

# UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Newsletter

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## UMCCTS Newsletter, September 2018

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

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CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND  
TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

## September 2018 Newsletter

# FUNDING

### CCTS PPP

LOI deadline: September 14<sup>th</sup>, 5PM

Individual project awards (up to \$50,000 for 1 year) will be made on a competitive basis. The Principal Investigator must be a UMMS Worcester faculty member, but collaborations with faculty on any UMASS campus are encouraged. You are welcome to have external or internal collaborators, but this is not a requirement.

For more information visit <https://umassmed.edu/ccts/funding/PPP/>

### CCTS SPARK Program

Application Deadline: Rolling Basis

THE UMCCTS SPARK (Small Pilot and Research Knowledge) Program'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.

For more information: <https://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/funding/spark-program/>

### CCTS Small Conference Grants

Application Deadline: Rolling Basis

THE UMCCTS is pleased to offer Small Conference Grants (SCG). This funding facilitates the development of faculty-to-faculty networks within the University system.

For more information: <https://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/funding/small-conference-grants/>

### In Good Company: the 2018 Optimal Aging Challenge

Application Deadline: September 28th

**In Good Company: the 2018 Optimal Aging Challenge**, is a global innovation challenge focused on identifying breakthrough ideas, products or services to alleviate isolation and loneliness among older adults. The Challenge will continue through September 28, and winners chosen in December.

Visit the challenge website at <http://bit.ly/InGoodCompanyChallenge> for additional information.

### [DRIVE's EZ-BAA application process is now open for business!](#)

**Calling all medical product developers, research teams, and companies!** Those offering disruptive innovative approaches that will transform health security threats are now invited to submit abstracts using DRIVE's simplified EZ-BAA process. **Applications must offer transformative innovation, products, and technologies to protect Americans from health security threats.**

In-scope priority areas include:

- Products and solutions to reduce illness and death from sepsis as part of DRIVE's Solving Sepsis Initiative
- Technologies and processes to identify infections and exposures to biological and other health threats, as outlined in the Early Notification to Act, Control, and Treat (ENACT) initiative
- Tools and techniques to mitigate the damages and loss of life associated with catastrophic events

[Download the application and learn about next steps here.](#)

Learn more about the DRIVE EZ-BAA [review criteria.](#)

Have questions or looking for more information? Contact [DRIVEContracting@hhs.gov](mailto:DRIVEContracting@hhs.gov)

### Collaborative Funding Opportunities

[CLIC](#) is pleased to announce two funding opportunities for collaborative efforts to help advance translational and team science throughout the consortium. Teams are invited to apply for support to write a Synergy Paper or host an Un-Meeting. More information and all application requirements can be found on CLIC's website:

[Un-Meeting Request for Applications](#)

[Synergy Paper Request for Applications](#)

### **NCATS Funding Available to Repurpose Existing Drugs**

NCATS has announced funding opportunities to use partially developed therapeutic candidates to identify new treatments for a broad range of diseases.

Full details here: <https://ncats.nih.gov/news/releases/2018/ntu-foa-2018>

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# EDUCATION

## **I-Corps Program**

**APPLY NOW! Application Deadline September 17, 2018.**

Does your latest discovery have commercial value? Would a potential "customer" of your research welcome your technology, protocol, or intervention?

The **I-Corps Program at the UMCCTS** 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.

Course starts on October 23, 2018. For more information: <https://umassmed.edu/ccts/education/i-corps-program-at-the-umccts/>

Questions? Contact Nate Hafer at [Nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu](mailto:Nathaniel.hafer@umassmed.edu)

Learn more about a similar course that was recently held at UAB: <https://youtu.be/xXZoWy0-x2g>

## **K Club**

The CCTS Research Career & Writing Group (K-Club) meets every first and third Wednesday to provide information and feedback on Research Career Award applications (NIH K Awards, VA Research Career Awards, CTSA K grants, etc.). Participants receive feedback on their biosketch, training plans, research plan, specific aims, and a wealth of other information.

Where: 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 4:00pm - 5:00pm in ASC5-2072

More information: <https://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/education/k-club>

## **Projects in Progress Seminar Series (PiPSS)**

PiPSS is designed to give CCTS trainees and junior faculty an opportunity to present their work in a structured format and in a forum of peers and faculty with the goal of ensuring continuous, professional feedback and cross-fertilization that is required for excellence in research. The first session of the 2018-19 academic year will be on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:30PM in Room ASC8-2072 (Albert Sherman Building).

Speakers for the October 18<sup>th</sup> session are (all titles TBA):

- Ana-Luisa Maldonado-Contreras
- Teresita Padilla-Benavides
- Maggi Ahmed
- James Strassner

## **New Clinicaltrials.gov Education sessions have been added!**

Are you a PI or study team member for a human research study? [Clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov) registration isn't limited to drug or device trials: it can include any human research study which prospectively assigns participants to one or more intervention to evaluate the effects on health outcomes. It can include surgical and behavioral interventions as well as drug and device studies. Failure to properly register a trial can lead to denial of study publication, restriction in funding and civil monetary penalties.

