

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Newsletter

Volume 2019
Issue 3 *UMCCTS Newsletter March 2019*

Article 1

2019-3

UMCCTS Newsletter, March 2019

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/umccts_news



Part of the [Translational Medical Research Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science . UMCCTS Newsletter, March 2019. *UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Newsletter* 2019(3):1086. Retrieved from https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/umccts_news/vol2019/iss3/1

Creative Commons License



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License](#).

This material is brought to you by eScholarship@UMMS. It has been accepted for inclusion in UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science Newsletter by an authorized administrator of eScholarship@UMMS. For more information, please contact Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu.



CENTER FOR CLINICAL AND
TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

March 2019 Newsletter

FUNDING

NEW: SCISIPBIO: A New NSF/NIH Solicitation May 8, 2019

CCTS SPARK Program (Small Pilot and Research Knowledge)

CCTS Small Conference Grants

DRIVE's EZ-BAA

Growing Gene & Cell Therapy RFA Winter 2019: Invited Full Applications Due 03.22.2019

NCATS Funding

NEW: SCISIPBIO: The partners of the Science of Science and Innovation Policy (SciSIP) program at the NSF and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) have issued a joint solicitation aimed at supporting scientific analyses of important aspects of the biomedical research enterprise and fostering a diverse, innovative, productive and efficient scientific workforce. The initial target date for the program is May 8, 2019. For more information regarding the solicitation, click [here](#). For general inquiries, contact Cassidy Sugimoto (NSF) 703.292.7012, csugimot@nsf.gov or Dorit Zuk (NIGMS) 301.594.0943 zukd@mail.nih.gov.

CCTS SPARK PROGRAM: Rolling application deadline. This program's priorities are to support studies that impact clinical care and research methodologies, support students/trainees, and provide access to funds to generate pilot and preliminary data for external grant submissions. For more information, click on this link: <https://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/funding/spark-program/>

CCTS SMALL CONFERENCE GRANTS: Rolling application deadline. This funding facilitates the development of faculty-to-faculty networks within the University system. Click on this link for more information: <https://umassmed.edu/ccts/funding/small-conference-grants/>

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; and*
- *Tools and techniques to mitigate the damages and loss of life associated with catastrophic events*

Download the DRIVE EZ-BAA abstract submission application, click [here](#).

To learn more about the DRIVE EZ-BAA, click [here](#).

GROWING GENE AND CELL THERAPY (GGACT) RFA WINTER: The GGACT cooperative, a collaboration between Boston Children's Hospital, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, and the University of California Los Angeles, was established to support investigators in rapidly translating complex gene and cell therapies to early phase, investigator-initiated clinical trials by providing expertise in protocol development and implementation, trial and data management, and regulatory affairs, as well as utilizing established infrastructure for preclinical models of disease and testing, process development, and GMP vector production and cellular manufacturing. More information on GGACT can be found at www.GGACT.org.

Eligible applicants must be faculty at a CTSA institution that has an established pediatric stem cell transplant program. For more information, contact Maria Suarez (maria.suarez@childrens.harvard.edu). **Invited full applications will be due March 22, 2019.**

NCATS FUNDING: NCATS has announced funding opportunities to use partially developed therapeutic candidates to identify new treatments for a broad range of diseases. For full details, click on this link: <https://ncats.nih.gov/news/releases/2018/ntu-foa-2018>

EDUCATION

NEW: WHAT DO YOU ASPIRE TO? May 31, 2019

NEW: BRIDGE TO SUCCESS March 26, 2019

NEW: TRANSITION TO A BIOTECH CAREER June 2-8, 2019 (Apply by April 15)

K CLUB

PiPSS (Projects in Process Seminar Series) March 21, 2019

ISSR Methodology Workshops (Spring 2019 / multiple dates)

NEW: What do you ASPIRE to? NCATS invites innovators to learn more about Design Challenges for Translational Innovation in Pain, Opioid Use Disorder, and Overdose. The goal of the ASPIRE Challenges is to reward and spur innovative and catalytic approaches toward solving the opioid crisis through (1) development of novel chemistries; (2) data-mining and analysis tools; and (3) biological assays that will revolutionize discovery, development and pre-clinical testing next generation, safer and non-addictive analgesics to treat pain, as new treatments for opioid use disorder (OUD) and overdose. For more information, click [here](#).

