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UMCCTS Newsletter, February 2020

UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

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February 2020 Newsletter

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Dr. Paula Gardiner, MD, MPH, one of CAPCaT's 2019 award recipients! A recent study by UMass Medical integrative medicine expert Dr. Gardiner finds that patients with chronic pain and depression who participated in medical group visits in which they learned mindfulness techniques were able to reduce their use of pain medications and made fewer emergency room visits. Read more about her success [here](#).

FUNDING

CCTS SPARK Program (Small Pilot and Research Knowledge)

CCTS Small Conference Grants

CAPCaT Call for Solicitation-Expression of Interest: Due by March 2, 2020

Charles A. King Trust Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program: March 4, 2020

MCCISS K12 Training Grants: Full Applications Due March 9, 2020

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/>

CAPCaT CALL FOR SOLICITATION: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: The University of Massachusetts' Center for Advancing Point of Care Technologies (CAPCaT) in Heart, Lung, Blood, and Sleep Diseases has grant funding available to bring your innovation to the next level! If you are working on a compelling point-of-care technology, including complementary and integrative health solutions for heart, blood, lung and sleep, you will want to seize this opportunity! Submit your Expression of Interest [here](#). The deadline to submit is **March 2, 2020**.

CHARLES A. KING TRUST POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM: Apply NOW for the 2020 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program in Basic Science and/or Clinical/Health Services Research. **Application deadline is March 4, 2020 at 12:00pm EST**. The Charles A. King Trust was created to support and promote the investigation of human disease and the alleviation of human

suffering through improved treatment. The primary goal is to provide fellowships to Massachusetts' postdoctoral fellows to investigate the causes of diseases in human beings and/or improve methods of treatment for human diseases. US citizenship is *not* required. Two-year grants ranging from \$104,008 to \$117,760 inclusive of a \$2,000 expense allowance will be awarded September 1, 2020. For application guidelines and templates, click [here](#). For terms of the awards, click [here](#). The funding period will be September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2022. To reach the Grants Officer, contact Lindsey Carver, MA at lcarver@hria.org.

MCCISS K12 TRAINING GRANTS: The Massachusetts Consortium for Cardiopulmonary Implementation Science Scholars (MCCISS) announces K12 training grants for 2020. These grants are for junior faculty working in cardiopulmonary health. The grants provide support for two years of mentored research training in implementation science.

MCCISS Important Dates:

03.09.2020 Full Applications Due

April 2020 Scholar Selection

09.01.2020 Scholar Appointments

For more information, please visit www.umassmed.edu/mcciss/ *The Massachusetts Consortium for Cardiopulmonary Implementation Science Scholars is supported by the National Heart, Lung, And Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health under Award Number K12HL138049.*

EDUCATION

NIH Virtual Workshop on Data Metrics: [February 19, 2020](#)

Biotech East Course: [Spring 2020](#)

K Club: Ongoing

PiPSS: Projects in Process Seminar Series

Point-of-Care Technology Survey: Healthcare Provider Input Needed

ACME POCT Clinical Needs Survey

NIH VIRTUAL WORKSHOP ON DATA METRICS: February 19, 2020: The National Institutes of Health's Office of Data Science Strategy will host a virtual workshop, on **February 19, 2020 beginning at 9am**, on assessing dataset and data resource value reach. The goal is to discuss core metrics, use cases, and best practices to better understand open data usage and impact. To register and/or learn more, click [here](#).

BIOTECH EAST COURSE SPRING 2020: Academic Scientists – Transition to a Job in Biotech, Medtech, or Pharma. Join this week-long, hands-on course to help you transition from lab work to a job in biotech, medtech, or pharma. Discover the business side of science, network extensively, and learn interdisciplinary skills through a team project. Of the 182 attendees in 2014-2017, *67% now have jobs in industry, regulatory affairs, or tech transfer*. Scholarships are available. Sponsors include ASCB, Biogen, KGI, M2D2, UMass Lowell, UMMS, UMCCTS, and CAPCaT. Complete details and application can be found [here](#).

