examining biofilms on commercial plastics
April 10, 2014	<u>2013 PPP Awardee:</u> Jeffrey Bailey, MD, PhD	Overview of research project on Endemic Burkitt Lymphoma
May 22, 2014	<u>2012 PPP Awardee:</u> Julia Hua Fang, PhD	<i>Overview of research project:</i> A new tool for studying heterogeneity of treatment effects in longitudinal translational research

All seminars are located at the **University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester campus** in the **Faculty Conference Room** (1st floor, Medical School Entrance), S1-342, **starting at 12:00 noon** with lunch served.

UMass Bioinformatics Core and Program in Bioinformatics and Integrative Biology An Informal Discussion

“TARGETED RESEQUENCING: APPLICATIONS IN CLINICAL MALARIA FOR STRAIN DIVERSITY AND BEYOND”

Jeffrey Bailey, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor

Program in Bioinformatics and Integrative Biology and
Department of Medicine-Transfusion Medicine

Friday, January 10, 2014

11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Albert Sherman Center, 4th Floor Conference Room AS4-2072
UMMS Worcester Campus

Host: Manuel Garber, PhD, Director, Bioinformatics Core, UMMS

UMass Quantitative Health Sciences
Quantitative Methods Core Methods Seminars & Grand Round Series

“MEDIATION ANALYSIS”

David MacKinnon, PhD
Professor, Arizona State University
Author of, *“Introduction to Statistical Mediation Analysis”*

Tuesday, January 21, 2014
12:00 – 1:00 pm
Free Hands-on Workshop: 1:30 – 4:00 pm
Lazare Research Building, Blais Pavillion
UMMS Worcester Campus

Learning Objective: Understanding and Running Mediation Analyses
Bring your laptops and run step-wise mediation analyses with the speaker using SAS and free Mplus demo program (<http://www.statmodel.com/demo.shtml>)

Please RSVP to Maureen Schulz, Maureen.Schulz@umassmed.edu

Science, Snack and Socialize
A Networking Event for UMass Life Sciences Alumni

Wednesday, January 22, 2014
6:00 – 8:00 pm
UMass Club
225 Franklin Street, 33rd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

This 2nd community-building event follows in the footsteps of our successful first gathering last summer, where nearly 100 members of the region’s life sciences industry came together to forge and strengthen business relationships under the common flag of UMass...

Register Now!

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07e8rcsbdr1d572b5c&c=74d7e2a0-3273-11e3-80f9-782bcb740129&ch=75873570-3273-11e3-81f2-782bcb740129>

The UMass Amherst Institute for Computational Biology, Biostatistics, and Bioinformatics
Research Training in High-Performance Computing with R

Biostatistics in Practice:
Data Sciences for the Life Sciences in a High-Performance Computing Environment

Friday, February 7, 2014
8:00 am – 6:00 pm
MGHPCC, Holyoke, MA

This one-day workshop is designed for researchers from academic and industry environments. Basic familiarity with the R statistical computing environment (or completion of an excellent, free on-line tutorial prior to attending) is recommended. Participants will learn how to leverage powerful tools for high-performance computational research using R, such as: ggplot2 • GitHub • knitr • multicore • RStudio • Shiny

Tentative Session Topics:

- Principles of reproducible research with R
- Introduction to cluster computing and applications with R
- Simulation and parallel computing with R
- Applications in big data sciences

For more information, agenda and registration: <http://www.umass.edu/icb3/biostatistics-in-practice>

~SAVE THE DATE~

UMass Center for Health Equity Intervention Research (CHEIR) invites you to attend...

Synthesis Engagement Elevation to Eliminate Disparities (SEED) Symposium
An innovation gathering to generate new ideas for health equity

Thursday, August 28 – Friday, August 29, 2014

University of Massachusetts Medical School, 55 Lake Avenue North, Worcester, MA 01655

The Synthesis Engagement and Elevation to Eliminate Disparities (SEED) Symposium uses cutting-edge approaches to generate new findings and resources to eliminate health disparities. Sponsored by the UMass Center for Health Equity Intervention Research (CHEIR), the SEED Symposium is not a typical research conference! Participants will experience talks, visual performances, graphic arts and interactive activities.

Call for Nominations for SEED TALKS!

SEED talks are about...

Powerful science, inspiring stories of change, and/or new ways of thinking about old problems.

If you know someone whose ideas and achievements could excite an audience and elevate the narrative on eliminating health disparities, or if you have an exciting contribution that needs to be shared with an audience of health equity researchers and community stakeholders, go to www.cheir.org to submit a nomination for SEED Talk. **Deadline date: January 30, 2014**

Registration opens April 2014

Questions? Chioma Nnaji, MPH, MEd, CHEIR Program Director, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, Center for Health Equity Intervention Research, chioma.nnaji@umassmed.edu

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

2014 UMass Life Sciences Moment Fund and UMass Science and Technology Initiatives Fund Request for Letters of Intent

INTRODUCTION

The University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS) is pleased to announce a funding call for the **UMass Life Sciences Moment Fund (LSMF) 2014**. The UMass LSMF supports projects that are inter-campus in orientation and directed towards life sciences projects related to clinical and translational research.

As in past years, the LSMF will be coordinated more closely with the **UMass President's Office Science and Technology (S&T) Initiatives Fund**.