NEW: BRIDGE TO SUCCESS – The BRIDGE Research in Progress workgroup **provides an informal setting for new and experienced researchers to share nascent ideas or research-in-progress and to receive just-in-time feedback.** Do you have an emerging idea for a grant or manuscript? Come share your research ideas and let us help you! **Tuesday March 26, 2019 12:00-1:00pm AS9-2072 Conference Room.** March Presenter is William Jesdale PhD, Assistant Professor, Division of Epidemiology, Department of Population and Quantitative Health Services “*Missing Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System: Sources, Magnitude, Correlates, and Implications.*” EMAIL BRIDGE@umassmed.edu to sign up for a presentation slot! Lunch will be provided.

NEW: TRANSITION TO A BIOTECH CAREER! UMass Lowell is hosting a week-long course for students and post-docs to learn about careers for scientists in industry and how to best leverage their analytical PhD skill sets. For more information or to apply, click [here](#). Apply by **April 15, 2019**.

K CLUB: Meets every **Other Wednesday** from **4:00pm to 5:00pm** in **S2-160** 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.

For more information, visit: <https://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/education/k-club>

PiPSS: The Projects in Process Seminar Series (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. **Sessions are held monthly on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month – October 18, 2018 through May 2, 2019 beginning at 3:30pm in ASC8.2072 (Albert Sherman Building).**

March 21st presentations:

- **Vijaya Daniel, T** “*Antibiotics and Gastrointestinal Perforations: Does It Matter?*”
 - **Andrea Lopez-Cepero, T** “*Physiological and Psychological Stress Associated with Glucose Metabolism in the Boston Puerto Rican Health Study*”
 - **Chantal Ferguson, MD/PhD** “*Tissue Specific siRNAs for Neurodegeneration*”
 - **Maira Castaneda Avila, T** “*Health Care Utilization Among Patients with Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance*”
-

NEW: ISSR METHODOLOGY WORKSHOPS / SPRING 2019: New free workshops being offered in Amherst this spring (see list below). For more information or to register, click [here](#).

- Introduction to Qualitative Interviewing: Tuesday **March 26** from 2-4pm
- Intro to R: Thursday **March 28** from 1-3pm

- Intro to Exploratory Factor Analysis Using SPSS and Confirmatory Factor Analysis with SPSS Amos: Monday **April 1** from 2-4pm
- Getting Started in NVivo: The Basics (Session 2): Tuesday, **April 2** from 2-4pm

EVENTS

NEW: RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CELEBRATION DAY May 15, 2019

NEW: AAMC GRANT WRITERS WORKSHOP June 27, 2019

8th Annual UMCCTS Community Engagement and Research Symposium Call for Posters

14th Annual Texas Conference on Health Disparities June 6-7, 2019

Un-Meeting on Rural Health and Health Equity April 8, 2019

NEW: RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CELEBRATION DAY: May 15, 2019. The Offices of Education & Research are excited to announce the Research and Education Celebration Day, May 15, 2019 at the Chestnut Conference Center at Baystate Medical Center. This full day of programming includes two keynote speakers, concurrent sessions throughout the day, a poster session, and an award ceremony/reception. Events are open to all. For more information, contact Susan.Decelle@baystatehealth.org. To nominate someone for the Research Translation Award, contact Jennifer.Pacheco@baystatehealth.org. To nominate someone for a BERTS Education Award (deadline is April 1, 2019), contact Elizabeth.Coleman@baystatehealth.org. A call for posters is coming soon!

NEW: AAMC GRANT WRITERS WORKSHOP: June 27, 2019. This intensive one-day workshop is open to those actively working on both K and R NIH grant proposals. Additional virtual online learning sessions and continued peer review will be available over 2-3 months to strengthen proposals. **Registration is open, applications are due April 11, 2019.** For more information, please contact minfac@aamc.org.

8th ANNUAL UMCCTS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: Friday, March 22, 2019 (8:15am-1:30pm), UMass Medical School Albert Sherman Center, Worcester MA. The goals of the UMCCTS Community Engagement and Research Symposium is to build our shared capacity to address health issues in communities throughout the Commonwealth by helping attendees: (1) network; (2) learn more about each other's work/interests; and (3) make connections and plan for future collaborative work.

