UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Newsletter

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UMCCTS Newsletter, January 2017

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

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I-Corps Program at the UMCCTS

Interested in the business of science? Want help translating your research into better health? Want to gain experience for a career in industry?

The I-Corps Program at the UMCCTS, a joint MassTERi/UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science initiative, is designed to support the translation of biomedical research by providing early-stage education and strategic guidance to faculty, staff and students during the ideation phase of technology development.

Join us for a no-obligation informational session:

**Monday, February 6, 2017**

4:00-5:00 pm

AS7-2072, Albert Sherman Center, UMMS

This four-week course will be held in the Spring 2017. Designed specifically for the biomedical researcher at UMass, it guides interdisciplinary teams through a hands-on process of understanding the market for novel technologies utilizing a proven customer discovery methodology.

Questions? [ccts@umassmed.edu](mailto:ccts@umassmed.edu)

IND LAUNCH 2017

The UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science, UMMS Innovation and Business Development, and MassBiologics of UMMS are pleased to announce a funding opportunity, IND LAUNCH 2017, to support IND/IDE-enabling studies. The purpose of this program is to assist faculty with the commercial development of UMass discoveries; assist faculty with the commercial development of UMass discoveries; specifically, to facilitate additional research and development work directed at enabling first in human studies. Individual project awards (up to $50,000 for 1 year) will be made on a competitive basis to enable investigators to move innovative, cutting-edge research toward commercialization. Funds will typically be used to support additional experimentation and other services (PK/PD, animal toxicology studies, project management, business plan development, product profile development, regulatory filing, etc.) that are necessary steps in filing an IND/IDE.

**Open to UMass Medical School Faculty**

Deadline for proposals: February 20, 2017

[Read More](#)
(Small Pilot and Research Knowledge) Program provides 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

Registration is Open

Registration is now open for the 6th Annual Community Engagement and Research Retreat (a component of the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science) to be held on:

Friday, March 3, 2017  
8:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Albert Sherman Center  
University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester

Please come join us to build our shared capacity to address health issues in communities throughout Massachusetts by creating opportunities for people to meet and interact with each other.

This year's keynote speaker is Margarita Alegria, PhD, Chief, Disparities Research Unit, Massachusetts General Hospital and Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School.

Registration ends on February 10, 2017.

Register today!
UMASS Optimizing Psychiatric Treatment In MATernal mental health (OPTIMA) Center
Call for Abstracts

The goal of this communication is to solicit abstracts for research projects focused broadly on perinatal mental health and associated comorbidities including addiction and trauma. Abstracts will be considered for inclusion in a UMMS center grant application being submitted to the NIH. Selected abstracts would be funded as pilot projects if UMMS is awarded the grant.

UMass, in collaboration with other state government and academic institutions, will be applying for a National Institute of Health (NIH) program project grant in response to the PAR-16-354 funding opportunity announcement. The NIH FOA is titled, "Advanced Laboratories for Accelerating the Reach and Impact of Treatments for Youth and Adults with Mental Illness (ALACRITY) Research Centers".

Abstract submission deadline: February 27, 2017

Questions? Tiffany Moore Simas

Read More
Did you know that membership to the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science (UMCCTS) provides access to the following UMass libraries, UMass Amherst, Boston, Lowell, and Worcester (UMass Dartmouth is in the works)?

Benefits of membership include:
- UMass members can access UMass Worcester research cores at the on-campus academic rate. Non-UMass academic members can access UMass Worcester research cores at the off-campus academic rate. Industry partners pay industry rates.
- UMass faculty are eligible to access electronic resources at the UMass Amherst, Boston, Lowell and Worcester Libraries.
- UMass members are eligible to apply for pilot award funding opportunities.
- Members receive e-mail notification of all UMCCTS funding opportunities, events, seminars, annual retreat, and monthly newsletter.

Sign-up for membership or refer a friend or colleague.

Learn More
and Translational Science, announced the 2017 Community Research Innovative Scholars Program (CRISP) call for proposals. CRISP is a twelve-month group-based mentoring program which supports the development of junior UMass researchers who have established community partnerships and who are interested in pursuing extramural funded grants. Community engaged research involved collaborative research with community partners along the translational research continuum.