UMASS LIFE SCIENCES MOMENT FUND (LSMF)

The UMass LSMF supports projects that are inter-campus in orientation and directed toward life sciences projects related to clinical and translational research. Current and future projects supported by this fund are envisioned to advance the therapeutic, device, intervention, etc., under study along the translational pipeline. The fund serves to spur inter-campus collaboration and strengthen the University's research portfolio in clinical and translational research. To support this mission, projects must include at least one investigator from the UMMS Worcester campus and a collaborator from at least one of the other UMass campuses. 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 projects will attract additional funding from extramural sources.

Applicants interested in the UMass Life Sciences Moment Fund can read the full funding announcement: http://umassmed.edu/uploadedFiles/CCTS/Research/LSMF/LSMF2014_RFA.pdf

UMASS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (S&T) INITIATIVES FUND

The UMass S&T Fund is a tool to catalyze research collaborations among UMass campuses and with other partners to create impact and economic engagement at many levels. It will provide resources to support well-established faculty who have a proven track record of securing external funding and who are positioned to attract major research and development funding opportunities for the University as part of an overall strategy to grow and strengthen the University's R&D enterprise. The intent of the program is to focus on areas of strategic importance to campus research and to the state and its Innovation Economy (e.g., clean energy, life sciences, IT and "big data," cyber security, advanced manufacturing, medical devices and the like). Key criteria also include catalyzing partnerships with other UMass campuses, other research institutions and Massachusetts industry.

Applicants interested in the S&T Initiatives Fund can read the full funding announcement: <http://www.massachusetts.edu/aasair/stappreviewprocess.html>

LSMF / S&T Review Process

Proposals for projects that are inter-campus, directed toward life sciences, and include at least one investigator from the UMMS Worcester campus may be eligible for either the Life Sciences Moment Fund or the S&T Fund. Applicants **SHOULD NOT** submit the same proposal to both funds. Instead, if you have questions about which fund is most appropriate for your proposal please contact Doug Banks (dbanks@umassp.edu) or Nate Hafer (nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu). As part of an integrated Review Process, proposals may be shared across grant programs based on appropriateness of mission and availability of funds.

Deadline for all LOIs submissions: Friday, February 28, 2014 by 5:00 pm (EST)

Submission Instructions (read carefully):

For all UMass Campus (Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, Lowell, Worcester) submissions for the LSMF

Please email your Letter of Intent (2 pages or less) as an attachment (Word or PDF) to: Wanda DePasquale wanda.depasquale@umassmed.edu

For UMMS Worcester Campus submission for the S&T

Please email your Letter of Intent (2 pages or less) as an attachment (Word or PDF) to: UMMS Office of Research Funding, deniseM.degabriele-lindberg@umassmed.edu

For UMass Campuses (Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, or Lowell) submissions for the S&T

Please email your Letter of Intent (2 pages or less) as an attachment (Word or PDF) to your **UMass *Campus Research Office** (*contact your individual Campus Research Office for individual's name/email for submission)

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**. 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/cts/research/grantopps.aspx>

UMass CVIP Technology Development Fund for Winter FY14

William Rosenberg, PhD, Executive Director, UMass Office of Commercial Ventures & Intellectual Property (CVIP) is pleased to announce the **11th annual solicitation for the CVIP Technology Development Fund**.

Fund Objective

The CVIP Technology Development Fund was established by CVIP in the UMass President's Office in 2004 to provide UMass researchers with supplemental funding to advance previously disclosed University technologies toward commercialization. The grant is intended to move technologies to the proof of concept stage or to allow

the investigator to take other critical steps to make the technology attractive for licensing or other forms of commercialization. The Fund is NOT intended to support basic research, but rather close the gap between the research discovery and proven technology.

CVIP Technology Development Fund

CVIP will grant to selected UMass researchers **an award not to exceed \$25,000 in any one fiscal year** for the continued development of technology. Grants may be used for a variety of purposes deemed appropriate to the fund's objectives. Such uses may include additional experimentation, purchase of equipment, contracting of additional work or services, and some travel.

Granting Schedule:

Applications Due:	January 17, 2014 (noon)
Notification of Finalists:	February 17, 2014
Finalist Presentations:	March 5, 2014
Announcement of Awards:	March 19, 2014

Complete details, criteria to apply, and the application process:

<http://www.cvip-umass.org/about-cvip/cvip-technology-development-fund/>

UMass Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center (M2D2) Third Annual New Venture Competition 2014

M2D2 is pleased to announce the M2D2 New Venture Competition 2014 to showcase the innovative developments of early-stage medical device companies.

Companies will compete for **\$50,000** of services from M2D2, Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP, and Smith & Nephew, Inc. M2D2 is hosting a medical device start-up competition that will find the best new medical device ventures – and award thousands of dollars worth of services.

Full contact details and more information including Call for Application announcement, Entry Application and, Important Dates and Timelines can be found at:

<http://www.uml.edu/Research/Centers/M2D2/medicalchallenge.aspx>

Entry Fees – Apply early to receive discounted application fees:

By January 15, 2014:	No charge
By January 31, 2014:	\$25
By February 10, 2014:	\$50

Questions: Contact Mary Ann Picard by email at m2d2@uml.edu or by phone at 978-934-3403.

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, sign-up for membership, etc., <http://www.umassmed.edu/ccts>