EVENTS

PMM In-House Seminar Series Guangping Gao, PhD: [February 3, 2020](#)

M2D2 9th Annual \$200k Challenge: [Feb-April 2020](#)

PMM In-House Seminar Series Geraldine Seydoux, PhD: [February 13, 2020](#)

Collaboration Webinar-Ensuring Quality: A Pilot Study to Establish a Monitoring Pool for Investigator Initiated Trials: [February 19, 2020](#)

Un-Meeting on Lifespan and Life Course Research - Integrating Strategies: [March 2, 2020](#)

9th Annual Community Engagement & Research Symposium: [March 20, 2020](#)

GSBS Seminar Series Mary Woolley, President/CEO of Research! America: [March 26, 2020](#)

Translational Science 2020: [April 14-17, 2020](#)

RNA Therapeutics Symposium From Concept to Clinic: [June 24-26, 2020](#) (Abstracts due 02.28.20)

PMM IN-HOUSE SEMINAR SERIES GUANGPING GAO, PhD: The Program in Molecular Medicine In-House Seminar Series presents Guangping Gao, PhD, Professor, Microbiology & Physiological Systems, Penelope Booth Rockwell Professor in Biomedical Research, Co-Director, Li Weibo Institute for Rare Diseases Research, Director, Horae Gene Therapy Center and Vector Core “*Recombinant Adeno-Associated Virus-Mediated In Vivo Gene Transfer: Biology, Applications, Challenges and Approaches*” on **Monday, February 3, 2020** at 12:00pm, in the Molecular Medicine Seminar Room, 3rd Floor, Biotech Two.

M2D2 9th ANNUAL \$200k CHALLENGE: Enter the 9th Annual M2D2 \$200k Challenge for exposure to a whole host of strategic partners and investors and for a chance to win! M2D2’s signature annual pitch competition is your chance to propel your idea to the next level – or to market! For all life sciences startups interested in entering M2D2’s 9th Annual Global Pitch Competition, apply to win! The application deadline is **February 16, 2020**. Those applications invited to advance will participate in a Pitch Competition to be held at UMass Lowell on **March 25, 2020**. The Awards Ceremony will take place at Mintz Levin, One Financial Center, Boston MA on **April 7, 2020**. To apply, click [here](#).

PMM IN-HOUSE SEMINAR SERIES GERALDINE SEYDOUX, PhD: The Program in Molecular Medicine In-House Seminar Series presents Geraldine Seydoux, PhD, Sheldon Professor in Medical Discovery and HHML Investigator, Vice Dean for Basic Research, Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine “*How Do RNA Granules Get Their RNA? Regulation of RNA Granule Assembly by Intrinsically-Disordered Proteins*” on **Thursday, February 13, 2020** at 4:00pm, in the Molecular Medicine 3rd Floor Seminar Room, Biotech Two.

COLLABORATION WEBINAR-ENSURING QUALITY: A PILOT STUDY TO ESTABLISH A MONITORING POOL FOR INVESTIGATOR INITIATED TRIALS: Sponsored by Southern California CTSI, the Trial Innovation Network presents this seminar/on-line self-study module that can be used to establish a monitoring pool to promote data integrity/reliability and subject protection. Dr. Eunjoo Pacifici, PharmD, PhD, and her team will share their experiences from a pilot program to train a nucleus of senior coordinators in trial monitoring using the module. The webinar is scheduled for **February 19, 2020** at 12:00 EST. To register, please click [here](#).

UN-MEETING ON LIFESPAN AND LIFE COURSE RESEARCH – INTEGRATING STRATEGIES: Please join host Northwestern University of Chicago, in conjunction with CLIC, for the seminar *Un-Meeting on Lifespan and Life Course Research – Integrating Strategies* to be held on **March 2, 2020** from 8am to 4pm at the Northwestern Medicine Prentice Women’s Hospital in Chicago. Representatives from every CTSA hub will engage in robust dialogue about effective strategies for engaging in research across the lifespan and life course. The aim is to explore, enhance and disseminate strategies for lifespan and life course

research study design. A welcome reception will be held on Sunday, March 1, 2020 from 5m to 8pm at the Ann& Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. For more information, please click [here](#).