We are pleased to announce the following projects were awarded:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UMass Campus Investigator:</th>
<th>Community Partner:</th>
<th>Project:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kristin M. Murphy, PhD</td>
<td>Janelle Ridley</td>
<td>Project STORY (Street Trauma Oriented Research led by Youth)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor of Special Education</td>
<td>Program Manager of Student Voice and Initiatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Curriculum &amp; Instruction</td>
<td>Office of Social Emotional Learning and Wellness</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Education and Human Development</td>
<td>Boston Public Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>UMass Boston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor of Pediatrics</td>
<td>Nursing Director for Worcester Public Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Division of Pediatric Pulmonology</td>
<td>Community-based Participatory Research Partner</td>
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<tr>
<td>UMass Medical School</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie K. Wang, PhD</td>
<td>Giles Li, MA</td>
<td>Community-Engaged Intervention Addressing Mental Health Effects on Prolonged International Parent-Child Separation in Chinese Immigrant Families</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Executive Director, Boston, Chinatown Neighborhood Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Sociology</td>
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<tr>
<td>UMass Boston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angela Wangari Walter, PhD, MPH, MSW</td>
<td>J.J. Bartlett</td>
<td>Community-Based Prevention to Reduce Opioid and Other Drug Abuse Among Commercial Fishing Industry Workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>President, Fishing Partnership Support Services, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Public Health</td>
<td>Burlington, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Health Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>UMass Lowell</td>
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Congratulations to all our CRISP awardees!

Learn More about the CRISP Program.

EVENTS

February 2017 Events

Human Research Protection Program (HRPP)
Upcoming Educational Opportunities

Clinical Research Professionals Group (CRPG) Meetings:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 8, 2017</td>
<td>12:00 - 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Hiatt Auditorium S1-608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 16, 2017</td>
<td>1:00 - 2:00 pm</td>
<td>Hiatt Auditorium S1-608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 6, 2017</td>
<td>1:00 - 2:00 pm</td>
<td>Hiatt Auditorium S1-608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 12, 2017</td>
<td>3:00 - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Hiatt Auditorium S1-608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 13, 2017</td>
<td>2:00 - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>Hiatt Auditorium S1-608</td>
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BIOINFORMATICS CORE

A Clinical System Overview

Presented by
Tim Tarnowski
Senior Vice President and CIO
UMASS Memorial Health Care

&
Jomol Mathew
ACIO, Research Computing and Data Innovation
UMASS Medical School

"EPIC, DataLake & Informatics Tools for Research"

Thursday
April 13, 2017
11:00 AM

Albert Sherman Center
AS6-2072

Host: Manuel Garber, Associate Professor Bioinformatics and Integrative Biology
Director Bioinformatics Core
University of Massachusetts Medical School
FUNDING and TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

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

Request for Trainee Applications

The Pre- and Post-Doctoral Fellowship 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.

Deadline date for applications: February 10, 2017

Learn More

Course in Clinical Trials - Spring, 2017

Are you ready to take your molecule or intervention to the next phase of research? The University of Massachusetts Medical School Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is offering a Course in Clinical Trials (CTS 609) to be conducted in the Spring Semester 2017 (January 25-...
This course is open to all research and clinical faculty, staff, and students as well as researchers external to UMMS. The course is intended for the research scientist. The goal is to sharpen the methodological skills required in designing experimental studies for clinical investigators. The course addresses theoretical and practical methods in designing and implementing clinical trials with an emphasis on design implications, development of individual study protocols, and addressing questions of importance in a feasible manner. The course emphasizes the design of intervention studies to achieve specific research objectives by selecting appropriate study samples, end points, and trial designs. It will cover not only the basics of clinical trials, including reviews/critiques of major clinical trials, but also new developments in trial design (e.g., stepped wedge designs, adaptive designs, integrated Phase I/II and II/III designs), randomized strategies (e.g., adaptive randomized, covariate-adjusted randomizations), and trial conduct (e.g., risk-based monitoring, consent processes, difficult environments).

Dates: January 25 through May 3, 2017, no class on March 15 - Spring Break  
Times: Wednesdays, 9:00 am - 11:00 am  
Location: Albert Sherman Center, AS6-2069 (location subject to change), UMMS, Worcester

Registration Instructions

Questions/Comments: Bruce Barton, PhD, Professor, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, UMMS

FaCToR: Fundamentals of Clinical and Translational Research - Online Course

FaCToR offers an overview of the concepts of clinical/translational research through the dynamic and interactive medium of online learning. As a selected participant of this online course, you will learn about the spectrum of clinical and translational research from first-in-human studies to healthcare interventions implemented on a population level.