Keynote:

*Mona N. Fouad, MD, MPH, Senior Associate Dean, Diversity and Inclusion
University of Alabama at Birmingham.*

Registration opens on January 7, 2019

Visit our website to learn more: <https://www.umassmed.edu/ccts/community>

Questions? Email communityengagement@umassmed.edu.

For more information, visit www.umassmed.edu/ccts/community

14th ANNUAL TEXAS CONFERENCE ON HEALTH DISPARITIES: June 6-7, 2019. *“Social Epigenomics & Health Disparities.”* Evidence based approaches that identify mechanisms by which social experiences at various stages of life, both positive and negative, affect gene function and thereby influence health in racial/ethnic minority and health disparity population. The conference will feature nationally renowned speakers and will highlight evidence-based clinical, community and policy approaches to improving maternal and child health across the United States. [To learn more, click here.](#)

UN-MEETING ON RURAL HEALTH AND HEALTH EQUITY: Monday, April 8, 2019 in Gainesville FL. This event focuses on catalyzing new collaborations to bridge the translational science and agricultural extension sectors to improve rural health and achieve health equity. An evening welcome reception on Sunday, April 7 will precede the Un-Meeting. More details coming early 2019!

*Hosted by the University of Florida Clinical and Translational Science Institute
and the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.*

DID YOU KNOW?

**CTSA Regulatory Expertise
Diamond Portal Allows CTSA Members to Access
HRPP QA/QI
National Center for Data to Health (CD2H)
Recruitment and Retention Toolkit
UMCCTS Intake Portal**

CTSA Regulatory Expertise: 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 Duke University, the Wake Forest School of Medicine, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill hubs 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 [here](#). Visit the ReGARDD website [here](#).

DIAMOND PORTAL: To address the need for consistent training assessment and measures of competency, the Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research (MICHR) has collaborated with the Ohio State University, Rochester University, and Tufts University to launch the DIAMOND Portal. It is a pioneering digital collection that serves as a sustainable, federated database for members of clinical and translational research study teams to share and access training and assessment resources. For more

information, visit <https://www.michr.umich.edu/news/2018/10/15/new-diamond-portal-allows-ctsa-members-to-access-share-training-and-assessment-materials>

HRPP QA/QI: The Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement (QA/QI) Program is a component of the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science. The program is independent of the IRB and helps study teams and investigators by conducting routine post-approval monitoring of on-going research to evaluate adherence with institutional requirements and federal regulations. If there are review findings, the QA/QI manager shares those findings with investigators and study teams, and provides direct education on the findings, including how to avoid making similar errors in the future. In order to support improvement at an institutional level, the QA/QI manager shares aggregated data from reviews with the HRPP leadership and the Research Community to identify trends and target areas for education. The program also makes [self-evaluation tools](#) available to investigators and study teams seeking to perform their own assessments. To learn more about HRPP QA/QI HRP-142, visit: <https://www.umassmed.edu/globalassets/ccts/ccts-media/irb/updated-sops-2015/hrp-142-hrpp-qa-qi-program-final.pdf>.

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 informative 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. To learn more, click [here](#).

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 can be found at <https://trialinnovationnetwork.org/recruitment-retention-toolkit/?key-element=1681>

UMCCTS INTAKE PORTAL: The UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science has implemented an intake/service request portal. Currently the portal is being utilized by the Office of Clinical Research for intake of all agreements and amendments. OnCore updates/corrections and Certificates of Confidentiality. The portal can be accessed on their newly updated website at <https://www.umassmed.edu/ocr/>

SHARE YOUR SUCCESS STORY

Have you had *your research published* that cites the UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science? Has *your 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. Sharing your success demonstrates the importance and effect of the Center for Clinical and Translational Science at UMass.

Newsletter Submissions: *To be included in the CCTS Monthly Newsletter, please send announcements, including a link, to ccts@umassmed.edu. The newsletter is published the first week of each month.*

CITE: UMCCTS funded by NCATS:
Cite grant UL1TR001453, TL1TR001454, and KL2TR001455
in all presentations and journal publications.