Join Meg Johnson ([meg.johnson@umassmed.edu](mailto:meg.johnson@umassmed.edu)), HRPP Compliance Administrator and UMMS [Clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov) point of contact to learn more about registration, maintenance and result reporting requirements for [clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov).

Topic	Date	Time	Prerequisite	Registration Link
<a href="http://Clinicaltrials.gov">Clinicaltrials.gov</a> <b>Basics:</b> <b>Registration</b>	9/13/18	10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	N	<a href="https://i.umassmed.edu/inside/display/EventDisplay.aspx?sID=18367">https://i.umassmed.edu/inside/display/EventDisplay.aspx?sID=18367</a>
	9/25/18	3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	N	<a href="https://i.umassmed.edu/inside/display/EventDisplay.aspx?sID=18368">https://i.umassmed.edu/inside/display/EventDisplay.aspx?sID=18368</a>
<a href="http://Clinicaltrials.gov">Clinicaltrials.gov</a> <b>Basics: Record Maintenance and Results Reporting</b>	9/14/18	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Y	<a href="https://i.umassmed.edu/inside/display/EventDisplay.aspx?sID=18369">https://i.umassmed.edu/inside/display/EventDisplay.aspx?sID=18369</a>
<a href="http://Clinicaltrials.gov">Clinicaltrials.gov</a> <b>Intermediate:</b> <b>Registration</b>	9/12/18	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Y	<a href="https://i.umassmed.edu/inside/display/EventDisplay.aspx?sID=18372">https://i.umassmed.edu/inside/display/EventDisplay.aspx?sID=18372</a>
	9/26/18	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Y	<a href="https://i.umassmed.edu/inside/display/EventDisplay.aspx?sID=18373">https://i.umassmed.edu/inside/display/EventDisplay.aspx?sID=18373</a>

**Research Study Design and Analysis Series**

**Session I: Design, Conduct, and Analysis of Observational Studies**

In this first session, attendees will learn about the design, conduct, and analysis of case-control (retrospective) and longitudinal (prospective) studies that are commonly utilized in clinical and public health research. This two hour session will cover various topics that pertain to these non-randomized observational studies including when to use which observational design approach, development of study hypotheses, comparison groups to be studied, sample size/power calculations, data collection activities, and data analysis and interpretation.

Date: October 9, 2018

Time: 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Location: Albert Sherman Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, AS6-2072

**Session II: Design, Conduct, and Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials**

In this second session, attendees will learn about the design, conduct, and analysis of randomized controlled clinical trials (RCTs). This two hour session will cover various topics that pertain to RCTs including the development of study hypotheses, trial design (including sample size/power estimation), patient recruitment and enrollment, reasons for randomization and common randomization approaches, data collection activities, data analysis (including interim and final analyses), and presentation.

Date: October 16, 2018

Time: 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Location: Albert Sherman Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, AS6-2072

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# EVENTS

## **UMMS-Baystate Celebration of Research and Academic Innovation**

Please join us for our annual daylong Celebration of Research and Academic Innovation on September 12th, 2018. This year our Keynote Speaker will be Dr. David Asch, MD, MBA, Executive Director of the Penn Medicine Center for Health Care Innovation & Professor of Health Care Management, the Wharton School. He will present Behavioral Economics: Understanding how patients & physicians make medical choices in clinical, financial, and ethically charged settings” at Grand Rounds (8:00 am in Chestnut 1A/B) and also give a noon-time lecture (Chestnut 5).

In addition for an opportunity to “Meet the Professor” (Dr. Asch), there will be symposia and workshops on a variety of topics throughout the day with the goal of promoting research among Baystate faculty and staff. From 9:00am to 6:00 pm posters will be available for viewing in the Health Sciences Library, Chestnut Conference Center.

Questions? Contact Susan Decelle, [Susan.Decelle@baystatehealth.org](mailto:Susan.Decelle@baystatehealth.org)

## **Webinar: REDCap - New Modules Supporting eConsent + EHR workflow and data interoperability**

This webinar will provide an overview of new features in REDCap to support electronic consent using REDCap's new e-Consent Framework module, which allows users to add an e-Consent confirmation screen to their surveys while also providing automatic backup of the PDF e-Consent file. Also included is an overview of the ability to seamlessly import clinical data from Epic into REDCap using the new REDCap "DDP on FHIR" functionality.

When: Wed, Sep 19, 2018 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM EDT

To register: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8727300270785786625>

### **Bioinformatics Core Seminar Series**

*DolphinNext: A graphical user interface for distributed data processing of high throughput genomics*

DolphinNext is a highly parallel platform specifically designed to process high volumes of data. DolphinNext allows users with little bioinformatics knowledge to process their own data on an HPC systems, Amazon Cloud or any workstation using a user-friendly web interface.