Tuition: Free to all CTSA national consortium members (includes UMass Medical School)

Applications due by: January 25, 2017

Learn More
Massachusetts industry. It is expected that the Funds portfolio of projects will attract over time significant new investment to the University. This includes not only sponsored research awards, but also funds for infrastructure development, technology licensing, revenues from industry-related services, and philanthropy.

Deadline date for applications: January 27, 2017

JLABS @ M2D2 QuickFire Challenge

We're Awarding One Year of Residence at MA's Premier MedTech Incubator, JLABS @ M2D2

Johnson & Johnson Innovation in collaboration with Massachusetts Medical Device Development Center (M2D2) have launched the JLABS @ M2D2 QuickFire Challenge. The competition will award 1 year of paid residence at M2D2 in Lowell, MA and access to mentorship and coaching from Johnson & Johnson experts.

We are looking for game-changing early-stage medical device innovations and therapeutic platforms across Johnson & Johnson's strategic areas of interest.

Deadline to submit applications: February 1, 2017

Charles A. King Trust Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program

Apply now for the 2017 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program in the Basic Sciences and Clinical/Health Services Research.

the primary goal of the Program is to provide fellowships to postdoctoral fellows in Massachusetts to investigate the causes of diseases in human beings, and/or improve methods of treatment for human diseases.

Deadline date for applications: February 10, 2017

5th Annual Global Health Repurposing Awards

The 5th Annual Global Health Repurposing Awards will be held on June 27, 2017 in Chicago, IL, and they need your help in finding their awardees.

Cures Within Reach has issued a Call for Nominations for the Patient Impact Research Award and the Patient Impact Philanthropy Award. This year they seek to honor researchers, clinicians groups or organizations who have made an impact in rare diseases through repurposing.

Nominations are accepted through the Cures Within Reach website and are due by February 13, 2017.

Please feel free to nominate members of your institution or other organizations.

HHMI Launches New Program for Early-Career Scientists

Hanna H. Gray Fellows Program Seeks to Enhance Diversity in Life Sciences

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) announces a new program to
recruit and retain early-career scientists who are from gender, racial, ethnic, and other groups underrepresented in the life sciences, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Deadline for applications: February 15, 2017

UMMS Office of Global Health Spring 2017 Request for Travel Award Proposals

The UMMS Office of Global Health (OGH) coordinates activities and administers grants that enhance and expand UMMS programs in global health improvement and disease prevention. OGH invites the submission of travel awards focused on the development or expansion of global health training or research projects.

Deadline date for travel award proposals: February 21, 2017

Repurposing Research to Improve Patient Outcomes in Huntington’s Disease

This request for proposals is soliciting research proposals to identify repurposed treatments for Huntington's Disease. We are interested in generic or proprietary drugs, devices and nutriceuticals that could be repurposed to reduce the symptoms, progression and/or incidence of Huntington's Disease, to thereby improve patient outcomes and reduce the suffering caused by this disease.

Deadline for Project Proposal Summary Submissions: February 28, 2017

2017 Dr. Paul Janssen Award for Biomedical Research

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2017 Dr. Paul Janssen Award for Biomedical Research. The Award celebrates innovative scientists in academia, industry or government whose discoveries in the field of biomedicine or medical technology have made, or have strong potential to make, a measurable impact on human health. The winner(s) will receive a $200,000 cash prize and international recognition. The Award has recognized some of today’s most passionate and creative scientists who have made advancements in diverse fields including genomics, RNA interference, thermosensation, angiogenesis, CRISPR-Cas9, cancer research and autophagy. Two of our distinguished Award winners have gone on to receive the Nobel Prize.

Deadline date for application submission: February 28, 2017

2017 ADDF-Harrington Scholar Award

Accepting Letters of Intent

The ADDF-Harrington Scholar Award supports research efforts that seek to prevent, treat or cure Alzheimer's disease, related dementias and cognitive aging.

Deadline for letters of intent: March 17, 2017
AbbVie has launched the AbbVie Immunology Scholarship, which is designed to provide financial support for exceptional students living with inflammatory diseases*, including Crohn's disease (CD) or ulcerative colitis (UC), as they pursue their higher education goals.

**Applications must be submitted by:** March 31, 2017

*Scholarship available to students living with Crohn’s disease (CD), ulcerative colitis (UC), rheumatoid arthritis (RA), juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA), psoriatic arthritis (PsA), ankylosing spondylitis (AS), uveitis (Uv), hidradenitis suppurativa (HS), or psoriasis.

**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 conference 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.

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

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.