9th ANNUAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: The 9th Annual Community Engagement & Research Symposium will be held on **March 20, 2020**. The breakout sessions serve as an opportunity to learn about innovative initiatives from community-engaged research teams from within the UMass system, as well as from local communities, other academic institutions, and beyond. Breakout sessions will be 60 minutes and include interactive discussion. To learn more about the symposium and previous breakout sessions, click [here](#). Registration is now open. For additional information, email Karen Del'Olio at Karen.Del'Olio@umassmed.edu.

GSBS SEMINAR SERIES MARY WOOLLEY, PRESIDENT/CEO OF RESEARCH! AMERICA: Please join us **Thursday, March 26** at 3:00pm in the ASC Auditorium (reception to follow) as Mary Woolley, President/CEO of Research! America discusses the importance of advocacy for the promotion, protection, and preservation of research funding. To learn more about Research! America, click [here](#).

TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE 2020: At Translational Science 2020, we want to shine a spotlight on the most innovative, forward-thinking research in the field. Share your original research and help us create a meeting where people can enhance their personal development and learning process. Abstracts will be accepted in the following tracks: basic; methodology; data science; biostatistics; informatics; commercialization; entrepreneurship; digital health; social media; education; mentoring; professional and career development; health equity; community engagement; mechanistic basic to clinical; regulatory science; team science; translational science; policy and health outcomes science. To learn more about Translational Science 2020 to be held in Washington DC **April 14-17, 2020**, click [here](#).

RNA THERAPEUTICS SYMPOSIUM-FROM CONCEPT TO CLINIC: Registration for the 2nd Annual RNA Therapeutics From Concept to Clinic to be held **June 24-26, 2020** is now open. Keynote speakers are Katherine High, President/Head of Research and Development of Spark Therapeutics and Michael Rosbash, Peter Gruber Endowed Chair in Neuroscience, Professor of Biology HHMI, Brandeis University. To learn more and reserve your spot, click [here](#). Register before April 3, 2020 and receive an early bird discount! For abstract submissions, click [here](#).

DID YOU KNOW?

ClinicalTrials.gov Request for Information: [March 14, 2020](#)

CTSA Regulatory Expertise

Diamond Portal

HRPP QA/QI

UMMS Institutional Review Board

National Center for Data to Health (CD2H)

Next Generation Blood Products RFI

Recruitment and Retention Toolkit

CLINICALTRIALS.GOV: ClinicalTrials.gov is seeking your input! As they celebrate 20 years, they seek to modernize their platform to deliver an improved user experience that will accommodate growth and enhance efficiency. To do so requires your input and feedback. To access their Request for Information (RFI), please click [here](#). They are specifically soliciting comments on the following topics: website functionality, information submission processes, and use of data standards. The deadline to provide your input is **March 14, 2020**.

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>.

UMMS INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB): The UMMS IRB manages over 1,000 active protocols, including reviewing and approving more than 600 modifications annually. 2019 brought a 41% increase in the number of exempt studies, as UMMS investigators began taking advantage of new and expanded exemption categories in the Revised Common Rule. The UMMS IRB has entered into 400+ reliance agreements, serving as reviewing or relying IRB, starting with just two in 2004 and growing to roughly 50 per year for each of the past five years.

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](#).

NEXT GENERATION BLOOD PRODUCTS RFI: The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) leads the nation in preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from the adverse health effects of emergencies and disasters by supporting our communities' ability to withstand adversity, strengthening our health and response systems, and enhancing national health security. Within the ASPR, the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) provides an integrated, systematic approach to the development and procurement of necessary vaccines, drugs, therapies, and diagnostic tools for public health medical emergencies. Together, the ASPR and BARDA are issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to assist in understanding the developmental landscape of next generational blood products that could be used to treat mechanical trauma and bleeding associated with acute radiation syndrome and potentially supplement the blood supply in the wake of a mass casualty event. To learn more about this RFI and/or to submit a response, please 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>

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.*

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CITE in all presentations and journal publications:

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