When: Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 10AM

Where: UMMS, Albert Sherman Center, 6<sup>th</sup> floor conference Room 2072

### **NCATS Day 2018**

Registration is now open for NCATS Day 2018: Engaging Patients and Communities for Smarter Science on Sept. 28, 2018 from 8:30-5 on the NIH main campus in Bethesda, Maryland.

The purpose of the event is to provide a forum to share and reflect upon patient and community needs — as well as best practices in addressing those needs — so that NCATS can best shape its research priorities, programs and initiatives.

Patients and patient advocates, caregivers, community partners, community health engagement professionals, clinical and translational researchers, and others are urged to attend to share and discuss ways to overcome [translational research challenges](#) and leverage opportunities through effective patient and community engagement. Participants will learn strategies to broaden participation in research and to incorporate diverse patient and community input into their work.

Admission is complimentary, but space is limited, so be sure to register early.

[View the tentative agenda](#)

[Learn more about the event](#)

[Register now](#)

### **Warren Alpert Foundation Prize Symposium**

*honoring*

**Francis Collins, Paul Negulescu, Bonnie Ramsey, Lap-Chee Tsui, Michael Welsh**

for pioneering contributions to the discovery of the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) gene and to the subsequent research that led to the development of transformational precision medicines to treat the underlying cause of cystic fibrosis.

#### **Cystic Fibrosis: From Gene Discovery to Basic Biology to Precision Medicines**

When: Thursday, October 4, 2018, 1:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Where: Joseph B. Martin Conference Center, New Research Building, Harvard Medical School, 77 Avenue Louis Pasteur, Boston

RSVP: [wap@hms.harvard.edu](mailto:wap@hms.harvard.edu)

For complete information visit: <http://warrenalpert.org/symposium>

### **QHS Special Seminar**

Title: Explaining Disparities: Bringing Together Approaches from Epidemiology and Economics Under a Causal Framework

Presented by: John Jackson, ScD; Assistant Professor, Departments of Epidemiology and Mental Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

When: Thursday, October 11, 2018, 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Where: Albert Sherman Building, AS9-2072

### **M2D2'S BARRACUDA BOWL**

**October 23rd, 2018 | 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

**Mintz Levin, 1 Financial Center, Boston MA**

Like "Shark Tank"—but instead of business pitches, M2D2 affiliate entrepreneurs will face off to present their medtech plans to a panel of judges. Will they thrive under the pressure or drown among the barracudas?

Enjoy the show, network, and have some fun with us this October in Boston!

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## **DID YOU KNOW?**

### **Recruitment and Retention Toolkit**

The Trial Innovation Network accepts toolkit submissions from CTSA and reputable community health partners and provides them as a free resource to the research community. The materials on this site are designed primarily for CTSA Program staffs. These resources are intended to provide a variety of information that includes best practices and evidence-based recruitment and retention strategies.

Full information here: <https://trialinnovationnetwork.org/recruitment-retention-toolkit/?key-element=1681>

### **CTSA Program hubs collaborate to help researchers navigate regulatory environment**

Three North Carolina Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Program hubs have collaborated to create a platform for sharing regulatory expertise and best practices. The Regulatory Guidance for Academic Research of Drugs and Devices (ReGARDD) Program provides researchers with regulatory guidance, education, and consultative support, to ultimately help them move promising products and novel discoveries to clinical trials.

ReGARDD, which is coordinated by the hubs at Duke University, the Wake Forest School of Medicine, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-Chapel Hill) with partner RTI International, officially launched in 2015 and has been developing since. The program builds upon the existing services and knowledge of the North Carolina CTSA Program Regulatory Groups and the Research Triangle Park (RTP).

[READ THE FULL STORY.](#)

[Visit the ReGARDD Program website.](#)

### **National Center for Data to Health (CD2H)**

The goal of CD2H is to make data more meaningful, open, and accessible. The CD2H supports a vibrant and evolving collaborative informatics ecosystem for the CTSA Program and beyond. The CD2H harnesses and expands an ecosystem for translational scientists to discover and share their software, data, and other research resources within the CTSA Program network. The CD2H also creates a social coding environment for translational science institutions, leveraging the community-driven DREAM challenges as a mechanism to stimulate innovation.

The CD2H homepage is here: <https://ctsa.ncats.nih.gov/cd2h/>

To sign up for their mailing list visit: <https://nih.us18.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=71a7d6465fe8d21880b224d23&id=73804c2f34>

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## **SHARE YOUR SUCCESS STORY**

Have you had research published that cites the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science? Has a patent been filed on technology developed using Center funding or resources? Did your pilot project receive external grant funding? Share it with us at [ccts@umassmed.edu](mailto:ccts@umassmed.edu). Sharing your successes helps show the importance and the effect of the Center for Clinical and Translational Science at UMass.

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